Minutes of the Meeting
April 7, 1998
10:00 a.m. 840 1PP

Members Present: Dan Franklin, Orby Moss, Andrew Sumner, Bill Thomas, Martha Bullard, Rankin Cooter, Thom Wubbenhorst, James Maxey, Debra Snell, Kurt Keppler

Members Absent: Kelly Cervany, Norman Crandell, Richard Fendler, John Marshall, David Martin, John Rowell, Hiram Johnston, John Diehl, Stephan Turkheimmer

Additional Attendees: Carol Owen, Blaine Hughes

Call To Order
The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by chair Daniel Franklin.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by James Maxey to approve the minutes, Rankin Cooter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Grade Report
Carol Cohen handed out reports on winter grades. The winter quarter GPA was a 2.69, with the women's combined team being a 2.81, and the men's a 2.45. Thirteen students were on the faculty scholars list and 8 were on the Dean's list. The tennis teams had an excellent quarter with the men's team having a 2.96 and the women's team having a 3.19, both the highest for winter quarter.

Graduation Rates Update
At a previous meeting Blaine Hughes was asked to provide additional information on the graduation rates for athletes. Blaine handed out information on graduation rates for the 1995, 1996 and 1997 years. Blaine pointed out that graduation rates are 6 year rates; therefore, the rates listed are for incoming freshmen in the 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 years respectively. This year's rates were not currently available because there was a new federal form that the registrar's completed. Blaine noted that GSU athletes graduation at a higher rate and faster than non-athletes. The question was asked about how are graduation rates compare to other schools. Blaine said it was very hard to compare because there are so many variables to consider. If you had a school similar to ours, we would be very competitive. Handouts are attached to show graduation rates.

NCAA Recommendations
A handout was provided with the 13 recommendations made by the NCAA with their recent accreditation visit. Orby Moss stated we would be meeting these recommendations quickly and there should not be any problem with getting accredited. The question was raised on the make-up of the NCAA Peer Review Board. Orby said the board is Presidents, Athletic Directors, Associate Directors and Senior Administrators from similar schools that apply to be part of the board. Dan Franklin wanted to thank everyone again for all their hard work throughout the process.

Report by Athletic Director
All Sports Trophy race is well underway and the men are currently leading in their race and the women are only a few points out of first. The trophy is given by a points system, where teams get points for how well they do in their conference championships. We have a good chance to win if the spring sports fair well this season. Please go root on the spring sports to help GSU win the All Sports Trophy!

Annual Golf tournament will be held in middle to late June. This year the department is trying to get the NFL Charities involved to help with the fund-raising efforts of the event to hopefully be held at Chateau Elan. There will be a booster banquet the night before with a pairing party for golf the next day. At the pairing party, NFL celebrities will be auctioned off to play golf with a foursome. The tennis event held in conjunction with the golf tournament last year will be held separately at Sports Life. This will allow people to take part in both golf and tennis.

The Athletics budget is still in need of additional funds. The department has been asked to cut $100,000 from their budget; however, this is impossible due to NCAA regulations. Teams must compete at a certain number of events and this year’s budget was already at bare bones. The department might possibly get a one-day loan on June 30 to pay back the next day, but they will still need to raise the money net year. The Vice President for Development has been asked to raise $150,000 and the Board of Trustees also has been asked to help raise $150,000 to help the cause.

Florida International is leaving the conference this summer and is paying a $200,000 fine to do so. The College of Charleston is also leaving this year and Centenary will be leaving in one year. This will leave 10 teams in the TAAC. As of now, no new teams will be joining the conference.

The softball team has been going through some trying times this season, but the team is working together to get through it all. The team is very good and has a lot of potential this year. The head coach Bob Heck resigned and Jodie Smith the women’s soccer coach has been put in as interim. A national search for a new coach will be starting very soon. Unfortunately this is going to hurt an already straining budget as Coach Heck was a part-time coach an accepted very little compensation for his hard work. The advertising, interviewing and hiring of a new full-time coach will have budgetary impact.

New Business
The Spring Organizational Meeting is set for Tuesday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. in 840 1PP, not May 26 as previously announced.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Recorder, Leslie Williams

Please send questions or comments to Mary Nell Stone