IAC Meeting
Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 12:30 pm
Jaqua Academic Center, Room 236

Minutes

Attending: Co-chair Brian McWhorter, Robert Illig, Andrew Karduna, Kurt Krueger, Donna Laue, Peng Lu, Lena Macomson, Dev Sinha, and Jim O’Fallon, members; Rob Mullens, Jim Bartko, Gary Gray, and Craig Pintens, Department of Athletics; Stephen Stolp, Services for Student Athletes.

Absent members: Molly Bacon, Bill Harbaugh, Laura Hinman, David Koranda, Matthew Miyamoto, Jennifer Reynolds, Josh Roth, Nathan Tublitz, and Glen Waddell.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian McWhorter at 12:37 p.m. without a quorum.

Chair’s Update - Brian McWhorter

The Drug Testing rule has passed and because of the suggestion made by the IAC, the "safe harbor" clause has been bolstered for student-athletes who may have a drug problem. If a student claims to a have a drug problem before taking a test, by invoking the safe harbor clause the student-athlete will not incur a "failed test." The Chair thanked everyone who provided input. The Chair and Professor Sinha, who is coordinating the communications working group, have discussed having the IAC inform students about the Safe Harbor clause and its significances. Also, the President will be forming a working group to examine other issues that have been raised.

The comprehensive academic data of student-athletes requested from the Registrar has been provided, but not everything is available to see. There are restrictions of the use of this data; it is limited to members of the IAC and for committee use only. It cannot be provided to any third parties. Also, similar data on all students will be needed for comparison.

Some of the goals for requesting this data set are to protect the academic experience for student-athletes as well as to look for places in the course catalogue that student-athletes have not been not able to access and to research what can be done to make the entire catalogue available to student-athletes.

There will eventually be a large volume of data to be interpreted and the IAC currently has a member who can run data. However, future questions concerning the interpretation of this information need to be specific; the committee should be able to articulate what it wants to know. These questions should be addressed to the institutional experts and although the UO OIR is small and underfunded for this size of institution, using the OIR might result in impartial and balanced analysis and avoid bias. As there is not a quorum present, the committee cannot vote on requesting assistance from the OIR at this time.
The Chair asked Professor Sinha to compose a list of information goals for discussion at the next meeting. At President Gottfredson’s suggestion, the Chair has contacted the chairs of IACs at other schools for their input on this topic. With the end of the academic year approaching and the ending of his term as Chair, Professor McWhorter will pass this project along to the incoming Chair.

**FAR’s report – Jim O’Fallon**

The academic scandal at the University of North Carolina is a much different situation from the issue of the review of the content of FHS199 by the UO Curriculum Committee. At UNC, students at-large, not just student-athletes, benefited from anomalies specific to the African and Afro-American Studies department, such as unauthorized grade changes, forged faculty signatures on grade rolls and limited or no class time, irregularities that the investigation found went back to Fall of 1997.

The data requested regarding UO’s FHS course will be used to answer two questions: (1) is there a disproportionate number of high grades recorded in the various sections, and (2) is there a disproportionate number of student-athletes enrolled? UO SSA has been tracking grade information from FHS 199 for the past two years on a term-by-term basis. The establishment of some reports to answer recurring questions could be produced by the OIR on an annual basis.

Also, the instructor of AD 406, Art and the Athlete – a study of the expression of art through athleticism, is reassessing her course content and the syllabus. SSA believed the class would be a P/NP, but it is a graded course with an option for P/NP.

If members of the committee have other suggestions for uses of the data that has been received from the Registrar, please email them to either or both of the Co-chairs.

There is nothing to report on the NCAA meeting. The final decision will not be known until May or later. Jim O’Fallon has been instructed by the President to update the IAC Chair regarding the investigation status. As the NCAA still requires confidentiality, the Chair was instructed to not disseminate the information.

**Jim Moore, Head Women’s Volleyball Coach**

Coach Moore has been coaching collegiate volleyball for 24 years. This is his eighth year at Oregon. Coach Moore was also named the Pac-12 Conference Coach of the Year in 2006. He picked up his second national coach of the year laurel with the Ducks after he received similar honors by Collegiate Volleyball Update in 2007 and he was named the 2012 Volleyball Magazine National Coach of the Year. He has developed two Olympians and seven National Team members.

This past season, the Ducks celebrated their greatest season that was capped by a trip to the NCAA Championship final against Texas. In the earlier postseason contests, #5-seeded UO beat its third top-ranked foe the last two years with a 3-1 victory over then-No. 1 Penn State in the NCAA semifinal. In weeks prior, Oregon swept both Northern Colorado and AVCA No.-13-
ranked Dayton the opening weekend in Eugene, then bested #12 seed BYU and #4 seed Nebraska in the third and fourth rounds by 3-1 counts in Omaha.

Coach Moore and the Ducks (30-5, 16-4) also celebrated a best-ever, second-place Pac-12 finish, and the program’s first 30-win season since the start of the NCAA volleyball era in 1981. The Ducks ranked a best-ever No. 2 in four polls during the campaign among its nine, top-five rankings in 2012.

Following NCAA guidelines, the Volleyball program has twelve scholarships. All the VB student-athletes are either on full scholarship or have walk-on status. There are no partial scholarships awarded.

There are challenges for students who are on an athletic team. The Volleyball team’s daily morning practices end at 11:00 am. For the most part, faculty and instructors have been flexible and most scheduling conflicts have been resolved. The team does not travel early to away matches. The goal of “sleep in your own bed” means fewer missed classes. Only five class days were missed last season.

The golden rule for students is, “Don’t get behind.” This is beneficial because Regionals are usually scheduled the same time as Fall term finals, although the Final Four occurs after finals are finished.

Many of the students in the Volleyball program are on track to graduate in three years and one term. By graduating December of their senior year, they are able to get into the job market or take internships early.

At season’s end, senior outside hitter Alaina Bergsma claimed the team’s first AVCA National and Pac-12 Player of the Year awards after she ranked fifth nationally in kills (4.85 per set) and points (5.35 p/s). She was joined on the All-America First Team with Pac-12 Setter of the Year and junior Lauren Plum, while sophomore outside hitter Liz Brenner was a Second-Team All-American. All three were All-Pac-12 and All-Region choices and helped OU lead the nation in kills per set team-wise (15.95 p/s). Oregon’s team hitting mark (.289) also stood ninth nationally, and Plum ranked first nationally in assists (13.37) by more than a full assist per set. Alaina’s winning the title of Miss Oregon with the Miss USA program gave her and the University of Oregon and its Volleyball program national exposure.

Outside hitter Liz Brenner was a finalist for the Sports Illustrated College Athlete of the Year, an award that celebrates one female and one male collegiate student-athlete who has demonstrated excellent performance on the field and in the classroom, while also displaying sportsmanship and commitment to the community. Liz was a runner-up for this year’s Sullivan award. Known as the Oscar of sports awards, it is awarded annually to the outstanding amateur athlete in the United State by the AAU. Along with teammate Lauren Plum, Liz has also been named to the 2013 PAC-12 Volleyball All-Star Team that will play in China this summer.

Five student-athletes from the Volleyball program have completed their Master’s at Oregon, two of them with a GPA of 4.0 or higher. Seven volleyball student-athletes were named PAC-12
scholar-athletes this year and five last year. Coach Moore has had a total of 39 students in the Volleyball program named to the list during his tenure.

For community outreach, each of the Volleyball student-athletes performs an average of 100 hours per year of community service and the players stay on the floor after every match to sign autographs and talk with fans. Lauren Plum has helped to build houses for Habitat for Humanity in three different countries.

Fourteen of 2012 season matches were televised on the Pac-12 Network and three of them nationally. The Regionals that Oregon played in were the highest rated.