

November 16, 2020

## Senate Athletics Meeting

In attendance: Kathleen Barrett (Chair), Morris Council (FAR), Meredith Brunen (VP for University Advancement), Kevin Terry, (Interim AD), Elaine McKinnon, Mikhail Besnosov, Mariana Sanchez, Javier Hasbun, Cynthia Brown, Meg Pearson, Benjamin Walters (SAAC Member), David Haase, Matt Cooke

## Review of Minutes

- Dr. Barrett shares positive regards from Dr. Newton on behalf of his family commending our student-athlete and organizers for the “We Stand Together” march for social justice.
- IAUA 11/2/2020 minutes approved.

## Old Business

- Update on revisions to purpose
  - Dr. Barrett and Mr. Terry met prior to the meeting to discuss revisions to the IAUA purpose statement.
    - Modification made for the group to report to the President instead of the Vice President for Business and Finance and the Vice President for University Advancement.
    - Revision was made to change “recommend” to “advise on” line 2. This revision modified the focus of the statement to emphasize collaboration.
    - Narrative added to include student-athlete experience and academic success to purpose statement.
  - Dr. Barrett will present revised statement to faculty senate.
- Update on Scholarships
  - Per Mr. Terry this is the list of scholarships for student athletes:

### UWG Athletics Honors for Athletes

UWG Student-Athlete Academic Honor Roll  
Gulf South Conference Academic Honor Roll  
Gulf South Conference All-Academic Teams  
Academic All-District (Capital One / COSIDA)  
Academic All-American (Capital One / COSIDA)  
Ingram Scholars  
UWG Honors Day recognition for research and presentations

### Coaches Associations

Each coaches association (AFCA, NABC, NFCA, etc.) has both an Academic Honor Roll and an All-American Scholar award. We submit for each of these as well.

- The committee focused their discussion on how information is currently disseminated and ideas to increase awareness of student-athlete academic success.
  - Current/ and new strategies presented to increase awareness
    - Post on uwgsports.com
    - Post on UWGsports social media pages
    - Emails out to campus via UWG sports
    - Patches on uniforms for academic excellence
    - Banners highlighting student-athlete academic success
    - Sharing information with faculty senate
    - Sharing imagery from student-athletes graduation luncheon
    - Highlight academic achievement at sporting events
- Student Success
  - Athletes missing classes
    - Mr. Walters shared a negative personal experience with a faculty member.
    - Committee engaged in brief discussion about the frequency in which issues occur.
    - Dr. Council shared that student-athlete attendance conflicts are typically presented to the coach and/or student-athlete academic counselor as the first point of advocacy. If the issue is not resolved at that level the FAR is contacted to assist with the resolution.
    - Committee discussed a document created in past which presented revision to the attendance policy making it friendlier for university sanctioned excused absences.
      - Dr. Barrett is going to search for this document.
- Faculty Awareness
  - Overall student experience
  - Mr. Walters expressed a desire for student-athletes to have increased involvement in community service (across sports and teams)
    - In efforts to increase community service (Chapman Rackaway – first touchpoint)
    - Student-athlete advisory committee (SAAC) is also working on increasing community service.
- Connecting athletes and alumni
  - Current/ and new strategies presented to increase connections between student-athletes and alumni
    - Reception

- Faculty tours
- Networking events
- HOF games (all sports not just football), bring back alumni and games
- Pro Wolves event
- What the Howl podcast- reach back to alum
- o Digital Ambassadors – sharing information and Wolfie Scholars
  - General view that we are doing well
- No New Business