Call To Order
The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by chair Andrew Sumner.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Athletic Director Report
Greg Manning updated the committee on the department. Greg announced the department had signed a three year contract with Mike Perry for Head Men’s Basketball Coach and added three years to Leah Henry’s contract as well. The baseball team house and softball facilities are complete, and everyone is invited to the formal dedications. Panthersville is looking very good with the renovations and updates. Additionally, the arena is being painted and the new floor will go in following graduation.

The Athletics Department hosted the Atlantic Sun men’s basketball tournament. It was very successful, but would have been nice for our team to be in the final. A special thanks was given to Mark Sonca from Mercer for his help to make the tournament first rate. Financially, the Department did not lose as much as was anticipated because they did not televise the final game, which would have cost $25,000. The tournament brought in about $30,000 in ticket sales and cost about $93,000 to host, meaning a loss of about $63,000. The officials alone cost about $15,000. The question was asked why should a school ever host the tournament if it is always a losing venture. Greg Manning responded, that we host in hopes that it gives the home team a better chance of winning.

The Women’s golf team won their tournament and will be headed to the NCAA tournament. Men’s golf won second, and may have an outside chance at going to the tournament.

The department will finish the year in the black, which is great. But there are always financial challenges for the department, most prominently are tuition increases and the possibility of a “surcharge” this fall. The departments and sports teams have to continue to be creative when planning budgets.
Academic Report
Carol Cohen noted the semester was nearing the end and there are only a couple athletes they are concerned about and are working hard with. About 30 athletes will attend summer school, of which 20 are going because they need to meet certain requirements.

Carol updated the Committee on the concern about scholastic discipline. Admissions and Standards voted to keep it the way it was for warning and suspension. This is good for the departments and NAA requirements.

Development Report
Kara Ansotegui gave a report for Michelle Olmsted. As of April 1, about $137,000 of the goal of $165,000 in unrestricted category gifts had been raised. Taking into account all other pledge commitments they are at about 85% of the goal.

Marketing Director Report
Kara Ansotegui announced the department is working on promotions. They will be doing quarter dog days at baseball and softball, an Easter Egg Hunt, and continue to work hard for corporate sponsorship.

Financial Report
John Hartwell gave a brief budget update. The department should finish in the black by about $200,000, which will go to the deficit.

New Business
Athletics has agreed in an effort to help the success of the Lofts to house as many athletes as possible in the Lofts this coming fall, approximately 80-100. This will be an added expense for the department of about $200-240,000 annually. This amount is also not figured into the 5yr plan created by the department. The challenge comes for those students who don’t get full housing scholarship, they will have to supplement the additional costs for the Lofts, which is higher than the Village.

The Student Athlete Banquet will be held on April 29 in the Sports Arena. If you plan to attend please let Kerry know as soon as possible at 1-2772.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Recorder, Leslie Williams