Senate Committee on Athletics  
Minutes  
February 11, 2010  
12:15pm

Members Present
Teryl Frey – Chair, William Feldhaus, Dena Feeman-Patton, James Greenwell, Kerry Heyward, Marvin Lewis, Sandy Miller, Britney Penn, Robert Slavis, Rebecca Stout, Andrew Sumner, Kris Varjas.

Members Not Present

Call to Order
Teryl Frey called the meeting to order at 12:20pm. 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 approved the September 3, 2009 Senate Committee on Athletics minutes.

Athletic Director’s Report
James Greenwell gave the Athletic Director’s Report on behalf of Cheryl L. Levick. Mr. Greenwell reviewed the goals of the athletic department as well as the progress the department has made in reaching those goals. He also shared with the group the dates of the Men’s and Women’s Basketball CAA Championships.

Mr. Greenwell also provided the committee with an facilities update as outlined below:
1. Sports Arena – completed a renovation of the administrative suite on the second floor. Also, completed a 5,500 square foot weight room on the third floor with offices and showers. The old weight has been renovated for ticket sales and marketing.
2. Courtland North Building – completed a renovation of the 3rd floor for football coaches’ offices. Also, completed a renovation for an additional academic support space on the fourth floor that includes a computer lab, tutoring rooms and office space.
3. 188 MLK – This will be the location of the football practice fields and facility. The full synthetic field and half natural grass field should be complete in March for spring practice. The existing building will be remodeled for the field house and will house meeting rooms, training room, lockers and storage for the band and recreation.
4. Master Plan – A group of administrators have begun an assessment of current facilities and also propose solutions for the future.

Faculty Athletic Representative Report – Given by Andrew Sumner, FAR and Director – Institute of Health Administration, Robinson College of Business

Mr. Sumner noted to the committee that he has received requests from other institutions regarding the attendance policy. The NCAA certification process requires a university to evaluate the attendance policy and show how they are working to meet the requirements. He also mentioned that there is a proposal to consider an early signing date for football.
Academic Report – Dena Freeman-Patton, Assistant AD for Student-Athlete Development
Mrs. Freeman-Patton reported the fall semester highlights and graduates. During the fall 2009 semester, the athletics department posted a 3.01 cumulative and 3.00 semester GPA, which is the third consecutive semester over a 3.0. Every team earned a 2.60 or higher semester and cumulative GPA, including an impressive 2.7 GPA for men’s basketball and our first ever full football team. The women’s tennis and men’s golf teams had the highest team GPA. Twelve teams earned a 3.0 or higher team GPA. 127 student-athletes had a 3.2 or higher cumulative or semester GPA with 10 of them on the President’s List and 60 on the Dean’s List. There were 13 fall semester graduates including men’s basketball player, Trey Hampton who remained to compete this spring.

The university attendance policy changes have been approved by Admissions and Standards Committee. The change will give flexibility with the student-athletes and the faculty. The 15% maximum number of absences has now become a guideline. This would put us in line with NCAA certification if any of our teams make it to post season play and need to miss more than 15% of their classes. The athletics department will still work hard to minimize the number of missed classes for our student-athletes.

Student-Athlete Development will be required to complete a self-evaluation this upcoming year per NCAA rules and regulations. They will look to bring in an outside consultant and solicit the help of the Senate Committee on Athletics this spring and summer to complete this evaluation.

Compliance Report – Robert Slavis, Assistant AD for Compliance
Mr. Slavis gave the spring 2010 admissions report. There were 13 new student-athletes admitted this spring. There are 45 new signees for next year across sports.

He also gave the Academic Progress Rate (APR) update and explained the APR to any new members. The APR for this past year has increase from past years. All teams are above the 4 year average of a 925 except men’s basketball at a 920. They will be above the 925 cut score after this year.

The Special Talents Committee will continue to meet and review applications for admissions for the upcoming year.

The compliance office has increased the NCAA rules education sessions for all staff and coaches. Many of the forms are being updates and a weekly compliance tip is sent out to the entire department.

Budget & Finance Report – Marvin Lewis, Associate AD for Finance
Mr. Lewis reported that the department has finished the audit process and finished out last year with a $2.4 million surplus. The $85 student fee increase will be used for new staff and facilities to support the addition of football. The athletics department currently operates on a $15 million budget. This year we have used 60% of the current budget which is in line with where the department should be at this point in the year.
Old Business
The last meeting the committee asked if there was a way to have access to the new logos through a secure website instead of going through the University Relations department. All athletic department logos should go through Ellen Powell of University Relations and Kosha Irby, Senior Associate AD of External Affairs. The university would like to keep the logos for athletic use only.

New Business
The fall 2010 sports schedules were presented for approval. They were unanimously approved by the Senate Committee on Athletics.

Future Meetings
The next meeting is scheduled for April 22nd at 12:15 p.m. The location is TBD.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.