

Athletic Council
October 16, 2008



AGENDA

- I. CHAIR REPORT (Dr. Wellford)
- II. DIRECTOR REPORT (Dr. Yow)
- III. UNIVERSITY ALCOHOL POLICY AND BYRD SUITES
(Dr. Wellford & Stan Goldstein)
- IV. APR AND APR IMPROVEMENT PLAN (Goff)
- V. NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP TRAVEL POLICY CHANGES (Worthington)

I. UNIVERSITY ALCOHOL POLICY AND BYRD SUITES

Dr. Wellford stated that questions had arisen regarding why the Council had previously recommended that the new Byrd Stadium suites be alcohol free when alcohol is served at other campus events. The External Affairs Committee of the council reviewed this previous decision and recommended that controlled access to alcohol be permitted at the suites at Byrd Stadium.

The council reviewed the proposed options and suggested various revisions. A motion was approved unanimously by the Council to recommend to Dr. Mote that controlled alcohol access be allowed for suite holders and their of age guests at Byrd Stadium suites.

II. CHAIR REPORT

- A. Academic Majors Snapshot. Dr. Wellford distributed a report from the registrar's office that reflected which majors the general student population is enrolled in, as well as student athletes. The report did not show any exaggerated grouping by student athletes in a particular major. The same holds true for individual classes, as there are procedures in place that prevent this.
- B. Graduation Success Rate. Dr. Wellford distributed the latest Graduation Success Rate report and reminded the council that the GSR does not penalize institutions for student athletes who transfer from the University in good standing as the Federal Graduation Rate does. Dr. Wellford noted that 12 Maryland teams earned GSRs at or above 80 percent, with three teams posting a perfect rate of 100. Dr. Wellford noted that men's basketball continues to struggle, posting a 10 percent, but efforts continue to be made to improve their academic results. The last two senior classes graduated at a good rate.

III. DIRECTOR REPORT

- A. NCAA Dashboard Report. Dr. Yow stated that she recently attended the Division One Athletic Directors meetings in Dallas (she serves as the President) and joined a group in expressing their concern to Myles Brand that the dashboard report is not an accurate snapshot of expenses and revenues of institutional athletics programs. She stated

that several factors are not included, primarily revenues to campus for parking, merchandise and concessions at ICA events. The NCAA has stated they are going to form a committee to examine how the report is calculated and to determine if changes should be made .

- 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. They are beginning to examine expenses more closely, while avoiding cuts to anything that would hamper the ability of teams to be competitive nationally. She believes people must spend the money as though it were their personal funds.

IV. APR AND APR IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Anton Goff, Associate Athletic Director for Academic Support and Career Development, distributed and summarized information pertaining to the Academic Progress Rate. He described how the rate is calculated and the possible penalties for schools and programs that do not meet the stated minimum scores. Additionally, he distributed the Men's Basketball APR and Graduation Rate Improvement Plan which includes twenty-two items that have been implemented to help the program succeed academically. Anton indicated that the next APR report will be below 925 again, but that after that men's basketball could pull above 925.

V. NCAA TRAVEL POLICY

Kathy Worthington, Sr. Associate Athletic Director, notified the council that the NCAA has changed the travel policy for fall championships. Teams in Olympic sports will now only be permitted to fly to the competition venue in cases where the distance exceeds 400 miles. 350 miles was the previous threshold. Similarly, the men's and women's basketball championship will only fly teams if they are 350 miles from the competition venue, as opposed to the previous threshold of 300.

Meeting Adjourned.