

# **AGENDA**

- I. INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Dr. Wellford)
- II. CHAIR REPORT (Dr. Wellford)
- III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Dr. Yow)
- IV. UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT TICKET DISTRIBUTION (Dr. Wellford)
- V. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT (Dr. Bryer)
- VI. BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT (Dr. Wrenn)
- VII. STUDENT-ATHLETE WELFARE ISSUES (Dr. Wellford)
- VIII. OTHER BUSINESS



#### I. INTRODUCTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Wellford welcomed the Council to the year's final meeting. He took a moment to recognize Dr. Francille Wilson, Dr. Larry Mintz, Dr. Jerry Wrenn, Dr. Bill Higgins, and Mr. Bob Baker for their valuable service on the Council, which ends following today's meeting.

Dr. Wellford announced that Dr. George Bean, Dr. Jay Robert Dorfman, Dr. Tony Whitehead, and Ms. Patricia Mielke would begin serving on the Council next September.

#### II. CHAIR REPORT

### A. Academic Reform Possibilities

Dr. Wellford updated the Council on the following academic reform issues currently under consideration by the NCAA:

- Initial Eligibility: recommendation is to move to a full sliding scale.
  The rationale for this change is that high numbers of AfricanAmerican student-athletes are denied admission under the current
  scale and that the NCAA commissioned research found no
  significant correlation between low SAT graduation rates.
- 2. <u>Core Courses</u>: raise the number of required high school core courses from 13 to 15 by 2005. The number would rise to 14 in 2003.

#### 3. Continuing Eligibility:

- a. Require a minimum of 24 credits per year, with a minimum of 18 during the Fall and Spring semesters and no limit on summer credits.
- b. New minimum GPA requirements as follows:

Freshman Year = 1.8 GPA Sophomore Year = 1.9 GPA Junior Year = 2.0 GPA Senior Year = 2.0 GPA

c. Strengthen the progress towards degree requirements from the current 25/50/75 to 40/60/80.

# Athletic Council May 16, 2002



Dr. Wellford noted that the ACC has consistently supported these changes, until now. Duke, Wake Forest and Florida State are the primary opponents and lead a majority of conference members that will now oppose all of the above academic reforms.

#### B. 4-Year Team Academic Reviews

Dr. Wellford informed the Council that Men's Golf, Football, Volleyball, and Softball are currently undergoing their 4-year academic reviews.

### C. Missed Class Time Policy

Dr. Wellford requested that the Academic Committee review Maryland's current missed class time policies, beginning in September.

#### III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### A. Student Ticket Distribution

Dr. Yow voiced her concern regarding the necessity of the "buffer zone" around the visiting team's 75 seats in Comcast Center. Student seating in Comcast provides that students entirely surround the visiting team's 75 seats, rather than being separated by a few rows of season ticket holders and a railing, as was the case in Cole. The University Committee on Student Ticket Distribution will look at this issue in its discussions.

#### B. Football

Dr. Yow related that she would like ICA staff to have a greater presence with visiting football teams at Maryland home games. This could include welcoming them when they arrive on campus, escorting them to the locker room, and escorting them off the field post game. She noted that the September and October night games give her greater cause for concern regarding fan behavior, based on activities last year by fans at the Clemson game.



### C. Appreciation of Service

Dr. Yow expressed her appreciation and thanks for the faculty and staff members serving on the Council. She thanked Dr. Wellford for his leadership and the Council for its willingness to work with a great degree of trust regarding the athletics department staff. She also thanked the ICA Senior Staff for its hard work and dedication to meeting the goals of the department.

#### IV. UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT TICKET DISTRIBUTION

Dr. Wellford explained that the Council's Charter covers ticket issues and that he will chair a broad-based committee to review student ticket distribution for men's basketball and football games at Dr. Mote's request. Fifty-percent of the committee's membership is students and its purpose is to recommend a new distribution policy to the Council, which will then make a final recommendation to Dr. Mote.

The committee will attempt to complete its work in early summer to have the new policy in place for football. A special meeting of the Council will be necessary during the summer to review the committee's report and make the recommendation to Dr. Mote in order to effectively implement the policy for use for ticket distribution for the first home game in early September.

#### V. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Bryer reported to the Council on four issues:

#### A. Course Quota for Student-Athletes

The Academic Committee recommended that no cap should be created on the number of student-athletes permitted to register for a course should. Dr. Wellford reviews a report each semester of all classes with 10 or more student-athletes, together with grade comparisons for monitoring purposes. The Committee did not see any justification for such a restriction since the checks and balances currently in place are effective.

The Council voted unanimously FOR the proposal.

# Athletic Council May 16, 2002



## **B. Individual Admit Policy**

The Committee reviewed ICA's utilization of Individual Admits, which currently permits up to 26 IAs per year. The Committee proposes a move to an average of 26 IAs over a 3-year period, with no more than 30 IAs in a given year. This change would provide flexibility for coaches in recruiting, particularly in non-revenue sports.

The Council voted unanimously FOR the proposal.

#### C. Academic Eligibility

Dr. Bryer explained that student-athletes who are academically ineligible cannot compete, but may continue to practice. This policy affects football student-athletes differently than other student-athletes, because football has no carry over competitions in the spring semester. Therefore, a football student-athlete deemed academically ineligible subsequent to the completion of a fall semester is not "penalized" by a loss of competition opportunity.

The Committee did not reach a recommendation as to whether or not it wishes to recommend a modification of the current policy and will revisit the issue next year.

#### D. National Letter of Intent

Dr. Bryer explained that Maryland is the only ACC institution to require an admissions decision prior to the issuance of an NLI. This policy requires that the Admissions Office make a determination before a prospective student-athlete's (PSA) senior year grades are complete and is a competitive disadvantage for Maryland's coaches.

ICA, with the support of the campus, already utilizes a "certificate" that states its intent to provide a scholarship on the condition that the PSA is admitted. However, the certificate is only binding "one-way" because Maryland is bound to the PSA, but the PSA is not bound to Maryland. The NLI binds both the PSA and the University to the agreement, as long as the University later accepts the student for admittance.

# Athletic Council May 16, 2002



Some Council members expressed concerns that "decoupling" the admissions process could result in NLIs being issued to PSAs who have no real hope of being admitted to Maryland. This could result in a PSA passing up other, viable opportunities to attend college elsewhere. Another concern was that if an NLI were issued, additional pressure could be placed on the Admissions Office to then accept the PSA who has already committed to Maryland.

Others felt it was reasonable to offer the NLI as along as the admissions office provided, in writing, the requirements which would be in place for the PSA to be accepted. The written conditions would also be provided to the coach.

One Council member proposed an amendment to the proposed NLI policy by Dr. Bryer that changed the preliminary admissions decision categories from admissible, individually admissible, and not admissible, to admissible, likely admissible, not likely admissible, and not admissible. The Council voted AGAINST the amendment. 9-3.

The Council voted 11-3 FOR the proposal to issue NLIs with written notice of conditions for admittance to highly at risk PSAs.

#### VI. BUDGET COMMITTEE

Dr. Wrenn noted that ICA's FY03 budget was due on May 1 and that the Budget Committee met prior to that deadline and approved the budget. He reminded Council members that the budget is strictly confidential and requested that they return the budget handout at the end of the meeting.

Rob Mullens walked the Council through ICA's \$38.9 million operating budget for FY03. He covered major revenues and expenses, as well as ICA's capital debt service.

Dr. Wrenn praised Rob Mullens and the Athletics Department for its productive and candid working relationship with the Council in regard to the budget and recognized Dr. Yow for her commitment to fiscal integrity.

#### VII. STUDENT-ATHLETE WELFARE ISSUES

Dr. Wellford had no new information to report.

# Athletic Council May 16, 2002



# VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Some faculty members on the Council inquired about the Comcast Center seat selection process for faculty and staff. Michael Lipitz will provide this information via email.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Lipitz
Assistant Athletics Director for Administration