

Meeting of the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee October 25, 2011

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nathan Tublitz, who welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the first meeting of the 2011-12 academic year.

Introduction of those attending: Maneesh Arora, Molly Bacon, Ben DeJarnette, Bill Harbaugh, Jeremy Hedlund, Kurt Kruger, Donna Laue, Deanna Linville, Brian McWhorter, Leah Middlebrook, Madonna Moss, Jen Reynolds, Dev Sinha, Glen Waddell, and Eric Wiltshire, members; Jim O'Fallon, FAR; Rob Mullens, Jim Bartko, Gary Gray, Jamie Moffitt, and Lisa Peterson, Department of Athletics; and Stephen Stolp, Services for Student Athletes.

Athletic Director Rob Mullens:

Athletics brings visibility to the university and adds to the branding of the institution. Off the field of play, student athletes accomplish academic success and perform community service. The pending NCAA legislation changes include governance and student athlete welfare. The Department of Athletics is continuing to build a program that is in the top 25 nationally.

Faculty Academic Representative Jim O'Fallon:

Regarding the recruiting issue that is being reviewed, Jim distributed a template from NCAA to explain why UO Athletics is proceeding in the manner that it is. He asked that the committee members treat the template as a confidential document. The Department of Athletics has been and will continue to be fully cooperative with the NCAA and it has a duty to protect the integrity of the investigation. Failing to do so would invite sanctions. When the investigation is complete, the members of the IAC will be able to access the details. Post-hearing, the NCAA Committee on Infractions decides on sanctions assessed if an infraction is determined to have occurred. The school may not make any comment or issue any statement until the official opinion has been issued.

Review of the recommendations made by the UO Athletics Task Force:

In its report dated May 12, 2004, the UO Athletics Task Force presented 12 proposals to the IAC to improve academic/athletic relations. This year the IAC will concentrate on assuring compliance with four of those charges. The Committee discussed which of the proposals should take precedence and the consensus was to focus on the following five (proposals 3 and 11 were grouped together) in order of priority: Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 11, and 4.

Proposal No.1: The Task Force and the Athletic Department recommend a voluntary financial contribution by athletics to the Presidential Scholarship fund.

Jamie Moffitt pointed out that prior to her and Rob's joining the Department of Athletics, its senior staff had agreed to contribute \$50,000 to the UO Library in FY2010 and again in FY2011, reasoning that such a contribution would benefit the largest number of students on campus as everyone uses the libraries.

In the seven years since the charge was made, the Athletics Department financial picture has changed. Post-2008, anticipated returns on investments declined and the department is now on a 6-year plan to get back on track.

A recommended delay of action on this proposal was accepted until a financial picture of the Department of Athletics is known. Jamie Moffitt was asked to prepare a presentation of the financial status of the Department of Athletics to be given at the meeting of the Committee on Tuesday, November 29.

Proposal No. 2: *We specify reforms in the review process of the Faculty Athletics Representative.*

A 5 year performance review of the current appointed FAR was recommended.

Proposals Nos. 3 and 11: *We specify clarification of the educative standard of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (IAC) and We recommend additional measures to improve advising about majors and to ensure that students athletes are treated like other students.*

The Committee requested a presentation by staff members of Services for Student Athletics be made to the Committee at the next meeting in two weeks on Tuesday, November 8, so that the Committee can determine if the current advising and tutoring system should be improved.

Proposal No. 4: *We specify items requiring the Athletic Department to consult with the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (IAC).*

There was discussion whether the IAC can give directives to the Department of Athletics staff. A modification to the wording of the proposal was suggested, "The IAC shall be consulted by . . ." vs. "consult with." Regarding the hiring of new head coaches – not all candidates visit campus. Also, concerning the scheduling of athletic events, there are hundreds. It was suggested that the issues with regard to scheduling be more specific, i.e., those events that conflict with academic events such as class meetings or exams held at other than the usual course meeting times.

Other issues:

Nathan Tublitz suggested forming an IAC Executive Committee that would include the chair and two faculty members, with perhaps the addition of the FAR and a student member.

Discussion was held on the merits of one of the current student members to always be the ASUO President, adding an additional student member, specifically a student athlete, and another voting membership to be held by an OA. Nathan and Dev Sinha will compose a draft of a revision and distribute it to the committee for comment.

It was suggested that By-laws be composed, but the chair preferred to conduct the committee's work informally. No action was taken.

Jamie Moffitt made known her concern about lead time for inquiries for financial and administrative information because of planning for and meeting department workflow requirements for herself and her staff. Such questions often require research, meeting(s) of staff, and clarification before answers can be reported. It was agreed that questions on these topics would be filtered through the IAC Executive Committee.

The publication of IAC member Ben DeJarnette's guest viewpoint in last Sunday's Register Guard was noted. Student athletic privilege can be a misconception and the committee should consider how decisions that are made affect student athletes. Also, most people don't know that student athletes performed more than 2,500 hours of community service last year.

Congratulations were offered to Jamie Moffitt on her promotion to Vice President of Finance and Administration, effective January 1, 2012. There will be a six-month transition period until Frances Dyke's retirement. Jim O'Fallon will be representing the IAC on the search committee for the new Executive Senior Associate Athletic Director.

Meeting adjourned.