Members Present
Peggy Gallagher, Kerry Heyward, Cheryl L. Levick, Mike Metzler, Sandy Miller, Chester Phillips, George Pierce, Andrew Sumner, Kris Varjas- Chair, Dena Freeman-Patton, James Greenwell, Robert Slavis.

Members Not Present
Fred Brooks, Perry Binder, Richard Fendler, Justin Hails, Marvin Lewis, Parth Modi, Corneill Stephens, Rebecca Stout, Gail Barksdale.

Call to Order
Ms. Varjas called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. All members were present as noted above. The minutes reflect major action items and the sense of the meeting discussion. Detailed notes are available on file in the athletic department.

Approval of Minutes
The committee unanimously approved the February 10, 2011 Senate Committee on Athletics meeting minutes.

Old Business
Mrs. Freeman-Patton shared with the group her finds on the industry standard ratio of academic advisors to student-athletes. In the CAA the average is 100:1, the N4A sets minimum baseline is 150:1. To move us closer to larger programs such as the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech, GSU’s should be at 50:1, so that is what we are working toward. The department’s current ratio average is 80:1.

Mr. Metzler updated the group on status of the NCAA Self Evaluation of the Student-Athlete Development department. The sub-committee is in process of completing interviews and is on schedule to have the evaluation finished at the end of the semester.

Mrs. Heyward informed the committee that she will have an update on the status of the committee’s bylaw changes after the University Senate Committee on bylaws and standards meets later this afternoon.

Ms. Varjas shared with the group that there have been some discussions/concerns about the voting privileges of this committee because its composition is slightly different from most of the other University Senate Committees, which are primarily Senators.
Ms. Varjas updated the group on the status of getting Cheryl before the University Senate once a year, preferably in the fall as this committee recommended. It’s been a work in progress. She submits names on behalf of this committee to the Executive Council and the President makes the final call. Ms. Varjas made a formal recommendation that Cheryl be placed on the agenda once a year and Cheryl sent a great follow-up email, stating that it would be helpful for NCAA certification purposes.

New Business
Ms. Varjas informed the committee that this is the last meeting of the year for this current group of Senators. The new members of the committee will be announced during the next University Senate Committee in April. An April meeting will be held to introduce the new Senators and Paul Alberto, chair of executive committee, will attend this meeting to elect a new Chair. Only voting members may attend this meeting. Ms. Varjas proposed April 21, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. for this meeting. She will confirm date, time, and location by email later this month. With the new structure and by-laws, the committee will need to determine how it will deal with certain issues, such as gender equity.

Mr. Greenwell invited the group to participate in the first annual PAC Golf Outing taking place on Monday, April 11, with a 1:00 p.m. shot gun start at the Berkeley Hills Golf Course. He also invited the committee to attend the department’s annual Student-Athlete Awards and Recognition Banquet taking place on Monday, April 24, at the Westin Hotel Downtown. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Varjas shared with the group that the Committee plans to tour the football practice facility in the fall.

Director of Athletics Report
Ms. Levick updated the committee on the athletic department by announcing the hiring of Ron Hunter as the new men’s basketball coach. She noted that his full bio could be found in their packets and highlighted he has been very successful at IUPUI which is a similar large, urban university in located Indianapolis, IN. Mr. Hunter is heavily involved with Samaritan’s Feet, which aligns perfectly with the department’s emphasis on community outreach.
Ms. Levick reviewed with the committee a draft of the Athletic Department’s Strategic Plan. The department waited for President Becker to provide the University community with the final version of the University’s Strategic Plan to make sure that the Athletics Strategic Plan aligned with it completely. This is the first time she has presented a draft of the plan to a constituent, other than the President. She noted that it is an aggressive plan but is also attainable.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.