

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Report of the Faculty Athletics Representative for 2008-09
Faculty Council
October 9, 2009

I. Introduction

Since the practice of an annual report by the faculty athletics representative (FAR) to the Faculty Council began, each such report has been submitted as an accompaniment to the annual report of the Faculty Athletics Committee. The FAR is an ex officio member of the committee (unless also an elected member), so the FAR participates in all of the work of the Committee on behalf of the faculty. Thus, the two reports have a substantial intersection.

II. Activities of the Faculty Athletics Representative within UNC-Chapel Hill

Many activities of the FAR occur on a regular and recurring basis as listed below.

- Member of the Faculty Athletics Committee (ex officio if not an elected member)
- Serve as the de facto secretary for the Faculty Athletics Committee
- Ex officio member of the Educational Foundation Executive Board
- Monitor the academic progress of student-athletes, participate in the meetings with head coaches in which these results are reviewed, and gather and report data on the Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR) of our student-athletes, including comparisons with results at other institutions
- Chair the Athletic Council
- Participate in exit interviews of student-athletes (with members of the Faculty Athletics Committee and staff of the Department of Athletics)
- Review admission cases for student-athletes (as a member of the Admissions Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Admissions)
- Member of the Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee (Chair for 2008-09)
- Meet with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- Confer with the staff of the Academic Support Center
- Participate in the university's compliance program regarding NCAA regulations
- Evaluate NCAA legislative proposals and participate in conference discussions
- Administer the NCAA test on recruiting legislation to our coaches
- Represent the university in meetings of the Atlantic Coast Conference

The FAR participates in other activities as requested or needed. Examples include chairing appeals of denials of transfer waivers and presenting information to prospective student-athletes regarding academic programs.

III. Activities with the Atlantic Coast Conference

Within the Atlantic Coast Conference four individuals from each member institution have the primary governance and operating responsibility. They are the chancellor/president, the

director of athletics, the senior women's administrator, and the faculty athletics representative. Conference bylaws direct that the chancellor/president shall cast the institutional vote on a small number of specified issues. Otherwise, common practice within the conference is for these four individuals to consult regularly, as needed, but for the FAR to have the delegated responsibility to vote for the institution. The officer positions within the ACC are held by faculty athletics representatives in a set rotation, and I have recently completed this cycle of serving as Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, President, and Past President.

The FAR participates in regular conference meetings in October, December, February, April, and May, supplemented by additional special meetings and meetings of special purpose committees. Some business items follow an annual cycle. For example conference reviews of NCAA legislative proposals occur in the fall, recipients of postgraduate scholarships are selected in February, and reviews of the ACC budget occur in the spring.

IV. Activities with the National Collegiate Athletic Association

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors has adopted a comprehensive academic reform package that is intended to improve the graduation rates of student-athletes, particularly in selected high profile sports that have produced poor graduation results and consequent adverse publicity. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been represented at all levels of this work by the Chancellor, the Director of Athletics, and the FAR. I have worked in this process virtually from its inception and have just completed a second term on the NCAA Committee on Academic Performance (CAP) during which I chaired one of the two subcommittees. I have been asked to continue on that committee as an ad hoc member. The CAP is responsible for implementation (now under way) and also for design of additional elements of the academic reform program that will be needed in 2009-10 and beyond. In addition, the NCAA Board of Directors has formed groups to focus on academic performance in three specific sports: baseball, men's basketball, and football. I served on the group for baseball (and on its executive committee), and I also serve on the group for men's basketball (and chaired one of the subcommittees). Recommendations from the baseball group have been implemented and are being monitored by the executive committee of that group. In August 2009 the basketball group reported to the NCAA DI Board of Directors, presenting a number of recommendations for NCAA legislation.

NCAA President Myles Brand sought to bring attention to academic research that is being done on various aspects of intercollegiate athletics as a basis for identifying research conclusions that might be relevant to NCAA policies. That work is conducted by the NCAA Advisory and Editorial Board (on which I serve) and through a Scholarly Colloquium that occurs each year in advance of the NCAA Convention. The first colloquium occurred in January 2008 following which the Journal of Intercollegiate Sports began publication in June 2008. The third colloquium will occur in January 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
John P. Evans
Faculty Athletics Representative