IAC Meeting
Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 2:00 pm
Jaqua Academic Center, Room 236

Minutes

Present: Chair Brian McWhorter, Bill Harbaugh, Laura Hinman, Andrew Karduna, David Koranda, Kurt Krueger, Peng Lu, Lena Macomson, Jim O’Fallon, Josh Roth, Dev Sinha, Glen Waddell, members; Rob Mullens, Gary Gray, Lisa Peterson, and Eric Roedl, Department of Athletics; Steve Stolp, Services for Student-Athletes; and guests James Harris, Associate Athletic Director, Jennie Leander, SSA, Sam Stites, Emerald Media, and Will Fitzgerald, ASUO representative.

Absent: Molly Bacon, Jim Bartko, Robert Illig Donna Laue, Matthew Miyamoto, Jennifer Reynolds and Nathan Tublitz.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian McWhorter. He announced that the meeting may run long, until 3:45 or so, and requested that those whose schedules would allow it to stay for the entire meeting. In addition to the items already on the agenda, Robert Kyr, President of the University Senate, is expected to arrive around 2:15 to address the membership regarding the OAR on Random Drug Testing that was discussed in the Senate meeting yesterday.

Minutes
The minutes of the meetings held on February 21st, April 19th, May 16th, and October 11th were approved without changes. The Chair will have them posted to the IAC website.

Chair’s report
The IAC website will be updated to be have current information, be more user-friendly, and to allow the public to access to its information more easily. Any members who have suggestions for the updated webpage content are asked to email them to the Chair.

Working Groups
The Chair is establishing four working groups:

1. educational access and excellence
2. policies and programs
3. messaging
4. 10th year review

Every voting member of the IAC will be part of at least one working group; members will be assigned to a group if they do not volunteer for one. The Chair would welcome involvement from the ex-officio members.

Once the members of the groups are in place, the Chair will provide direction. Members are requested to email the Chair by the end of this week with their preference for the working group(s) in which they wish to participate.
Bill Harbaugh presentation
Professor Harbaugh displayed some PowerPoint slides based on data of student-athletes provided by Assistant Registrar Jim Blick. The period covered is Fall term, to Fall term, 2011, representing one complete cohort. Professor Harbaugh emphasized that the data did not identify students by sport or special admits and without data for the general student population for comparison, conclusions could not be drawn. Steve Stolp, Director of Services for Student Athletes, pointed out that the data provided also included students who were not served by SSA, i.e., students on the Cheer squad, walk-ons (non-scholarship), and managers.

Professor Harbaugh pointed out some courses in three departments, AAD, FHS and SAP, that have a high proportion of the students included in the data enrolled. Discussion was held regarding possible reasons for this, including the qualifications/rank of the faculty, rigorosity of the courses, grading methods and options, the scheduled times of the classes, availability of the courses in an on-line format, the majors of the students in the data group and students’ personal interests. Again, no correlations could be observed or conclusions drawn without comparison data. Professor Harbaugh has requested additional data from the Office of the Registrar for further analysis.

Random Drug Testing
Senate President Robert Kyr thanked the members for their service on the IAC. At its October 10th meeting, the Senate passed a motion to have the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) review the Revised OAR on Random Drug Testing Policy in light of its impact on academics. The Senate also requested that the administration not adopt a permanent rule any sooner than is legally necessary.

At the Senate meeting yesterday, President Kyr announced that after a review of the red-lined copy of the OAR and discussion with the SEC, he has decided that the Senate will not vote on the revisions to the OAR on Random Drug Testing (RDT) because the proposed changes are in the administration portion. Aspects related to scholarships were not revised, but have been in force since 1999. Therefore, the revisions do not fall within the Senate’s responsibility to focus on “academic matters as commonly understood in higher education.”

The process of reviewing the revisions to the OAR on RDT has revealed some important issues related to scholarship. He is asking the IAC to consider these questions that relate to academic matters:

1. Are there policies in force that are related to the revoking of scholarships awarded to student-athletes? If so, what are they?
2. If there are such policies, are scholarships revoked because of athletic performance or breaking of rules related to athletics or because of academic performance or for other reasons?
3. If the scholarship of a student-athlete is revoked, does a process for appeal exist and what is it?

The consideration of these questions is within the charge of the IAC and President Kyr requests that the committee members prepare a report on these matters and present it at the January 16th meeting of the University Senate.
Post-eligible Student-Athletes
The committee has talked previously about post-eligible athletes. Steve Stolp invited Terence Scott, a junior college transfer student was a wide receiver on the Oregon football team for the 2007 and 2008 seasons, to talk about his experiences and goals since leaving the University.

Terence introduced himself and spoke briefly about his background. A native of Macon, Georgia, he graduated from Central High School in Knoxville, Tennessee. He was a student-athlete for two years at College of the Canyons before transferring to the University of Oregon. He was pulled out of his redshirt year at Oregon because of injuries to other players so he had only 2 years of eligibility while at Oregon.

By Winter term, 2009, Terence had nearly finished the courses required for him to graduate with his degree in Sociology, but he decided at the time to pursue a career in professional football. He played for the BC Lions in the Canadian Football League for a couple of seasons before being released. Terence decided to return to the University of Oregon to complete his undergraduate degree studies, believing that having his degree would provide him with better career and earning opportunities to support his family. At this time, he has three courses left to complete before graduating.

Asked if the Department of Athletics was providing him with financial aid, Terence said that he was receiving funding for tuition, but he had refused any stipend for living expenses. He said that he knows there are other post-eligible student-athletes who have returned to complete their degrees, but he does not have much, if any, contact with them. He said that as a returning student, he is not a part of a large group as he was when he was a member of the football team. He believes that his sense of purpose and responsibility is different now. He no longer feels like a typical undergraduate student as he is older and now has a preschool-aged daughter.

Terence expressed his appreciation for the support he has received from the Department of Athletics and the staff in Services for Student Athletes in helping him to achieve his goal of earning his undergraduate degree.

Announcements
The next meeting of the IAC will be on Thursday, November 29, 2012, from 2:00 until 3:30 pm, in the Jaque Academic Center 2nd floor classroom. Whether or not any of the staff from the Department of Athletics will be available to attend will depend on the outcome of the football games played earlier in November.

Meeting adjourned.