

**UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, April 14, 2022 (3:30 – 5 p.m.)**  
**University Club – Lane Stadium**

**Present:** Whit Babcock, Tom Burbey, Travis Burns, Robert Denton, Heather Gumbert, Rachel Holloway, Jennifer Irish, Maria Keener, Sarah Jane Lynch, Debbie Greer (for Ken Miller), Laura Morillo (for Bridget Ryan-Berman), Susan Short, Chris Wise (for Frank Shushok), Becki Smith, Ken Stiles, Kevin Carlson (for Robert Sumichrast), Anna Taylor

**Absent:** Allison Bowersock, Walker Culver, Patrick Finley, Joe Marcy, Jay Poole, Robin Queen, Terry Rakes, Zach Speizer, Eric Stanley, Joe Tront, Brad Wurthman

**Guests:** Sarah Armstrong, Mike Borders, Derek Gwinn, Jay Winkeler, Matt Graeff, Patrick Petteruti, Tyler Nelson, Oskar Skrzyszewski, Danny White

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 March 14, 2022**

Anna Taylor 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. Welcome** - Susan Short provided brief words of welcome and reflected on the important role that our Faculty Athletics Representatives (FAR) have played over the past years at Virginia Tech. She acknowledged the ongoing contributions provided by Jen Irish and Joe Tront. In addition, the committee took a moment of silence to remember Larry Killough, VT FAR for 19 years, who passed away on January 19, 2022.

Michael Borders, General Manager of the University Club, provided a brief welcome and introduced committee members to the facility. Individuals interested in joining the university club are encouraged to contact Mike directly.

- 4. Sports Analytics Capstone Project** - Kevin Carlson introduced Jay Winkeler, executive director of the Center for Business Analytics, who turned the meeting over to Oskar Skrzyszewski, Matt Graeff, Patrick Petteruti, and Tyler Nelson for a presentation related to a sports analytics capstone project. The presentation slide deck is attached.

- 5. Faculty Athletics Representative Update** - Jen Irish, university FAR, presented an update related to ongoing NCAA/ACC changes. In addition to her report, she shared that the wrestling scheduling request for a match during final exams had been approved.

NCAA:

- NCAA Division 1 Council suspended vote on legislative proposals and placed a moratorium on any new proposals from Conferences, in anticipation of major changes from Division 1 Transformation committee. However, there may be a few exceptions, pending review.
- The Council also introduced the proposal to remove test score requirements from initial eligibility requirements. Council expected to vote on this in January to be effective in August 2023. Virginia Tech is test-optional for Fall 2022 admissions cycle, but this is not a permanent change.

ACC: NIL panel discussion at Monday's virtual meeting of ACC FARs

VT: Transferology is fully operational for prospective transfer students to Virginia Tech

#### **6. Missed Class Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee met for first time last week, focused discussion on maximum allowable absences:

- Discussed how to define;
- Discussed formal role of UAC in reviewing competition/travel schedules;
- Discussed formal role of UAC in granting exceptions to absence policy
- Working w/ Athletics Department Compliance to gather additional quantitative historical information on missed class by sport

#### **7. Exception for Competition during Finals Week/Wrestling Fall 2022**

Susan Short shared that Jen Irish, Tom Burbey, and Rachel Holloway (the appointed UAC review sub-committee) had met to review the request from Wrestling to schedule an athletic competition on December 9, 2022. They reviewed the number of exams likely to overlap with the proposed competition and the number of students likely to be affected. Based on the justification and the small number of students likely to be impacted, the review committee approved the request to schedule an athletic competition during finals week.

#### **8. NCAA Constitution Requirement Compliance**

Susan Short shared that several members of the UAC had conducted a review of the current membership and make-up of the University Athletics Committee. Excluding ex-officio members, the UAC consists of 20 members (16 represent administration, faculty, and student-athletes). The group received a motion from Rachel Holloway that UAC membership is in compliance with the new NCAA Constitution requirement (the requirement is that a majority of the committee must be represented by administration, faculty, and student-athletes). Heather Gumbert provided a second. The motion carried.

#### **9. Name, Image, Likeness**

Derek Gwinn provided an update related to NIL as well as new academic incentives available to student-athletes. Whit indicated that a plan for implementation will be provided to UAC for review and input. It is critical that we continue to focus on maintaining academic excellence.

9. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. and was followed by a brief reception.
10. The final UAC meeting for the 2021-22 academic year will be held Thursday, May 5, 2022 (3:30 – 5:00 p.m.).