



AGENDA

- I. CHAIR REPORT (DR. WELLFORD)
 - a. ACC Appeal
 - b. Faculty Complaints
 - c. Men's Basketball graduation rates & Academic Policies
- II. DIRECTOR REPORT (DR. YOW)
- III. TRAVEL POLICY (DR. WELLFORD)
- IV. COORDINATION OF HEALTH SERVICES (WELLFORD, WORTHINGTON and BODISON)
- V. SAAC REPORT (HOUSEAL)
- VI. STUDENT CHANTS (DR. YOW and SUSAN BAYLY)

I. SAAC REPORT

President of the campus and ACC Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Allie Houseal, updated the council on what the SAAC's objectives for the year were and what they have been working on. The SAAC is focused on leadership this year and its make up includes the two team captains from each Maryland sport. In 2007 SAAC volunteered over 160,000 hours and helped write the student athlete honor pledge.

II. CHAIR REPORT

- A. ACC Appeal. Dr. Wellford updated the council on a recent appeal the athletic department filed in regards to potential men's basketball player Gus Gilchrist. Gilchrist had originally signed a National Letter of Intent with Virginia Tech, but after the tragic shootings decided he wanted to stay closer to home and announced his intention to attend Maryland. ACC rules stipulate that student athletes transferring within the conference must sit out a year and also lose a year of eligibility. Dr. Wellford presented an appeal to the conference Faculty Athletic Representatives, but the appeal was denied.
- B. Faculty Complaints. Dr. Wellford noted that he recently received a complaint from a faculty member who felt that it was disrespectful that a student athlete's academic advisor notified him of an upcoming absence due to surgery rather than the student athlete himself. Dr. Wellford solicited suggestions from the council on how faculty can make sure they treat student athletes with the same respect as they do other students and vice versa.
- C. Men's Basketball Graduation Rates/Academic Policies. Dr. Wellford updated the committee that the work with men's basketball graduation rates and academic policies is still on-going. A survey has been sent out to all ACC institutions asking for feedback on cohort size and academic policies.

III. DIRECTOR REPORT

- A. University Senate – Men's Basketball Academics. Dr. Yow reported that she and Dr. Wellford shared academic performance information with the executive committee of the university senate recently. They were very willing to discuss concerns and recognized the overall improvement of the program. A discussion about men's basketball rates occurred, as well.

- B. Response to Dr. Brand. Dr. Yow reported that she sent Dr. Myles Brand, President of the NCAA, a letter in response to comments he made regarding the growth of expenses in intercollegiate athletics. Dr. Yow does not feel that Dr. Brand fully addressed the issues that are the cause of growth in expenses. She identified the rising cost of salaries for revenue sport head coaches and mandatory costs such as utilities and Title IX implementation that Dr. Brand failed to mention.
- C. Football Staff. Dr. Yow informed the council that Coach Friedgen will be hiring an offensive coordinator in the coming weeks. Dr. Yow also noted that compensation for coordinator positions has increased a great deal in recent years.
- D. APR Articles. Dr. Yow distributed two articles regarding the APR. The first indicated that not as many men's basketball programs as originally thought will lose scholarships due to APR penalties. The second examined whether or not the APR was actually calculating what it was intended to calculate.

IV. TRAVEL POLICY

The academic committee was asked to review the university travel policy and how it pertains to student athletes. Currently student athletes are given travel letters excusing them from class from 8 a.m. even though they may not depart campus until later in the day. Excused absences allow for student athletes to make up assessments.

After review the council will recommend to Dr. Mote an interpretation of the travel policy as it pertains to student athletes. This interpretation includes recommendations that travel letters include actual departure time, mandatory attendance if there is an assessment before actual departure, and a letter of explanation of why class was missed (not resulting in an excused absence). Missed classes from 8 a.m. to time of departure will not be counted for purposes of the Athletic Council's attendance policy.

V. COORDINATION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Kathy Worthington updated the council on issues that athletics is working with the health center to improve. First, student athletes often visit the health center with injuries/sickness that require a hospital visit but are non-critical, thus not requiring an ambulance. In some cases student athletes



have taken cabs to the hospital, as transportation is not provided by the health center. In the future athletics would like department sports medicine staff to transport student athletes.

Secondly, athletics is working to ensure that all student athletes are leaving the health center with proper forms that identify what treatment they received, so that sports medicine can have a proper medical history of all student athletes.

Lastly, the health center is moving towards electronic records and athletics would like to have access to these files, so that we are aware of treatment, prescriptions and diagnosis that the health center may have administered. Currently this is not possible due to privacy laws unless student athletes grant permission on a case-by-case basis.

VI. STUDENT CHANTS

Recently the department has received several letters of complaint regarding fan behavior, including chants. This has been an issue in the past and a former state Attorney General indicated that the University was not powerless to address this issue with a carefully worded policy. The ACC has a rule that calls for technical fouls to be called by game officials if chants are deemed vulgar, however this has not been enforced. It is recommended that the athletic council draft a letter to the ACC asking them to enforce this rule.

Meeting Adjourned.