Faculty Athletics Committee
January 8, 2019

Present: Committee Members: Lissa Broome, Jaye Cable, Melissa Geil, David Guilkey, Daryhl Johnson, Jeffrey Spang, Tania String, Kim Strom-Gottfried, William Sturkey

Advisors: Michelle Brown (ASPSA), Bubba Cunningham (Athletics), Vince Ille (Athletics)

Guests: Debbi Clarke (Provost’s Office), Robbi Evans (Athletics), Rocky Horton (Registrar’s Office), Roger Kaplan (Registrar’s Office), Crystal Lineberry (Registrar’s Office), Kate Luck (Media Relations), Anna Rose Medley (Office of the Chancellor), Emily Summers (Office of the Chancellor), Marielle vanGelder (Athletics)

I. Welcome. Introductions, and Preliminary Matters

Welcome and Introductions. Daryhl Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He discussed the agenda for the day and mentioned he is planning to meet with Lissa Broome, Anna Rose Medley, Debbi Clarke, and Vice-Chair Kim Strom-Gottfried to plan for FAC’s 2019 meetings. Johnson asked the committee to provide input on what the committee should focus on this semester.

Minutes. The minutes from the November 2018 meeting and the December 2018 Joint Meeting with the Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Admissions were approved.

II. APSA: Process Review

Process 19: Supporting Non-Participant Student-Athletes
Marielle vanGelder, Associate Athletic Director for NCAA Compliance and the Senior Woman Administrator, gave a general overview of Complete Carolina, which is a program to assist student-athletes who are no longer competing or are no longer eligible to compete in completing their college education at UNC. The program includes monetary support (proportionate with the scholarship support the student received the last year they competed) and access to other counseling and resources available to student-athletes. A number of students have participated in this program, with baseball representing the largest percentage of former student-athletes. Sometimes students also bring funding from their professional contract, which is especially helpful if the student did not receive a full athletics scholarship. Coach Mike Fox presents the students with a framed jersey when they receive their degrees. Some students, such as Kendall Marshall with men’s basketball, serve as undergraduate assistant coaches while they are finishing their degrees. Marvin Williams played only one year at UNC for the men’s basketball team, but returned to school to take courses while pursuing his professional career. He received
his UNC degree nine years after he left for a professional career. Since the program was named four or five years ago, approximately nineteen students have earned their UNC degrees pursuant to the program. There are currently five or six students in the Complete Carolina program.

vanGelder detailed some of the challenges in implementing the program, which includes identifying non-participating student-athletes who have not completed their degrees and making them aware of this resource. In addition, some participants are not allowed access to online courses because there is a limit of the number of current UNC, degree-seeking students who may register for courses at the Friday Center. The Friday Center’s (online courses) budget model depends on revenue from non-degree seeking student to fund the online courses, so they limit the number of degree-seeking students who do not provide a revenue stream. This issue may present an opportunity for a University process improvement. Jessica Brinker from the Friday Center will attend FAC’s March meeting and FAC may explore this issue more with her then.

Additional challenges are that some former student-athletes may not have a high enough GPA to be eligible to return to finish their degrees. Summer school has some additional flexibility, but some former students are in their competitive professional seasons then and unable to attend summer school. Finally, students may take courses at other universities, but UNC Athletics cannot fund such courses pursuant to NCAA rules. There are also limits on the number of hours from another institution that may be transferred in to count towards a UNC degree.

vanGelder’s office is proactive and advises students who may leave early for a professional opportunity to save their online classes for after they leave UNC.

Process 11: Eligibility and Compliance

Rocky Horton and Crystal Lineberry from the Registrar’s Office explained their office is the official certification office for student-athletes. The Office provides an individualized look at all student-athletes at Carolina. They certify student-athletes are eligible for spring, fall, and postseason competition. The certification process involves receiving a roster of participating student-athletes from Athletics Compliance and manually completing a worksheet for each student-athlete. An eligibility page for student-athletes was recently added to Connect Carolina. The Registrar’s Office adds its numbers to this page and the Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes (ASPSA) performs the same process. ASPSA and the registrar’s office then resolve any discrepancies. Connect Carolina now also provides a historical record of eligibility determinations as well as secure storage on a robust, electronic platform. The worksheets that are used to certify eligibility are also preserved in pdf format. UNC’s course requirements, which permit one course to fulfill multiple requirements, make automation of the degree audits difficult, if not impossible.

Dr. Michelle Brown added that daily reports track certain eligibility issues such as full-time enrollment status for student-athletes, grade changes, and major changes. Once a month there is a coding meeting with some staff from ASPSA and the Registrar’s office. In addition, there is a monthly meeting of the CARE (Compliance, Academics, Registrar, Excellence) team, which includes all ASPSA counselors, athletics Compliance personnel, representatives from the
Registrar’s Office, and the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). vanGelder noted that the number of student-athletes who are ineligible under either UNC or NCAA academic standards at any point in time varies, but is usually around fifteen. NCAA ineligibility is usually correctable within the semester.

Athletic Director Bubba Cunningham asked FAC members for feedback on permitting students to replace a grade if they took a course a second time and earned a higher grade. Dr. Brown mentioned that some student-athletes withdraw from a course because they are afraid of hurting their GPA and only learn a fraction of the material. If this were possible, students might complete the course, get exposed to all of the material, take the course a second time and be successful in earning a better grade that could replace the first grade. Apparently, a number of other institutions permit grade replacement in subject to certain limits. Horton mentioned that for student-athlete certification, if a student’s first grade meets certification, the Registrar’s Office cannot count the second grade.

Cunningham also mentioned there are challenges with post-graduate transfers especially if the student wishes to enroll in January. Most graduate programs at UNC begin in the fall and courses must be taken in a prescribed sequence. Jaye Cable mentioned that students could take graduate-level degree courses to extend their undergraduate studies where these courses would count towards their graduate degree if they then wish to stay at UNC and enroll in a graduate program. Melissa Geil said that Kenan-Flagler Business School was developing some new masters’ degrees, including one in data analytics.

III. Athletic Director’s Remarks

Athletic Director Bubba Cunningham said 27 new staff members had joined the Athletic Department since the beginning of the fall semester and were recognized at the Department’s recent all-staff meeting. At that meeting, Field Hockey Coach Karen Shelton was honored and spoke to the group. Since FAC last met, Coach Mack Brown was hired as the new football coach and he has hired 10 assistant coaches. The committee asked whether Coach Brown understood standards and expectations for academic performance of student-athletes. Cunningham said he met recently with all the new football coaches to discuss expectations around academics and compliance. Athletics compliance does a good job of providing education, monitoring, and enforcement.

The student-athlete leadership academy will host a leadership training for area middle school students on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The department will participate in events during Black History Month (February) and also plans for celebrations of women’s athletics in March.

IV. Faculty Athletics Representative Report

Lissa Broome noted that her report was posted to Sakai. At the upcoming NCAA annual convention, Mia Hamm will be honored as part of a cohort of former athletes who graduated from college 25 years ago. One of the votes at the convention will be whether to expand the number of voting members on the NCAA Board of Governors from sixteen to twenty-one, with
five new independent members (not employees of member schools). The five Autonomy Conference, which includes the ACC, will be voting on several items, including whether expenses for prospective and current student-athletes may be covered during the summer for football and men’s and women’s basketball before the student is enrolled in classes. The ACC Faculty Athletics Representatives met in December and discussed best practices on a number of issues, including academic policies related to student-athletes. UNC’s website, apsa.unc.edu, was pointed to as a good example for other ACC schools.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03PM

Respectfully submitted by Lissa Broome (with assistance from Anna Rose Medley and Emily Summers).

Attachments: FAR report
Update to FAC from the Faculty Athletics Representative  
January 8, 2019

NCAA

1. Board of Governors Proposal to be considered in January
   a. To add five independent, public members to the Board of Governors (pursuant to a recommendation in the Rice Commission Report)
      i. Board of Governors oversees all 3 NCAA Divisions and is currently made of 16 institutional presidents/chancellors; the chairs of the D1 Council, the DII & DIII Management Councils (ex officio, nonvoting), and the NCAA President (who may vote in the case of a tie).
      ii. Would increase size of group from 20 – 25
      iii. BOG will issue a call for nominees, but will select independent directors
      iv. Independent is not earning a salary from an NCAA member institution or conference
      v. Rationale: Like on boards of for profit and nonprofit companies, outside board members will provide objectivity, relevant experience, perspective, and wisdom.

2. Autonomy Conferences (ACC, Big 10, SEC, PAC 12, Big 12) – January 24:
   a. 2018-114: In sports other than basketball and football, to permit an institution to pay the actual round-trip costs for up to two family members to accompany a PSA on his/her official visit.
   b. Summer expenses
      i. 2018-112: An institution may provide room and board expenses to a PSA to participate in required summer athletic activities prior to initial summer school enrollment and to a SA to participate in required summer athletic activities while not enrolled in summer school.
      ii. 2018-113: To permit an institution to provide room and board expenses to a PSA to participate in required summer athletic activities prior to initial summer-school enrollment. (If 112 adopted, then 113 is moot)

3. Division I Council – January votes (ACC Conference has 1, weighted vote)
   a. A number of “non-controversial” proposals
   b. 2016-18: To eliminate the requirement that fulfillment of the 18/27 credit-hour PTD requirement shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit at the certifying institution in a SA’s specific baccalaureate degree program.
   c. 2018-87: In basketball, the NCAA may provide travel expenses for family members of each SA who participates in the Final Four.

ACC

1. December 1 – ACC FARs meeting to discuss best practices:
   a. Academic oversight practices (related to an NCAA Academic Misconduct Working Group’s Recommendations)
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is the nation's first public university.

- In December 2017, for the 17th consecutive time, Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine ranked UNC Chapel Hill number one among the 100 U.S. public colleges and universities that offer the best combination of top-flight academics and affordable costs. For the 17th time in a row, the University ranked first on best value in American public higher education.


- For the 13th straight year, North Carolina has received a record number of first-year applications – more than 43,384 applicants vying for places in the Class of 2022, a six-percent increase over 2017.

- The University offers 77 bachelor's, 71 master's, 65 doctorate and seven professional degree programs through 14 schools and the College of Arts & Sciences.

- The University was one of the country's first public universities to adopt a debt-free financial aid policy. The Carolina Covenant serves as a national model for providing a debt-free education to qualified low-income students. Fourteen percent of the Class of 2012 qualified for the Carolina Covenant Scholars and more than 6,500 students have benefited from the program since it began in 2003. Additionally, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation awarded UNC Chapel Hill with the 2017 Cooke Prize for Equity in Educational Excellence. The $1 million award recognizes success in enrolling low-income students and supporting them through graduation.

- With more than 400 programs in 70 countries, more than a third of UNC Chapel Hill undergraduates study in other countries before graduation – one of the highest study abroad rates among public universities nationwide. Since 1973, our students have received more than 230 Fulbright Student Program Awards for global research and study.

- Among its diverse faculty, Carolina has a co-recipient of the 2015 Nobel Prize in Chemistry; 37 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; 21 members of the National Academy of Medicine; six members of the National Academy of Engineering; 12 members of the National Academy of Sciences; and 85 fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

- The Higher Education Research and Development survey ranked UNC-Chapel Hill 11th nationally among all research institutions in overall research and development expenditures. The University conducts over $1 billion in research activity, supporting all or part of the salary of over 12,000 UNC Chapel Hill employees and adding tremendous value to the state's economy.

- Peace Corps ranked North Carolina fourth in the 2018 list of top volunteer-producing large colleges and universities.

- The University is one of the 30 founding members of the American Talent Initiative, which aims to attract, enroll and graduate 50,000 additional high-achieving, lower-income high school students at the 270 colleges and universities with the highest graduation rates by 2025.

- Multiple UNC-Chapel Hill graduate programs were highly ranked by U.S. News & World Report for the 2019 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools," including the School of Medicine (Primary Care, No. 1).

- Fifteen varsity athletic teams posted perfect 1000 scores in the NCAA's Academic Progress Rate for 2017-18.

- A 2017 IIgnore Carolina Roadmap report concluded UNC-Chapel Hill has significantly strengthened efforts over the past five years to commercialize research-based intellectual property. Disclosures of ideas by faculty are up 15 percent, patents issued are up 72 percent, the number of new IP-based startups are up 59 percent, and revenue is up 86 percent. Recent highlights included creating the $10 million Carolina Research Ventures Fund to spur investments in startups and collaborating in the launch of a downtown Chapel Hill accelerator that has worked with 75 companies that earned $20.5 million in revenue during 2017 and created over 150 jobs since 2013.