

PRESIDENT'S ATHLETICS OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

Academic Integrity & NCAA Rules Compliance

Institutional Control

Student-Athlete Welfare

Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2016

Present: Janeen Amason, Maria Britt, Katie Egloff, Marty Elliott, Rick Franza, Cindy Gillam, Jim Herbert, Randy Kennedy, Marina Koether, Scott Larisch, Dan Niederjohn, Jon Preston, Steve Ruthsatz, Rick Siegel, Heath Senour, Deborah Smith, Lynn Stallings, Karen Vickers, Patrick Vickers, Vaughn Williams, Christine Zelt, Chi Zhang

Special Guest

Tory Acheson (Head Coach, Women's Softball)

Introductions

Dr. Franza called the meeting to order at 12:33pm. He announced this is the last meeting for the Academic Year and thanked everyone for their service. Introductions were made around the room.

Coach's Corner

Dr. Franza introduced Tory Acheson, Head Coach of Women's Softball. Coach Acheson thanked the PAOC for all it does for the students. He is building a culture of success within the softball program. This culture starts with the players. He coaches a group of women who have shown tremendous resilience, toughness, grit, and compassion. There are currently 8 Seniors on the team; 7 of the 8 student-athletes have already secured jobs after graduation. He has a strong Junior class along with younger players for next season. He is proud of what they do on the field and what they do in the classroom. Several players were injured this season; some players were injured and unable to play at all this season, some have been in and out of the line-up over the course of the season. His goal as the Women's Softball program develops is to recruit students from within a 100 mile radius around the KSU campus. Currently the team is nationally-based, but with Georgia Softball becoming so strong, the goal is to have a team of more local players who want to be a part of Kennesaw State versus other Georgia colleges and universities. This is a realistic expectation for future recruiting.

Academically, KSU is as good or better than the other colleges and universities with which he compete for recruits. That along with the KSU atmosphere and all that is in place enables him to recruit the best student-athletes. The recruiting process is to find and target younger players. Interest in KSU's Softball program continues to grow and the primary emphasis will be to recruit players closer to home. KSU is attractive to local players and current players have connections in the community and family members who enjoy coming to the games to support them. More seating and expanded grandstands are on the "wish list." The majority of the schedule was played at home to highlight the stadium and KSU. Facelift to Bailey Park and updated technology makes the KSU softball facility competitive with other stadiums in Georgia. Academically, the team has a strong relationship with SASS. Trending 18 months of solid academic progress. Players have GPAs in 3.3-3.4 range and some in the 3.8-4.0 range. Coach Acheson provided some background on the Lexi's Day event held Tuesday, April 26, 2016. The Marietta Fish Market was the meal sponsor; student-athletes greeted, met and signed autographs for the children participating in the event. Almost \$4,000 was raised.

Approval of the Minutes

With no objections or further discussion, a motion was made by Patrick Vickers, and seconded by Debbie Smith to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2016 PAOC meeting. Minutes were approved unanimously.

State of the Department

Vaugh Williams presented the State of the Department. He made mention of Dr. Kennedy's academic accolades handout.

Women's Tennis – Made it to the A-Sun tournament; 2 players made second team All-Conference.

Men's Tennis – Made it to the conference tournament; won the first round match against Stetson, which is the first time KSU has ever beaten Stetson in Men's Tennis history; several players made 1st and 2nd Team All-Conference; 1st year having a Director of Tennis and both programs are starting to excel athletically and academically.

Softball – 6 and 9 in Conference play; dealing with injuries especially in the pitching circle; 2 games out of first place.

Lacrosse – 3 and 4 in Conference play, the best record the team has ever had in Conference play; hosting the A-Sun Lacrosse Tournament starting next Thursday May 5th.

Women's Golf - 3rd place A-Sun Championships; 1 Freshman individual medalist.

Men's Golf – Won A-Sun Conference Tournament; started Fall season ranked #92 and are now ranked #39; several top-10 finishes; NCAA Regional Selection will be announced May 5th 9:30am, televised on Golf Channel's Morning Drive.

Men's/Women's Track and Field – Preparing for A-Sun Outdoor Championships; Men won and Women came in 2nd Indoor Championships.

Women's Basketball – Coach Agnus Berenato (“Coach B”) is a veteran coach from University of Pittsburgh and Georgia Tech; press conference announcing her as the new head Women's Basketball coach for KSU was held on March 30th; press conference was attended by former athletes, donors, GA Tech staff, and the Mayfield family.

Baseball - 10 and 2 in Conference play; 13-inning game loss last Sunday; Strike-Out for Hunger program with 5/3 Bank donated \$53 per strike-out for the 11 strike-outs; food donations went to the KSU Care Center to collaborate with campus departments and support them.

Football – 80% renewal rate for season tickets; waiting list of 500 people for season tickets; start to engage students for football tickets; engage with the youth movement (elementary school students).

Budget – closing in on balanced budget for FY 16 and planning budget for FY 17; all finances are trending in a positive way.

Questions from the floor: Is the budget balanced? Vaughn responded that the budget is in the process of being balancing for FY 16 and will be balanced preparing for FY 17.

Compliance Report

Heath Senour provided a hand-out of:

- 2015-16 Self-Reports as of April 13, 2016
 - All Level 3 violations, which are common
 - All student-athletes who received Student-Athlete Reinstatement (SAR) status were filed with the NCAA and were reinstated
- Waivers for 2015-2016
- Recruits who signed National Letters of Intent (NLI)
 - 101 new student-athletes for 2016-17

NCAA Updates

Heath Senour and Vaughn Williams:

Legislative proposals were adopted and the Board of Directors will review Thursday and Friday of this week to make final/official adoptions; dynamic changes in NCAA legislation and governance that will impact college athletics and its direction; Autonomy 5 (A5) meeting after Board of Directors to discuss elements that are impacting:

- Time demands on student-athletes such as countable hours of activity for athletes (traditional season vs. non-traditional season; out of state games;

meetings/appointments with resources like nutritionists; community service; practice; internships, etc.)

- Transfer and graduate student transfers – how should they be counted?
- Financial aid – cost of attendance; squad limits in regards to financial aid and cost of attendance; vote results for football travelling camps

Dr. Franza and Vaughn Williams discussed the UNC case, which is a significant academic integrity issue and a groundbreaking academic case; UNC was put on SACS probation; UNC football and basketball improprieties resulted in faculty and staff dismissals; what will the UNC case implications be at the NCAA level for governance/policies/procedures for academic misconduct; suggested for PAOC to read “Cheating”; Heath Senour will present Academic Integrity Policy updates in the Fall.

FAR Update

Dan Neiderjohn updated on the End-of-Season Survey:

- 99% feedback from the Football team from the electronic survey
- Electronic survey option will be an option for the Coaches to offer to their teams
- Will report in Fall on the results of the survey
- Executive Committee approved in Fall 2015 for the Lacrosse team to compete during finals
 - Student-athletes will be given opportunity to make up missed exams

Dan provided the following handout:

- Policy 4: Student-Athlete Missed Class Policy
 - Coaches may only know a few days in advance prior to a competition that do not meet the policy guidelines
 - Meet with Dr. Kennedy to update the policy and revisit with the PAOC in the Fall
 - Comments from the floor:
 - Scott Larisch requested for the student-athletes to be encouraged to work individually with their instructors and communicate when they will be missing class as soon as possible

Oversight Committee Updates

Dr. Franza introduced the transition of the 3 Oversight Committees under the new PAOC.

Admission Advisory Committee: Dan Niederjohn

- Handout provided

- Revised 2nd paragraph under “Purposes and Procedures” regarding the special admits process
- Committee has not needed to meet recently
 - No Type 3 special admits this past season and none for May
- Coaches are provided with a number of special admits (Type 2 and Type 3) they are allowed on the team
 - Coaches are aware that Type 3 special admits are rare and are adhering to the policy
- Of the 101 student-athletes who signed Letters of Intent, the AAC does not anticipate any special admits cases (i.e., no Type IIIs; no additional special admits) for Fall 2016 – this is a positive aspect for the Coaches and perspective student-athletes

Academic Support Committee: Randy Kennedy

- Handout of student-athlete recognitions:
 - NCAA released numbers for APR, recognizing teams of distinction – KSU Men’s Golf was recognized for a 4-year score of 1,000
- No teams are below APR 930
- Looking at comparison of where KSU falls within the A-Sun
- Dr. Franza added that the Coles Scholars Program 1st Cohort had 3 student-athletes and the 2nd Cohort had 2 student athletes; 3rd Cohort starts in August with 2 student-athletes; 10-15% of the Coles Scholars are student-athletes
- ACS membership and charge will be updated
 - Suggested removing charge of reviewing case studies
 - Suggested committee membership changes: increase to 2 teaching faculty PAOC internal positions versus 1 and remove the external faculty position; Randy Kennedy would like to add himself (as Ex-Oficio non-voting) to the committee; add the Director of Compliance and Associate Vice-President of Student Success Services
 - Committee charged to meet twice per year – change to once per year with the option to meet 2 x if needed
 - Dr. Franza – electronic vote will be sent out in late summer prior to Fall meeting once new membership is in place

Student-Athlete Welfare Committee: Katie Egloff and Dan Niederjohn

- Committee on Student-Athlete Welfare (CSAW) draft handout was provided
- Discussions about representation – what areas need to be involved
 - Michael Sanseviro will assist in identifying those who need to be involved
- Dr. Franza – electronic vote will be sent out in late summer prior to Fall meeting once new membership is in place

PAOC Representative Terms for Academic Year 2016-2017

Dr. Franza reviewed the PAOC membership term expirations effective April 2016 and requested suggestions for their replacements or if they would like to continue participating on the Council.

1. Lynn Stallings - Bagwell
2. Jim Herbert - Coles
3. Rebecca Makus - Arts
4. Janeen Amason – Wellstar
5. 2 Student Government positions

- By-laws read that terms need to be determined by a caucus of Senators within the College

Tentative Dates for 2016-2017 Meetings

All meetings will be held from 12:30-1:50pm in Burruss Building Room 259 (To be confirmed)

1. Wednesday September 7, 2016
2. Wednesday November 2, 2016
3. Wednesday February 8, 2017
4. Wednesday April 26, 2017

Dr. Franza opened the floor for a motion to approve the 2016-2017 schedule. Patrick Vickers motioned to approve, Debbie Smith seconded the motion.

Other Business

- Marty Elliott provided a 5th/3rd stadium update:
 - Men's ACC Lacrosse Championship, April 29-30
 - Inaugural season for Atlanta Blaze
- Maria Britt inquired about length of time to respond to open records requests for student-athletes

- Dr. Franza responded there is a 90 day window for response to Freedom of Information requests for athletics/student-athletes
- Randy Kennedy shared that 50 student-athletes are scheduled to graduate in Spring/Summer 2016

Dr. Franza announced the next meeting date of September 7, 2016 and wished everyone a great summer. Dr. Franza closed the meeting at 1:38pm.