

Faculty Committee – Intercollegiate Athletics & University Advancement

In attendance: Kathleen Barrett (Chair), David Newton (liaison to Provost's Office), Elaine McKinnon, Mariana Sanchez, Mikhail Beznosov, Scott Gordon, David Haase (Associate Athletic Director), Kevin Terry (Interim Athletic Director) 12/14/2020

Meeting began with approval of the minutes from the meeting of 11/3/20.

Dr Barrett indicated that the revisions to the purpose statement of the committee is on hold at the moment because of a backlog in Faculty Senate business.

Dr Barrett asked the representatives from athletics to provide information on student athletes' academic performance (broken down by team) so the committee can continue to share this information with faculty and the provost's office.

Dr Barrett asked if there were any more instances of athletes being penalized for missing classes related to athletic events. David Haase indicated that there were not, mostly due to a very abbreviated travel schedule in the fall. He expects that may change in the spring as travel increases.

Dr Barrett shared with the committee a community engagement opportunity for student athletes in the form of a paid fellowship centered around voter engagement on campus. She indicated that the committee should continue to look for such opportunities in the spring.

Dr Barrett asked for thoughts about what faculty can do to support athletes academically in the spring.

- Kevin emphasized the importance of working with student athletes whose travel schedules may impact their attendance in the spring. Dr Barrett indicated that she would bring that up with the Faculty Senate and the Provost when reporting academic performance information.
- David Haase discussed academic and tutoring resources used by student athletes (CAS, Writing Center, Math Tutoring Center, faculty office hours) but emphasized the importance of the students taking the initiative to take advantage of these resources. He noted that efforts to mandate tutoring in the past have not been effective.
- David also noted that CAS and the Writing Center have done an excellent job for student athletes in terms of the quality and availability of their services.
- Dr Newton recommended inviting Carrie Ziglar, who oversees the CAS and Writing Center, to a meeting to discuss these issues. He also mentioned the importance of making the athletic community aware of the new Momentum Center, where students can get help and support with a wide range of issues (tutoring, advising, registration, etc). He suggested including Jennifer Jordan (who oversees the Momentum Center) in meeting. Everyone agreed and Dr Barrett indicated that she would contact Jennifer and Carrie.
- David Haase discussed the importance of the progress reports in identifying athletes who are struggling academically and that faculty can assist with this by providing detailed information in the reports.