



ATHLETIC COUNCIL

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ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2002

PRESENT: Rick Audas, Gary Ferenchick, Chuck Gagliano, Joan Garety, Mike Kasavana, Ann Marie Kersten, Marvel Lang, John Lloyd, Ron Mason, Tom Morse, Edmund Outslay, Tom Schmidt, Elizabeth Turpin, Francisco Villarruel, Keith Williams, June Youatt

ABSENT: Robin Poston, Mel Yokoyama

GUESTS: Gene Orlando, Chris Mitchell, Ron Fisher, Peggy Brown

The meeting was convened at 7:30 a.m. The minutes of the September 5 meeting were approved as distributed.

Today's guests were men's tennis coach Gene Orlando, student-athlete Chris Mitchell, Ron Fisher, director of the Honors College, and Peggy Brown, assistant athletics director.

Gene Orlando, head men's tennis coach, has been at Michigan State for 12 years. Formerly, he coached at Bowling Green and now is very pleased to work under the athletic directorship of Ron Mason. The team's Big Ten wins and losses have been up and down, and there has been no Big Ten championship. Gender equity requirements have put a cap on the number of recruits allowed – currently MSU recruits on the average four players each year. This year's team has three seniors, four juniors, three sophomores and two freshmen. The team has made a great start this season and expects to participate in its first tournament of the season one

week from tomorrow. Each year the team's goals remain the same: win the Big Ten and become one of the top 45 teams selected to participate in the NCAA. Coach Orlando's discussion to recruit heavily within the state provides a special challenge. Recruiting in the state pits MSU against the University of Michigan and its strong tennis program reputation.

Student-athlete Chris Mitchell is from Ann Arbor. He came to MSU because of the coaching and the attractiveness of the campus. Last year was a learning experience for him. This year he expects to bring as much as he can to the team, as well as to the University.

In response to a question, Coach Orlando explained roster management as it pertains to men's tennis. The team has a maximum of 4.5 scholarships, which actually equates to 3.5 scholarships because of the higher tuition that must be paid for out-of-state student-athletes. In response to another question, he talked about the professional aspirations of MSU players.

Both coach and student-athlete departed following their presentations.

Ron Fisher, director of the Honors College, gave a presentation to the Council on Honors College student-athletes. Currently there are 40 student-athletes enrolled in Honors College, which represents about 1.7% of the college's student body. This figure is comparable to that of the University in general where two percent of the student body is student-athletes. There are more women student-athletes involved than men and their numbers are well distributed among the teams. The two Honors College students preparing for international scholarship competition (the Rhodes and Mitchell scholarships) are both student-athletes. Fisher reported that athletic scholarships supplement academic scholarships. He also reported that many Honors College students are hired by Student-Athlete Support Services to tutor student-athletes. In response to a question, Fisher mentioned that there are two ways that students get into Honors College. Students in the top five percent of their high school class are invited to participate in Honors College when they enter MSU. Others are invited if they have outstanding achievement after they are enrolled at MSU.

Fisher departed the meeting following his presentation.

Peggy Brown, assistant athletic director gave the department budget report to the Council, and answered questions. In addition, the following issues emerged during the presentation: club sports fall under the purview of Intramurals Sports;

tuition increases affect the athletic department's budget. The department funds student-athlete scholarships currently at a cost of \$6.5 million. Parking revenue generated at athletic events does not come back to the department. In fact, the athletic department has to pay for the parking it uses. AD Mason mentioned that several new revenue generating plans will be implemented very soon. One plan is to exact a scholarship seating surcharge for all sports, the second involves building luxury boxes in the stadium.

Brown departed following the presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Compliance and Services Committee

No report. The next meeting is scheduled for November 20.

Planning and Equity Committee

The committee has received proposals from two club sports, synchronized skating and bowling, seeking varsity status. The committee will meet within the next two weeks.

Communications and Operations Committee

The committee has not met.

Drug Education and Testing Committee

The report was given by Gary Ferenchick. He reports that overall the Drug Education and Testing program is working well and that the policies in place are excellent. A review and modification of the drug testing procedures is necessary in light of recent developments. Educating student-athletes on the facts of drug use and abuse continues to be heavily emphasized.

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR REPORT

AD Mason mentioned that the previous week was a sad week for him personally. He did not expect to be involved so quickly in such a major decision as the firing

of coach Bobby Williams. Since he had already issued a public statement, he did not feel further comment was necessary. He did offer to answer any questions from the Council. There were few questions posed; several comments of support for Mason's decision were made by individual Council members. Mason gave a brief report on the steps he would like to put in place to hire a new coach. He intends to set up a committee to advise him on the university's perception on what a head football coach at Michigan State should be. Mason expects to hire an outside consultant to assist him in identifying a pool of candidates from which he will make recommendations to the president.

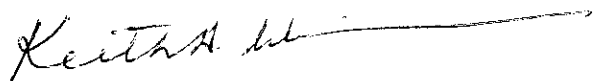
FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Chair Kasavana referenced documents distributed at the October 3 meeting, distributed additional materials pertaining to academic standards and the graduation rate report.

There were no comments from around the table.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith A. Williams". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Keith A. Williams
Secretary