

Faculty Athletics Committee Annual Report to Faculty Council

Submitted by: Daryhl L. Johnson II, MD
Chair, Faculty Athletics Committee
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I. Committee Overview

The Faculty Athletics Committee (FAC) “informs and represents the faculty and advises the chancellor on any aspect of athletics, including, but not limited to, the academic and broader University experience for varsity student athletes and the general conduct and operation of the University’s athletic program” (Faculty Code § 4-7[b], Amended 2/19/16).

Faculty Athletic Committee’s Roster for 2019-2020:

Kevin Guskiewicz, Interim Chancellor, Ex Officio

Lissa Broome, School of Law, FAR, Ex Officio

Voting Members:

Rita Balaban, Economics, 2022

Melissa Geil, Kenan-Flagler Business School, 2022 (Vice Chair)

David Guilkey, Economics, 2020

David Hartzell, Kenan-Flagler Business School, 2021

Daryhl Johnson, Surgery, 2021 (Chair)

Aimee McHale, Gillings School of Public Health, 2022

Ed Shields, Exercise and Sports Science, 2021

Abbie Smith-Ryan, Exercise and Sports Science, 2022

Jeffrey Spang, Orthopedics, 2020

Tania String, Art and Art History, 2021

William Sturkey, History, 2020

Erika Wilson, Law, 2020

Non-voting Consultants:

Michelle Brown, ASPSA

Bubba Cunningham, Athletics

Vince Ille, Athletics

(2) student-athlete liaisons from the Student-Athlete Advisory Council

Leadership Structure

The Chair of the Committee for 2019-20 is Daryhl Johnson. Melissa Geil serves as Vice Chair.

Academic Processes for Student-Athletes

In the fall of 2013, Provost James W. Dean, Jr. and Director of Athletics Bubba Cunningham brought together a 10-person team of campus leaders to comprehensively document and assess all academic processes that affect student-athletes from the time that they are recruited until after they graduate. With former Chancellor Carol L. Folt's support, Dean and Cunningham led the Student-Athlete Academic Initiative Working Group in this effort. The Working Group was charged to look holistically at academic processes for student-athletes and improve student-athletes' experience at Carolina. The Working Group met at least once per month between November 2013 and March 2015. By summer 2015, the Working Group had documented, assessed and in some cases changed a comprehensive set of 21 academic processes for student-athletes, from the time that they are recruited until after they graduate. The Group considered and responded to more than 70 recommendations from nine reports about athletics and academics at UNC-Chapel Hill published during the previous four years. With leadership and coordination provided from the Provost's Office by Dr. Debbi Clarke, the Working Group compiled and posted its documentation of these processes into the FAC Onboarding Document – updated June 2019 at <https://apsa.unc.edu/> (Academic Processes for Student-Athletes). The Working Group was then transitioned into the Process Review Group (PRG), with many of the same members, whose goal was to review each process over the course of a two-year period. The PRG met two or more times each semester to review and improve each of the processes through spring 2018. In the summer of 2018, the PRG was sunset and the function of reviewing the academic processes on a regular basis was transferred to the FAC, with any recommended policy changes referred to the Executive Committee on Student-Athlete Academics.

Executive Committee on Student-Athlete Academics members:

Provost, Bob Blouin

Athletic Director, Bubba Cunningham

Faculty Athletics Representative, Lissa Broome

ASPSA Director, Michelle Brown

Senior Associate Athletics Director, Vince Ille

Senior Associate Athletics Director, Dwight Hollier (Student-Athlete Health, Well-Being & Program Outreach)

Associate Athletic Director for Compliance, Marielle van Gelder.

Consultant to the Provost, Dr. Debbi Clarke

II. 2018-2019 Activities

Review of Academic Processes for Student-Athletes (1.5 year cycle)

Activities centered on Mental Health Initiatives:

- Campus Resources

- The addition of another Mental Health Professional

- Campus Event: Chief Medical Officer of the NCAA

III. 2019-2020 Actions and Initiatives

Coaches Meeting

SAAC/FAC Focus Groups

Review of Academic Processes for Student-Athletes

Continued Mental Health Resourcing and Partnerships

Professional Development for Faculty/Graduate Assistants related to Student Athletes

Time Commitment/ Major Selection

Faculty Engagement

- Faculty Educational Outreach Pregame Event

- Professor Days

Post Eligibility Opportunities