Athletic Council October 20, 2005



AGENDA

- I. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Dr. Yow)
- II. CHAIR REPORT (Dr. Wellford)
 - A. Academic Incentive Proposal
 - B. Secondary Violation Report
 - C. Competition During Final Exams
 - D. Steroid Testing
 - E. Countable Financial Aid
 - F. FAR Organizations
- III. OTHER BUSINESS

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I. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Dr. Yow reported that athletics has been working closely with Transportation Services, Campus Police, Student Affairs and others regarding preparations for the Thursday night football game against Virginia Tech.
- B. Dr. Yow recently participated in the Street & Smith Sports Business Journal's Forum on social responsibility in athletics.
- C. Dr. Yow reported that men's soccer and women's volleyball are each in first place in the ACC.
- D. Dr. Yow reported that NACDA recently made significant changes to the scoring structure of the annual Director's Cup competition. The changes reduced by half the number of points that may be earned in postseason competition by sports sponsored by fewer than 25% of Division I membership. For Maryland, this includes field hockey and men's and women's lacrosse. Maryland is working with other institutions to lobby to have the changes reversed because these and other, similarly situated sports should not be de-valued in this manner.
- E. Dr. Yow asked the Council to consider its position on the Maryland Lottery advertising with Maryland Athletics. The Council does not have an official policy, but the lottery has not been permitted to advertise with athletics to date. Dr. Wellford referred the matter to the Executive Committee.

II. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. The Council approved the minutes from its September meeting.
- B. Dr. Wellford presented a proposal by Wake Forest to provide an academic incentive. The proposal provided that "Any member institution of NCAA Division I which has graduated at least 70% of its student-athletes who are on athletic grant-in-aid for the reports of the previous three (3) known consecutive years may use either the NCAA or the institution's minimum continuation grade point averages (fulfillment of minimum grade point average requirement) to determine athletic eligibility for NCAA competition for the present academic year." The Council discussed the concept and determined that it does not support the concept rewarding academic performance by permitting institutions to utilize lower academic standards.
- C. Dr. Wellford distributed copies of the ACC's initial secondary violation report, which provides composite data on secondary violations reported by all ACC institutions over the previous year. The report was proposed by Maryland, in the spirit of information sharing and rules compliance education.
- D. Dr. Wellford distributed the Council's policy regarding student-athlete competition during final exams. The issue has come up at the conference level related to the scheduling of ACC Softball Championships. There is no time when the championship could be scheduled during the end of the spring

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- semester when at least one school would not miss at least a portion of its final exams. The ACC has determined that it will continue to rotate the championship among the four institutions with suitable softball facilities, one of which is Maryland.
- E. Dr. Wellford distributed regarding North Carolina's revised drug testing policy, which provides for "three strikes" for most banned drugs but "sudden death" for steroids. A review of Maryland drug policy was referred to the Student-Athlete Welfare Committee.
- F. Dr. Wellford distributed a summary of NCAA legislative proposals concerning team limits on countable financial aid. The proposal would permit student-athletes to receive non-athletic, institutional financial aid and it would not count against NCAA team limits. The Council discussed the potential competitive disadvantages that could result for athletics programs at schools which generally offer less institutional financial aid, such as Maryland. However, the Council will express its support for the proposal on the basis of student-athlete welfare to Virginia President Casteen, the ACC's representative on the NCAA Management Council.
- G. Dr. Wellford discussed with the Council the various faculty organizations related to intercollegiate athletics, including university senates, the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association, the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) and others. He reminded the Council that it had decided last year not to join COIA because of Maryland's existing, strong faculty participation in institutional oversight of its athletics program. The Council confirmed that it does not desire to join COIA.
- H. Dr. Wellford noted that with the recent change to a "sliding scale" for NCAA initial eligibility, the Council's existing policy regarding partial qualifiers and non-qualifiers is outdated. An update to the language in the Council's Policy Manual was referred to the Executive Committee.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Michael Lipitz Senior Associate AD for Administration