

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
ATHLETICS BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY NOTES SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

Present: Janeen Amason, Stephen Braden, Maria Britt, J.C. Bradbury, Jason Brown, Katie Egloff, Richard Franza, Matt Griffin, Jim Herbert, Randy Kennedy, Francis Kabongo, Rebecca Makus, Bob Mattox, Rachel Martini, Maureen McCarthy, Donald McGarey, Sara Metroka, Daniel Niederjohn, Kandice Porter, Jerome Ratchford, Michael Redd, Susan Rouse, Heath Senour, Rick Siegel, Deborah Smith, Lynn Stallings, Shaille Thompson, Vaughn Williams.

Special Guest: Coach Andy Eggerth

Dr. Franza welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the table.

Head Coach for track, field and cross country, Andy Eggerth spoke regarding the day and life of a coach. His area encompasses 6 sports and 74 student athletes. His mission is to professionally develop his staff and prepare every student to be academically strong, of upstanding character and pursue a fulfilling career. There are tons of demands on the student athlete including travel to games, studying, training, and maintaining some personal life. We have to offer the tools to win, including improved resources and aggressive recruitment for the athletic program. Our challenges include wanting to make an impact, but difficult not being a major 3 sport. Also, working with smaller staff and salaries include a challenge. Overall, Coach Eggerth has seen dramatic and significant improvements in student support services, available resources and facilities at KSU. Coach Eggerth wishes to continue building a platform to prepare students for a better life and what's best; he gets paid to do what he loves.

The summary minutes of April 30, 2014 were passed.

Vaughn Williams, KSU Athletic Director gave a State of the Department update and announced the motto for this season is "BRING THE FIGHT"! He senses a great energy this year, possibly stemming from the terrific success in golf and baseball. Currently, football has 3500 letters of intent for season tickets and will soon be in "operation sell out" mode. With the phenomenal past season we had in baseball, it has brought new height of KSU branding and institutional wide attention with people wanting to know more about our university. The men's basketball team traveled to Italy over the summer and gained a great international experience and came home with appreciation. We are building a strong culture and foundation for incoming football. Notable is our strong academic presence of 3.0 GPA overall averages of our student athletes and continuous community service participation. To promote school pride and spirit, Director Williams with President Papp have announced black and gold colors be worn on Fridays. Vaughn has 19 new hires including Matt Griffin, from SPSU, as Assistant AD for Internal Operations and Katie Egloff, promoted to Associate AD for Events and Senior Woman Administrator.

A report on consolidation regarding athletics was given by Vaughn Williams. Since June 30, sports at SPSU have been disengaged. We are honoring athletic scholarships from SPSU. A committee has been formed for suggestions and long term projections regarding SPSU sport facilities. With approximately 5,500 more students, the new U wants to get them involved from the get-go. All SPSU student ID's are honored and welcomed into all sporting events free. Currently, working to celebrate the SPSU legacy through a Sports Hall of Fame Ceremony for Southern Poly. The committee met and nominated 38 people who will be inducted and recognized at the spring game on March 28, 2015.

NCAA developments were discussed briefly by Rick Franza in lieu of President Papp. Dr. Papp is on the NCAA Board of Directors and one of the 18 presidents who help drive what goes in that body. From their meeting held in July, the key issue is whether the 65 BCS level schools can operate under themselves, specifically related to the cost of attendance. Scholar athletes on aid in football and basketball claim they don't get funds beyond tuition, room, board, books, to address the other cost of attending college. The 65 big conference schools have asked to address this issue on their own. In favor, they approved this vote with 16 -2. The other issue is student athletes being able to make money off their "likeness". KSU is a mid-major and we have yet to see how this will trickle down to us.

Per Heath Senour, regarding compliance, the five power conferences are looking at the term "autonomy" - looking to make some of their own rules. The big component is student athlete welfare which consists of being able to provide athletes with additional real life expenses. This issue has been in the works for over a year and was passed. The second issue of student athletes is being paid for "likeness" in name, videos, and TV. This decision will likely be in the courts for some time. Earlier this year, Heath's office submitted eligibility certification to conference offices and thanked both Randy Kennedy and Michael Redd for helping with paperwork processing.

Title IX Status Report was provided by Katie Egloff. Consultant, Helen Grant came in 2014 for a Title IX analysis and looking at what our growth will look like. In 2013, our student body composed of 42% male and 58% female. Student athletes represented 37% male and 63% female of that body. After studying the numbers by adding Southern Poly and football, her projections of new U for both campuses 49.7% male and 50.3% female. With adding 105 football players, the athletic department will be 48% male and 51% female. That number represents 480 student athletes total. This outlook gives us good position and allows options moving forward.

Matt Griffin gave a general budget report. We are looking at \$18.5M budget for the year and have received the first installment of \$6.3M in student fees. The budget is very conservative in estimating a 3% increase of fall student fees. It's been communicated multiple times throughout the department and coaches to do their part to stay in budget. We will verify and confirm expenses throughout the year to make sure they are on point. Football is new and big,

and start-up costs and will be monitored closely. The 2014 audit from Mauldin & Jenkins is not complete, but by the next meeting it will be prepared and ready to report.

The (FAR) Faculty Athletics Representative, Dan Niederjohn reported on the End of Season Survey. Highlights included a glimpse in the life of a student athlete. Experience overall, athletes gave very good feedback. No significant differences between gender. There was a slight trend for freshmen being more positive in experience. No significant findings with ethnicity. Student athletes have the opportunity to voice concerns. Coaches' ratings were very positive as well. Some concerns were noted in communicating to coaches. Athletes being provided tools to succeed were overwhelmingly positive. Medical services and SASS were found to be very positive across the board. Student athletes find services most helpful being, tutoring, priority registration and study hall.

The Athletic Attendance Policy was addressed by Dan Niederjohn, Rick Franza, and Randy Kennedy. This board has oversight and strategic responsibility and Dan is the link between academics and athletics. The issue is treating students equitably and not penalizing them due to required absences for travel to sport competitions. Randy Kennedy has helped to set student schedules so to not interfere with classes. These instances are not many, maybe 4 or 5 times, but the students were given a different exam at the end of the semester or the exam is now short answer when the original was multiple choice. With some professors, if you miss class, you are deducted a certain number of points. So, we are trying to figure out a way to communicate to faculty members without the issue bubbling-up. Therefore, Dan has presented a new draft to the attendance policy for review. Some of the faculty think we are asking special favors which are the furthest thing from reality or perception. Randy Kennedy and his office are very proactive to this issue, and he generates an email to the professor that the student is competing on behalf of the university from specified date to date. Utilizing our athletic college representatives to provide our voice instead of going to faculty senate to address this issue seems a more effective way to communicate. Awareness and faculty transition make this a continuous notification matter. Improved communication and having Dan tighten the wording in the policy will help ensure clarity with going forward. Campus coaches and department liaisons for each academic department should be the point person the student athletes can go to for such issues. Department liaisons purpose is to handle issues so the chair does not get deluged. Taking a communication tour to both the Deans and Chairs council was suggested by Dr. Mattox. The main goal is to ensure students are not penalized because they are student athletes. Also, the faculty member has to have latitude for make-up work that needs to be respected. Any other comments, please see Dan personally for further discussion.

Dr. Franza reported that the (AAC) Admissions Advisory Council met to discuss the new admissions policy. From the coach's standpoint, the new admissions policy has worked very well. The coaches are happy and over this coming year we will be evaluating the full process and collecting data to monitor how the students are doing.

The next scheduled meeting of the Athletics Board is November 5. With no further business, Dr. Franza adjourned the meeting.