



ATHLETIC COUNCIL

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ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2002

PRESENT: Rick Audas, Gary Ferenchick, Charles Gagliano, Joan Garety, Mike Kasavana, Edmund Outslay, Gaylan Rasmussen, Tom Schmidt, Elizabeth Turpin, Clarence Underwood, Francisco Villarruel, Keith Williams, Mel Yokoyama, June Youatt

ABSENT: Ann Marie Kersten, Kurt Lausman, John Lloyd, Robin Poston,

GUESTS: Greg Ianni

The meeting was convened at 7:30 a.m. The minutes of the April 11 meeting were approved as distributed.

For this meeting, the Council met in the Athletic Director's office in Jenison in order to conveniently tour the Jenison construction after the meeting.

The Council did not accept Ron Mason's request to have the Council meetings begin at a later time in the day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic and Compliance Services

At its meeting last Tuesday, the group discussed three items: at-risk students, recognition, and student-athlete advising. Chair Rasmussen reported that the

committee was interested in discussing the special admit student-athlete. The committee also discussed the merits of having special recognition for student-athletes who attained goals that had been set in consultation with their academic advisors. The committee will invite an academic advisor to its next meeting to review the method for determining progress towards degree as it pertains to student-athletes.

Planning and Equity

The committee met with associate athletic director Shelley Appelbaum to review a formal request from the skating club seeking varsity status. The request was denied. The NCAA intends to sanction skating as a demonstration sport in 2008.

August 1 is the scheduled completion date for all the athletic facilities' construction currently in progress. It appears that the construction will be completed on time.

The committee also discussed student-athlete exit surveys. The results of the exit interviews conducted this spring will be available to the Council in the fall.

Chair Outslay reported that the department is in compliance with gender equity number and percentage requirements. It does not however meet the dollars awarded requirement. It seems that the dollars had been budgeted but were not awarded sufficiently to meet gender equity compliance requirements. Coaches are being advised and encouraged to award allotted dollars.

Communications and Operations Committee

Chuck Gagliano gave the report. The committee did not meet. Premium seating plans for Spartan Stadium and Munn arena are expected to be primary agenda items for next year's committee meetings. Gagliano reminded the Council that this year marks the completion of the third and final year of the Breslin seating plan. The Council can therefore anticipate discussions of seating plans for the three major revenue sports taking place during the next year or so.

Drug Education and Testing Committee

The report was given by Gary Ferenchick. The committee met with Jeff Kovan to review the committee's achievements of the past year. The committee will write a

letter of certification to the athletic director indicating that the program is meeting its stated objectives and has been very effective. Of the 700 drug tests administered to student-athletes, only single digit numbers showed positive results. Illegal drug use has been at a minimum. In the few cases in which tests were positive, the student-athletes were fast tracked into counseling and the athletic director was alerted. In the case of a second positive test result, the student-athlete's coach was also informed.

The committee is interested in comparing MSU's drug education and treatment program for student-athletes with other MSU programs set up for the general student population and with any drug education and treatment programs in place at other institutions. Jeff Kovan and Jeff Monroe are meeting with their Big Ten counterparts to learn about procedures being used at the respective institutions. Ferenchick reported that the committee has invited Ron Mason to its next meeting to discuss the preferred procedure for notifying coaches about illegal and improper drug use among student-athletes.

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

There was no committee report.

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR REPORT

AD Underwood discussed the following items:

A survey is being circulated to determine the interest among donors and sponsors for luxury suites in the Spartan Stadium. A premium seating plan for Spartan Stadium is expected to be in place by 2003.

Demetrius Marlowe, formerly the director of the Smith Student-Athlete Academic Center, has been reassigned. A new director will be selected in the near future.

Due to the recent attention in the press given to the accuracy of information on coaches' resumes, the department has begun reviewing all coaches' resumes.

Two meetings have been held and a third scheduled with U/M's athletic department staff in an exchange of planning ideas.

Due to this year's eight football home-game schedule, most tickets will be sold in season ticket packets rather than as individual tickets. On-line season ticket sales to the public have been robust; well over 1,000 students have renewed their season tickets on-line.

Dr. Underwood reminded the group of the May 21 symposium concerning minorities in sports.

He recommended that the Council meet at the new Crew boathouse in order to allow council members to get a firsthand view of the new facility which is a source of pride for the athletic department.

FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

As part of his report, faculty athletics representative Kasavana discussed the Academic Reform and Student-Athlete welfare documents that were distributed in advance of the meeting with Council members.

AROUND THE TABLE

There were no items from around the table.

The meeting concluded at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith A. Williams
Secretary