



AGENDA

- I. INTRODUCTIONS & APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Dr. Wellford)
- II. CHAIR REPORT (Dr. Wellford)
- III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Dr. Yow)
- IV. TITLE IX REPORT (Susan Bayly)
- V. NCAA ACADEMIC INCENTIVES/DISINCENTIVES (Dr. Wellford)
- VI. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT (Dr. Bryer)
- VII. OTHER BUSINESS

# Athletic Council

## February 20, 2003

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### **I. INTRODUCTIONS & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Wellford noted that the minutes from the December meeting would be approved in March, when a quorum is present.

### **II. CHAIR REPORT**

#### **A. Student Athlete Opportunity Fund (SAOF)**

Dr. Wellford reported that President Mote supports the Council's position that SAOF funds should be flexible to provide the best possible benefit to student athletes. He also noted that a decision by the NCAA could be delayed a year because there is still no national consensus on how to best administer SAOF funds.

#### **B. NCAA Legislative Cycle**

Dr. Wellford noted that the NCAA will now have one legislative cycle per year to better manage its workload. This timetable is more reasonable and will allow for better consideration of proposed legislation by member institutions and conferences.

#### **C. University Senate Executive Committee**

Dr. Wellford reported that he and Dr. Yow had a good meeting with the University Senate Executive Committee. The Committee listened to their presentation on ICA and understood the good working relationship between ICA and the Council. The Council will likely now provide an annual report to the Committee.

#### **D. ACC Awards**

Dr. Wellford reported that Maryland nominated three student-athletes for the Weaver-James-Corrigan postgraduate scholarship and had one winner.

The All-ACC Academic Football Team was announced and Maryland had five players selected, all of whom are starters: Steve Suter, Todd Wike, Nick Novak, Madieu Williams and Brooks Barnard.

Dr. Wellford also reported that the ACC will begin a new sportsmanship award. One award per sport will be given, in addition to an overall school sportsmanship award. The ACC is the only conference in the nation to have such sportsmanship awards.



#### **E. ESPN Letter to ACC Commissioner**

Dr. Wellford shared with the Council a letter from the producer of men's basketball for ESPN to Commissioner Swofford regarding the obscene t-shirts worn by Maryland students at the recent Maryland vs. Duke game. Dr. Yow explained that Dick Vitale and Brent Musburger approached her prior to the TV broadcast and commented that although ESPN very much wanted to feature the Maryland student section on TV, the network could not because of the t-shirts being worn by students.

Council members discussed whether the ESPN letter should be shared with students via the Diamondback. There was a general consensus that it would be better to share the letter next fall prior to the start of the home basketball season. The Council will revisit the issue at its March meeting.

### **III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **A. Wake Forest Game**

Dr. Yow reviewed the conference's decision to play the Maryland – Wake Forest game on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM, based on the ACC inclement weather policy. She explained that Maryland strongly disagreed with the decision, but had no choice but to make the best of a bad situation. If Maryland had refused to play, the team would have forfeited the game and first place in the conference. Season ticket holders who were unable to attend are being offered either a tax deduction receipt and Terpoint credit or a refund for the return of their unused tickets.

#### **B. LA Times Article**

Dr. Yow distributed copies of an LA Times article that disagrees with the NCAA recent move to a full-sliding scale for admissions.

#### **C. Denver Post Article**

Dr. Yow distributed copies of a Denver Post article that details the efforts by a former UCLA linebacker to organize college athletes as a labor union.



#### **D. Chronicle of Higher Education Article**

Dr. Yow distributed copies of a Chronicle of Higher Education article that discussed the Title IX Commission's draft report to the Department of Education.

#### **E. Student Ticket Distribution**

Michael Lipitz reported that the new, online student ticket distribution system worked very well in its first year. Student picked up their full allotment of 4,000 men's basketball tickets for 4 of 18 games during the 2002-03 season. The student members of the Student Ticket Distribution Committee will reconvene in late-spring to review the system and share their recommendations for minor enhancements.

#### **F. Review of NCAA Rules Violation**

Dr. Yow reported that the review of the NCAA rules violation in football proceeded with integrity and that the violation is expected to be deemed a secondary violation by the NCAA. She noted that Coach Friedgen immediately notified her of the alleged violation and that the department secured the resignation of the assistant football coach involved and stopped recruiting the prospective student athlete involved.

### **IV. TITLE IX REPORT**

Susan Bayly began by providing the Council with a Title IX compliance summary. She also reviewed Maryland's history of sport expansion and noted that Maryland now ranks among the nation's best in providing support and opportunities for female athletes and in complying with Title IX.

Susan reviewed Maryland's participation and scholarship ratios, as well as team recruiting and travel budgets. Maryland's participation ratio (disparity between female undergraduate enrollment and athletic participation) is projected to be -0.4% for FY03, while its scholarship ratio (disparity between female athletic participation and female scholarship expenditures) is projected at 0.0%.

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Dr. Yow reported that ICA is considering the addition of new women's teams to best ensure Title IX compliance and support for the eight men's teams that are currently under-scholarshipped. Dr. Wellford noted that women's ice hockey, women's crew, women's water polo and women's equestrian had previously approached the Council about moving from club to varsity status. ICA will provide research and recommendations on potential new varsity teams at the March or April meeting.

### **V. NCAA ACADEMIC INCENTIVES/DISINCENTIVES**

Dr. Wellford tabled discussion of academic incentives and disincentives until the March meeting.

### **VI. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Bryer reported that the Academic Committee hear three academic eligibility appeals following the fall semester and that all three were granted. He noted that the Committee now requires that a study plan signed by the student athlete, coach and ASCDU counselor accompany all appeals. He reminded Council members that appeals are granted conditionally and that the Committee receives progress reports during the semester and can rescind a decision based on a student athlete's academic performance.

### **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael Lipitz*

Assistant Athletics Director for Administration