



ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Michael L. Kasavana, Ph.D., Chair

PHONE 517-353-9211
FAX 517-353-6403

ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2002

PRESENT: Gary Ferenchick, Liz Turpin, Joan Garety, Robin Poston, Jack Lloyd, Chuck Gagliano, June Youatt, , Mel Yokoyama, Tom Morse, Tom Schmidt, Ron Mason, and Michael Kasavana

ABSENT: Ed Outslay, Keith Williams, Francisco Villarruel, Ann Marie Kersten, Sedric Audas, and Marvel Lang

GUESTS: Tom Minkel, Carl Nadolsky, and Jim Pignataro

The meeting was convened at 7:30 a.m. The minutes of November 7, 2002 were approved as distributed.

Coach Minkel and Mr. Nadolsky

Tom Minkel is in his twelfth season as MSUs wrestling coach. He described the Big Ten as the premier collegiate wrestling conference. He also noted that his team currently ranks 4th in the Big Ten and 9th in the NCAA. He commented on his team's preparations for the upcoming season and encouraged Council members to attend a competition. Carl Nadolsky is a senior student-athlete majoring in Kinesiology/Pre-Med. He mentioned his success in balancing his sport's demands and the rigors of his academic schedule. Council discussion included dietary concerns, time management, gender equity, and roster management.

Draft Obligations Proposal

SASS Director Pignataro circulated a draft document entitled University Obligations Proposal dealing with time conflicts and absences by student-athletes involved in representing the university in varsity

competition. Discussion included time conflicts, approaches to faculty members, absenteeism policies, faculty accommodations, and proper notification of conflicts. Council suggestions included SASS offering faculty some assistance in resolving conflicts. The Council noted that care must be exercised to ensure the policy is not confrontational. Pignataro advised the Council he will return when a more thorough policy statement is ready.

Council Subcommittee Reports

Academic and Compliance Services

The subcommittee discussed recent changes in NCAA initial eligibility requirements, especially recent legislation related to both gpa and test scores by prospective student-athletes. The subcommittee also discussed reactivation of a special admissions committee to recommend at-risk student-athlete admissions and monitor academic progress. AD Mason reported he plans to convene such a group. Council discussion followed. The report was presented by Youatt.

Planning and Equity Committee

The subcommittee has met with Associate AD Appelbaum and was advised the MSU gender equity proportionality plan is being properly implemented. The women's bowling and synchronized ice skating clubs both applied for varsity status. The subcommittee reviewed the proposals in detail and recommended not granting varsity status at this time. The Athletic Council voted in support of the subcommittee's recommendation. AD Mason will followup with each club and advise them of the Council's position. The report was presented by Garety.

Communications and Operations

No report. The subcommittee did not meet.

Drug Education and Testing Committee

Chair Ferenchick reported that a draft copy of procedural changes is being circulated among the committee for further refinement. Many of the changes to the document were made to render it more consistent with the committee's policy statement (e.g. unannounced testing, collection processing, specimen nuances, etc.). Ferenchick reported he likely would present a revised copy of the drug education and testing procedures document at the next Council meeting.

Athletic Director Report

AD Mason reported that the Football Coach Advisory Committee meetings were highly successful and very productive in helping craft a set of guidelines for the recruitment of a football coach. He further commented that the search is moving along quite well and assured the Council that MSU should attract a quality individual. MSU is using an executive search firm to assist with the search. Mason stated there is no specific timetable for completing the search as the goal is to find a coach interested in building a successful program, not just a team.

Faculty Athletic Representative Report

Kasavana circulated documents related to recently adopted NCAA academic reform legislation and reviewed some of the parameters of initial and continuing eligibility standards.

Around the Table

No issues were raised.

The meeting concluded at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M L Kasavana".

Michael L. Kasavana
(for Keith Williams)