

University Athletics Committee
November 11, 2021 Meeting Highlights
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Virtual Only

Present: Danny White (for Whit Babcock), Tom Burbey, Travis Burns, Bob Denton, Patrick Finley, Heather Gumbert, Jennifer Irish, Sarah Jane Lynch, Ken Miller, Jay Poole, Robin Queen, Rock Roszak (for Bridget Ryan-Berman), Susan Short, Ken Stiles, Becki Smith, Kevin Carlson (for Robert Sumichrast), Anna Taylor

Absent: Whit Babcock, Allison Bowersock, Rachel Holloway, Maria Kenner, Joe Marcy, Terry Rakes, Bridget Ryan-Berman, Frank Shushok, Zachary Speizer, Eric Stanley, Robert Sumichrast, Joseph Tront, Brad Wurthman

Guests: Sarah Armstrong, Derek Gwinn, Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Rock Roszak

Susan Short called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of October 14, 2021.

Susan Short noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

3. Danny White introduced and welcomed **Sarah Jane Lynch** to the meeting. Sarah Jane is representing women athletes and is a member of the volleyball team.

4. Faculty Athletics Representative Updates – Jen Irish

NCAA Constitution Committee Survey

The NCAA is currently rethinking a lot of things. Jen provided an executive summary of findings from the most recent NCAA Constitution Committee Survey (please see the attached).

Summary of the NCAA Draft Constitution

Jen shared some perspectives related to the draft of the new NCAA

constitution (please see the November 8, 2021 memorandum from the NCAA Constitution Committee – attached).

ACC Fall Meeting (FAR) highlights

- Draft constitution update
- Legislation will be proposed in February to drop standardized test score as an initial eligibility requirement. Likely to be effective by the 2023/24 academic year.
- Discussed several items around transfers and the transfer portal.

COVID impacts and related changes in NCAA's progress-toward-degree expectations

- All of our peers have seen an uptick in transfers since the start of the pandemic.
- Because pandemic coincided with several other transfer-related changes, e.g., transfer portal and one-time transfer exception, this uptick is likely the new normal.
- Doesn't appear to be any specific additional pandemic-related adjustment to progress-to-degree expectations by the NCAA
- Highlights the importance of raising awareness of the implications of transferring in terms of desired major and progress toward degree. ACC FARs have drafted a transfer portal education document—namely set of questions SAs should consider before entering the portal.

5. Presentations – Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Senior Associate AD Student-Athlete Development/SWA and Derek Gwinn, Assistant AD Compliance Athletic Department - Attachments

Reyna shared that the purpose of the SWA designation is to promote meaningful representation of women in the leadership and management of college sports. Reyna provided updates regarding the topics highlighted below.

- ACC 2021-22 Goals and Priorities. It was suggested to specify diversity, equity and inclusion as a standalone priority for the advisory committees in light of ongoing CORE initiatives and the 50th anniversary of Title IX.
- CORE Update. Presentations addressed accomplishments and ongoing initiatives, including UNITY weeks, yearly required education, and the staff demographic data tool.
- Federal Legislation. NIL legislation and the potential for Congressional action. Goal is to maintain the ACC leadership role involving federal legislative topics impacting the industry as a whole and the overall mission of college athletics.

- NCAA Constitution Committee. Goal is to position the ACC in a leadership role consistent with the mission of the Conference as part of the restructuring and reimagination of the role the NCAA plays within collegiate athletics.
- ACC, Big Ten, Pac-12 Alliance. The goal is to leverage the benefits of the Alliance, leading to increased exposure and opportunities for ACC institutions as well as stabilization of collegiate athletics.
- ACC Network Update. The ACC actively supports Disney/ESPN with achieving full distribution of ACC Network, comparable to that of the other nationally distributed conference networks. Influence programming enhancements and drive additional sponsorship revenue.
- ACC SAAC Report. SAAC priorities for 2021-22 focus on the themes of student-athlete engagement, student-athlete education, and mental health.
- Civic Engagement Day Off. Reviewed the history and intent of the required day off for civic engagement. Discussion of potential adjustments will occur at the Winter Meeting.

Audit of the Compliance Office (Derek Gwinn)

- Conducted by The Compliance Group
- Each ACC school undergoes audit once every 4 years
- Overall went very well
- 80% of recommendations have been implemented
- Suggested UAC's involvement in reviewing certain pieces of academic data on student-athletes for evaluation and discussion (probably in 2022-23)

NIL Update – Derek reviewed BOV presentation (see attached slides 2-9)

- 6. Academic Update** – Sarah Armstrong, Director,
Student Athlete Academic Support Services
Provided a PowerPoint related to APR determination
and related topics (see attached)

7. Athletic Director Update – Danny White, Senior Associate AD SA
Services/University Affairs

Danny provided a sports update, related information regarding well-being initiative training, upcoming invitation to faculty/staff to attend upcoming basketball games, announced that all athletic programs had completed suicide prevention training. In addition, Danny announced the Hall of Fame inductees as well as the April 16th – 4 p.m. Spring football game (special note: to be broadcast by the ACC Network).

8. Committee Member Comments/Updates

Susan and Danny reminded UAC committee members that the December 9th meeting will include a visit to the ACC Network studio. Members should plan to gather 3:30 p.m. at the stadium on the 5th floor for updates. The 30-minute tour of the ACC Network studio will begin at 4:15 p.m.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

MEETING DATES FOR 2021 (All meetings will be held from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.)
Thursday, December 9, 2021 (ACC Network Studio Tour)