

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

MARCH 20th, 2018

President's Suite, Lane Stadium

Members Present: Holly Scoggins (Chair), Whit Babcock, Kevin Gehr, Rachel Holloway, Robena Hughes, Jennifer Hundley, Art Keown, Bill Lansden, Jay Poole, Tim Stelter, Susan Sumner, Terry Swecker, Joe Tront, Steve Trost, Paul Winistorfer, Chris Wise, Debbie Greer (for Dwight Shelton)

Members Absent: Gordon Bryan, Joe Gabbard, Irene Leech, Kristine Loscalzo, Thomas Mills, Robert Owen, Robert Parker, Patty Perillo, Avalon Roche, Dwight Shelton

Guests Present: Bridget Brugger-McSorley, Tom Gabbard, Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Megan Griesemer, Angie Littlejohn, Matt Mayotte, Danny White

Recorder: Ryan Connolly, *Director of Centralized Recruiting*

Holly Scoggins, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:34pm

1. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda, and was passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 21st, 2018

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 21st, 2018. The motion was passed unanimously.

Business

3. Athletics Update and Q&A – Whit Babcock, *Director of Athletics*

- Goals
 - Always have three to five-year plan, but things move rapidly and must adapt to the present
 - “Commanders Intent” – **does everyone have the same vision for what success looks like in the end?**
 - Culture
 - Communicate
 - Get Better – DO MORE WITH LESS (*Zappos handout*)
 - Our Home
 - Academics/Our Students
 - Resources – how do we generate our revenue?
 - VT Athletics: budget is 8th/9th in ACC at \$90M
 - Among D1 programs in Virginia, VT Athletics uses lowest percentage from student fees to supplement budget.
 - Win – **everyday!**
- Challenges

- Expansion of Legalized Sports Gambling
 - \$40B in March madness
- Sexual Assault/Title IX
- Resources/Budget
- Escalating cost of scholarships
- Transfer Rules – potential for “free agency”
- Mental Health Awareness
- Tax Code Changes
- FBI – Men’s Basketball investigations nationally
- Coaching contracts/salary escalations
- Grant-In-Aid litigation
- Opportunities
 - Positively impacting the student-athlete experience
 - Bringing People Together – Arms wide enough to welcome all
 - We are 20% minority
 - Unique Value Propositions (UVP’s)
 - How are we going to differentiate Virginia Tech from everyone else?
 - ACC Channel in 2019
 - Revenue & Exposure
 - How F.A.N.G. (Facebook, Amazon, Netflix, Google) choose to impact sports and sports content delivery
 - People will always consume sports – how will they consume it?
 - Drive for 25
 - Be the preeminent athletic department in the ACC
 - 2020 Vision

Questions/Comments:

- ***Can you explain the Transfer Rule situation?***
 - Committee formed to develop new legislation – currently active
 - Two options:
 - Every student-athlete can transfer ONCE with no ramifications and play right away
 - Regardless of sport, every transfer must sit a year upon transferring
 - Exemptions pending on academic readiness
 - Current conversation is trending toward option #2

4. Facilities Update – Tom Gabbard, Senior Associate AD, Facilities and Operations

- Projects Completed:
 - Men’s Basketball Gameday Locker-room
 - Merryman McConnell Auditorium
 - Student-Athlete Development Center
 - Stairwell renovations throughout Merryman and Cassell
 - Football Recruiting Center

- Diving Training Center – renovated old racquet ball facility in Cassell Coliseum
- Golf Indoor Practice Facility
- Updated Merryman & Cassell Coliseum wall graphics
- Projects Near Completion:
 - English Field at Union Park
 - Rector Fieldhouse Renovation
- Projects currently in design:
 - Sports Performance Center (nutrition center) - Bowman Room Renovation
 - ACC/ESPN Network Control Center
 - Can broadcast at ESPN levels locally for all sporting venues
 - Requires two studio-control centers
 - Must be functioning by August 2019
 - Will begin staff-training in Jan 2019
 - Break ground in September 2018
 - Renovation of Burrows-Burleson Tennis Center
- Projects planned for near future:
 - Expanded Sport Psychology Offices – Summer 2018
 - Soccer Video Board – Summer 2018
 - Soccer and Track Locker-room expansion in Merryman – Summer 2018

Questions/Comments:

- ***No questions***

5. Time Management Plans (TMP) – Bridget Brugger-McSorley, *Assistant AD, Compliance and Athletics Title IX*, & Megan Griesemer, *Assistant Director, Compliance*

- ***Purpose:*** To help effectively plan non-athletic related activities, TMP aims to provide student-athletes with greater predictability and transparency in their everyday athletic schedules.
 - Started Aug 1, 2017
- Components
 - Athletically Related Activities
 - Countable – practice, weights, etc.
 - Other required – team travel, recruiting, team pre-game meals, scouting report meetings, etc.
 - *does not include medical or academic
 - Days off – required
 - VT must include an additional 14 days off on top of general requirements
 - 7 days off immediately following completion of competition season
 - Other
 - Notifications – minimum standards for changes

- Implementation
 - Review/Approval
 - Sport Administrator
 - Two [2] student-athlete TMP Representatives
 - Constant engagement with SA's throughout the school year to learn benefits of TMP program
 - Compliance Administrator
 - End-of-year Review
 - Sport Administrator
 - Compliance Administrator
 - Director of Athletics
 - University President
 - Jumpforward Software
 - Brand new software program
 - VT has been very involved in JF's process of updating/improving the software

Questions/Comments:

- ***What are the standards for minimum notification to student-athletes?***
 - 24-hour notice to change the calendar
 - 7 days to add something to the calendar
- ***How easy is it to manage post-season?***
 - We require coaches to inform and update as soon as possible – there are exceptions built in for scenarios outside of the coaches' control
- ***Are student-athletes allowed to update the software?***
 - No
- ***Is this a “catch-all” calendar – stacking class schedules, etc.?***
 - There are potential features in JF, but we are allowing coaches and student-athletes to adapt to the process and basic program features first
 - Potential for APP to be created to add more capabilities – right now it is strictly for monitoring purposes
- ***Can the SA upload calendar items, time-management concepts of their own into the program/software?***
 - Potential in future as the process and software platform develops
- ***Can we know what each student-athlete dedicates time-wise to sports with this data?***
 - Yes, we have ability to generate various reports

6. Challenges Regarding Missed Class Time – Dr. Rachel Holloway, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs

- The advising and enrollment challenge
 - Meet academic and NCAA eligibility guidelines with limited scheduling availability
 - How can we help manage this for advisors and student-athletes?
 - Begins with summer planning session for academic year

- Process for missed class notification
 - Coaches provide SAASS with competition/travel schedule
 - Director of SAASS provides a cover letter and schedule for each student-athlete to share with faculty
 - Student-athletes are coached to work closely with faculty to reschedule and complete work in a timely manner
- Exercise to show how much potential for conflict there is...
 - Most popular time for major classes is T/TH afternoon, however those times are not conducive for most student-athletes' schedules
 - Student-athletes adapt with online classes, however many required courses are not offered via online platform
 - How are we advising them for scheduling? Are we providing the right options to fulfill their academic curriculum efficiently? Do those options exist?
- The Learning Challenge
 - Teaching landscape is changing
 - Team based, project-based learning
 - "Flipped" classes
 - Studio pedagogy
 - Performance-based classes
- The Next Step
 - Can we create a data computational model to consolidate the various athletic schedules, academic opportunities, etc. to provide coaches, student-athletes, advisors and faculty a clear picture to help better formulate calendars for the academic year?

Questions/Comments:

- ***The ACC Men's Soccer coaches have put proposal together to expand the season into the spring to reduce potential missed class-time, add more personal time for the SA's, and potentially reduce health risks.***
- ***Can we shorten the seasons? Do we need that many competitions?***

7. Topics/Further Discussion from previous meeting

- Danny White
 - VCOM memo re: Nassar/Michigan State situation
 - Sport Science Team at VT – individuals who work in athletics that are in constant contact with student-athletes (psychologist, nutritionist, trainers and physicians)
 - Kevin Love – mental health article
- Matt Mayotte
 - Infographic as follow-up from last meeting's academic recap
- Next Meeting – Tues, April 17th, 2018
 - Sub-committees – report to Holly re: status updates
 - Reports need to be submitted by April 13th, 2018

Meeting Adjourned at 4:58pm

