COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Minutes of the Meeting
November 19, 2003
12:15 p.m. Sports Arena Conference Room

Members Present: Dan Benardot, Dan Franklin, Peggy Gallagher, Greg Manning, Mike Metzler, Andrew Sumner

Members Absent: Jim Boles, Paula Eubanks, LaLoria Konata, John Marshall, Jean Miller, Marti Singer, Corneill Stephens, Rebecca Stout, Laurie Tis, Jim Wolk, Rashida Davis, Tiffany Ross, Andrea Hill

Additional Attendees: Matt Gillett, Michelle Olmstead, Kara Ansotegui, Carol Cohen, Cathy Jones, Sherré Davis

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m.

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

Report by Athletic Director
Greg Manning deferred his report until the end of the meeting.

General
A campus wide committee was put together, mostly of Faculty Senate, in order to create the NCAA Interim report. Tom Lewis is the administrator in charge of the committee, but mostly it is a faculty run committee. The goal is to have a report drafted by January 2004 and to send in the interim report by June 2004.

Academic Report
Most athletes are doing very well, working with tutors. There are no grade reports available at this time, but those athletes that have not been doing as well are being paired up with tutors and increasing individual tutoring time. Official grades will not be available until December 30; an official grade report will be attempted at that time if all the professors have submitted grades. Official grades will be out the first week of January.

Cathy Jones went on to report a slight situation in regards to Math 1101 (Math Modeling). Athletes that tested into Math 1101, and complete the course are then attempting to register for College Algebra, but are being told that Math 1101 is not a prerequisite for College Algebra and that they must pay fifty dollars to retake that math placement exam in order to test into College Algebra. In the future, for orientation purposes, structural differences will reiterate how important the math placement exam is, and the athletes will go into the exam knowing that it is a serious test that will affect them in the future.

Athletes must have a 2.3 each semester if on a warning. If on warning, students cannot take more than 13 hours. This will increase summer school costs. GSU 1010 – If it is an area F elective course; not sure if committee will approve.

Development Report
Michelle Olmstead stated that the current goals are as follows: $256,000 for fundraising purposes and $181,000 unrestricted for scholarships. The main focus for December is the Board. There are six new
members and we expect 100 percent participation.

The Faculty/staff campaign kicking off in February; please keep athletics in mind. Development Board is requesting $100,000 to fund and refurbish the weight room and rename it for an individual. There is also a request to Georgia Power for a full or partial gift to refurbish facilities for the baseball team.

Marketing Report
Kara Ansotegui stated that the big game is December 1, 2003. Tickets are available from the Athletics Department for $5.00.

December 6 is the Hughes Spalding Drive. Please bring a stuffed animal and stay for free. It is asked that the stuffed animal have at least a $10 value.

December 12 is Lefty Bobble Head night and floor decoration. Sponsorships are being pushed and the committee is very close to its goal of $22,000 in the Gwinnett. So far $16,500 has been raised.

Letters were sent out to all high schools in Gwinnett County, mainly to basketball coaches. Some, however, are not getting the letters, and this could be crucial in getting people to attend. Nine billboards are now visible in the Gwinnett area. Three have been put up downtown, including one near the Rialto.

Nearly, $25,000 - $30,000 was spent promoting this game, so hopefully the promotion will pay off in great attendance for this event. Athletes are very good, but students and faculty do not participate in athletic events.

Budget Report
Matt Gillett stated that the faculty approved the fee increase. Met with lofts directors and spoke about a four percent increase at the Lofts for next year. Coaches are doing well with keeping up with their budgets. Lofts have been great for coaches; almost reminiscent of a traditional campus. It is expensive, and has cost an additional $260,000 to house everyone there, but it has been worth the cost.

Are we anticipating problems with the HOPE scholarship with students paying their own fees? It is more of a burden on the students as well as the University, and can go either way.

Facilities Update
The general women’s locker area has been redone, and soon the men’s will be redone as well. We have another set of softball stands that will be set up over the holiday break. We also have a new baseball fence for $30,000 that will be set up in the future.

There is a plan that encompasses resurfacing courts. Hopefully within three to five years the school will be able to set up an additional two courts.

There is no chance for a league change to the East in a larger conference. Three to five years down the road, with a bigger budget, there may be a chance to initiate a league change.

Cathy Jones will be leaving soon, and we will be hiring a new assistant Associate Director for compliance.

It’s been a great fall for competition. Volleyball and cross country teams are doing very well.

Old/New Business
Kara Ansotegui encouraged faculty/staff to please remind students of the December 1st game.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2004 at 12:15 at the 2nd Floor Conference Room in the Sports Arena.

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

Recorder, Sherré Davis