

**University Athletics Committee**  
**October 21, 2015**  
*Bowman Room, Jamerson Athletic Center*

- Members Present:** Margarita McGrath (UAC Chair), John Pinkerton, Whit Babcock, Jacob Lutz, Ryan Shifler, Rachel Holloway, Harvey Creasey, Bob Denton, Joseph Gabbard, Bill Lansden, Amanda Smith, Joe Tront, John Clary, Donna Raines, Jennifer Hundley
- Members Absent:** Robert Bodnar, Paul Winistorfer, Susan Sumner, Brian Strahm, Terry Swecker
- Representatives:** Debbie Greer for Dwight Shelton, Sam Doak for Holly Scoggins, Chris Wise for Patty Perillo
- Guests Present:** Matt Mayotte, SAASS  
Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Associate AD of Student Development  
Tim Parker, Senior Associate AD, Compliance and Governance  
Desiree Reed- Francois, Executive Associate Athletics Director  
Lisa Rudd, Senior Associate AD, Finance and Administration  
Chris Helms, Senior Associate AD, Administration and Sports Programs  
Dr. Gary Bennett, Ph. D. Clinical and Sport Psychologist, Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center  
Sharon Kurek, CFE Director of Internal Audit
- Recorder:** Alison Whittaker, Athletics

Margarita McGrath, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:32pm.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda, and was passed by unanimous vote.

**2. Approval of Minutes from September 22, 2015**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of September 22, 2015. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Business**

**3. Student-Athlete Mental Health Support**

Dr. Gary Bennett, Ph. D. Clinical and Sport Psychologist, Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center

- The number two cause of death among Student-Athletes is suicide; number one is accidents (which may or may not have been intentional).
- Questions to Student-Athletes from NCAA Survey: "In the last 12 months have you felt so depressed that you felt like you couldn't function? 1/3 of Males said yes, 1/2 of Females said yes.  
"In the last 12 months have you felt overwhelming anxiety?" 1/3 of Males said yes, 1/2 of Females said yes.
- 350 Division 1 NCAA Programs- only 30 have a licensed sports psychologist in house.
- 20 years ago President Torgersen formed a committee to review everything in Athletics, and the committee issued a recommendation for a dedicated psychologist. Dr. Bennett was appointed to be the liaison for Athletics. In 2007 this became a full time position. Bennett is still a staff member of Cook Counseling Center and has access to their doctors. Athletics pays Cook Counseling for Dr. Bennett's salary.
- 200 Student-Athletes per year seen for mental health treatment. Majority of referrals come from other Student-Athletes. 40-50 Student-Athletes per week seen, and 3-4 teams met with weekly.
- New initiatives include a leadership development program developed through Student-Athlete Development as well as a program to address sexual assault.

### Questions/Comments:

Other than personnel what can we do to help?

*Hoping Cook Counselling Center will continue to allow a second person to help Athletics.*

Please describe the sexual assault education program.

*Came up with a strategy to provide education in informal settings and trained current personal (coaches, strength coaches, etc) on how to talk with Student-Athletes on a team level, at practice, in the weight room, etc.*

#### **4. Motion to Change the order of the Approved Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to reorder the agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **5. Update from the Faculty Athletics Representative**

Joe Tront, Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), reviewed the purview of the FAR.

#### **6. Update from the ACC Fall Conference.**

Whit Babcock, Desiree Reed-Francois and Joe Tront attend the ACC Meetings.

- Current governance issues
  - ACC NLI policy- Discussing if modifications need to be made or enforce current rules. More strict policy on transferring after signing an NLI than the NCAA has.
  - NCAA legislation- 86 legislative proposals in the current governance cycle.
- ACC Athletic Director's Meeting- Tallahassee, FL  
Whit Babcock, Director of Athletics
  - Priorities for 2015-2016, as identified by the ACC Athletics Directors:
    - Position ACC as a leader in advances for Student-Athlete well-being.
    - Position ACC as an annual contender for the College Football Playoff Semifinals.
    - Strategic marketing and branding plan in anticipation of the ACC Network.
    - Diversity at a national, conference and institutional levels.

#### **7. Internal Audit Report**

Sharon Kurek, CFE Director of Internal Audit

- Internal Audit visits with Athletics each year to audit some aspect of their operation.
- This past year's audit was completed on July 27, 2015- Focused in the compliance areas of financial aid, playing and practice seasons and summer camps. Audit scope was July 2013 through May 2015 in order to cover an entire financial aid timeframe. Typically, audits will include a 12-month audit cycle.
- Four Issues total in the report: one high priority, one medium priority and two low priority. Low levels are not included in the report to the BOV, and are shared with the department only.
- High Priority- University Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (USFA). Compliance Assistant software requires regular updates and reconciliation to ensure NCAA regulations are being met. USFA and Athletics Compliance now have an enhanced system in place going forward.
- Medium Priority- JumpForward software system flaw on playing season dates. No audit trail to ensure dates were set before seasons began.
- Low priority- Some camp approval forms and post camp reporting documents not being submitted by coaches in a timely manner. Some CARA logs not completed by coaches in a timely manner.

### Questions/Comments:

Has the Financial Aid issue already been cleared?

*We follow up with each recommendation. This one has a final completion date of December 15. The issue was a regular reconciliation from the Financial Aid office between Banner, the NCAA system and business office was not occurring in a timely manner. Now there is a rotation, four sports updated each week by Financial Aid.*

What is being audited in the next cycle?

*Spring 2016- Student-Athlete eligibility.*

Rachel Holloway, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Office of the Provost

- Internal Audit was tasked by the President to do an internal review of the Student-Athlete experience and to see if we were participating in best practices on the academic side.
- Data collection went back through 2004 looking at student records.
- Recommendations based on audit findings:
  - Annual report on the academic status of Student-Athletes admitted based upon an appeal. Secondly look at admissions profiles of all our Student-Athletes.
  - Review policy and procedures for independent study courses.
  - Academic policy- limit the number of independent studies a student can do in any given semester; limit the number an individual faculty member can supervise in a semester.
  - Numbering of courses consistent.
  - Tasked each college to collect course syllabi for each class, each semester and have on file in the Dean's office.
  - Remind faculty of grading policies and final exams.
  - SAASS- Oversee tutoring. New tutor coordinator position to assist with this. Additional training for tutors to ensure students are getting what they need.
  - FAR- evaluation cycle.
  - Member of the Provost office on the UAC committee.
  - Continue the evaluation of the majors Student-Athletes choose and their progress towards their degree. Annual evaluation and report to the Provost.

**Questions/Comments:**

Subcommittee report finding- Advising ratios in SAASS is an ongoing discussion.

*SAASS is fully staffed (11 staff members).*

Are Student-Athletes able to major in any major they want? Concern in scheduling barriers for Student-Athletes. Complex puzzle of class schedules and classroom availability campus wide.

*Trying to ensure Student-Athletes are able to major in their desired major. Work with schedules and practices.*

**8. Questions for Whit Babcock**

Desiree Reed-Francois provided an update on men's and women's basketball. Both team's GPAs are up. Student athletes are very engaged in the community. MBB and WBB going into the local elementary schools and created a reading program.

(Whit Babcock)

Facilities, where are we are going next?

*There is a master plan. University-wide capital campaign is coming up. Our next fundraising phase will include facility improvements, scholarships and endowments. Planning renovations to Cassell Coliseum, Softball stadium, refreshing Rector Fieldhouse, Tennis facilities, Baseball stadium.*

Statement about football?

*Aware that we have a coach close to the end of his career, everything will be handled in a respectful manner as needed. All coaches for any sport are evaluated at the end of the season.*

Student Government has asked about transportation for Student-Athletes to away Football games?

*Some schools do that for bowl games, we will be open to looking into it.*

Sale of alcohol in Lane Stadium?

*Beer and wine will not be sold in the general stands. We have introduced it in some indoor club seats, it has been well-received. Additional amenities in the club area included extensive remodeling.*

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:59pm**