

Athletic Council
September 18, 2008



AGENDA

- I. ADMISSIONS REPORT (Britt Reynolds)
- II. CHAIR REPORT (Dr. Wellford)
- III. DIRECTOR REPORT (Dr. Yow)
- IV. STUDENT ATHLETE OPPORTUNITY FUND UPDATE (Trump)
- V. NCAA ACCREDITATION (Worthington)

I. INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

Dr. Wellford welcomed Council members and thanked them for agreeing to serve during the 2008-09 academic year. He reviewed the Council's Charter and committee structure.

He noted that the Council frequently discusses sensitive information and that confidentiality is critical. Dr. Wellford serves as the Council's spokesperson on all topics.

II. ADMISSIONS REPORT

Britt Reynolds, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, provided an overview of the admissions process for student athletes to the Council. He reviewed the six most recent freshman cohorts, including general student data and student-athlete data, and commented on the excellent working relationship between the admissions office and ICA.

III. CHAIR REPORT

- A. Academic Review. Dr. Wellford stated that four teams were subject to academic review as a result of the spring semester: Men's Golf, Men's Basketball, Football and Baseball. Additionally, an academic review for each team is required every five years and four teams will undergo this comprehensive review this year.
- B. Student Athlete Survey – Composite Results. Each year a student athlete survey is distributed to all student athletes following the completion of their respective season. Dr. Wellford distributed the composite results of this year's survey, noting that all scores were positive and that it showed an appreciation by the student athletes for the Academic Support and Career Development Unit, in particular.

IV. DIRECTOR REPORT

- A. Chief Financial Officer. Dr. Yow announced that Randy Eaton has been named the new Chief Financial Officer for the department. Randy had previously been the Associate Athletic Director for Business for the past five years at Maryland. Randy replaces Larry Leckonby, who was named the Athletic Director at the Citadel in the Summer.

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- B. Budget. Dr. Yow reported that athletics is feeling the same budget crunch as the rest of campus. The department has eliminated a few positions that have come open. The department once again balanced their budget in FY08 and the inherited \$51 million dollar debt has been paid down to \$6.8 million, effective July 1, 2008. One goal is to protect the funding for all 27 varsity sports.
- C. Strategic Plan. Dr. Yow reported that the department is beginning the strategic planning process along with the entire campus. Athletics has received permission to create a 5-year plan. The Athletic Council will be involved, as well as the Terrapin Club leadership.
- D. Sasho Cirovski. Dr. Yow noted that with a win over Duke on Friday, September 19th head men's soccer coach Sasho Cirovski would become the all-time winningest men's soccer coach in University of Maryland history, an important milestone in his career.
- E. Suites Update. Dr. Yow stated that the department's top priority in 2008-09 is the sale of suites. To date, 28 suites have been committed and 55 need to be sold by the fall of 2009, to make the annual debt service payment. The department has several people selling suites and they believe they are right on target.
- F. Men's Basketball. Dr. Yow reported that the department is hopeful that 2 men's basketball freshman student athletes will be cleared by the NCAA clearinghouse to compete. (Since then, one has been cleared)
- G. Dr. Wellford. Dr. Yow reported that Athletic Council chair Dr. Charles Wellford is the sole ACC representative on the new NCAA Leadership Council. He is also serving on the NCAA committee that examines academic concerns for football.
- H. OCR – Title IX. Dr. Yow reminded the council that the department had previously met with the Office of Civil Rights to discuss competitive cheer and Title IX compliance. The department has been informed that OCR is sending a clarification letter to all institutions regarding Title IX compliance. This may have a positive impact, as schools might consider adding competitive cheer.
- I. Television Agreements. Dr. Yow reported that the ACC television contract will be re-negotiated in 2011-12 and that two of the six BCS conferences have recently signed lucrative deals.

V. STUDENT ATHLETE OPPORTUNITY FUND UPDATE

Dan Trump, Associate Athletic Director for Compliance, distributed and summarized the updated version of the Student Athlete Opportunity Fund. The revisions to the fund were the result of a year long assessment by the Student Athlete Advisory Council. Recommendations from the SAAC were approved without changes by the Council last spring. The primary change was to the clothing allowance portion of the fund, which will be limited in use.

VI. NCAA ACCREDITATION

Kathy Worthington, Sr. Associate Athletic Director notified the council that the University is up again for NCAA accreditation. Certification occurs every ten years and the five main areas that are examined are Governance, Academic Integrity, Gender Equity, Diversity and Student Athlete Well Being. The process will begin in January of 2009 and will conclude with a final report from the NCAA in February of 2011. The last accreditation was extremely positive.

Meeting Adjourned.