

## **Annual Report to Faculty Council From the Faculty Athletics Committee**

Submitted by Melissa Geil  
Chair, Faculty Athletics Committee  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Kenan-Flagler Business School  
October 1, 2021

### **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 2021-2022:**

Kevin Guskiewicz, Chancellor, ex officio

### **2021-22 Voting members:**

Rita Balaban, Economics, 2022  
Lissa Broome, School of Law, Faculty Athletics Representative, ex officio  
Stacey Daughters, Psychology, 2023  
Melissa Geil, Kenan-Flagler Business School, 2022 (Chair)  
Amanda Holliday, Nutrition, 2023  
Robert Martinez, Education, 2023 (Vice Chair)  
Aimee McHale, Gillings School of Global Public Health, 2022  
Lisa Rahangdale, Obstetrics and Gynecology, 2024  
Keia Sanderson, Nephrology, 2024  
Jay Smith, History, 2023  
Abbie Smith-Ryan, Exercise and Sport Science, 2022  
Isaac Unah, Political Science, 2024  
Erienne Weight, Exercise and Sport Science, 2024

### **2020-21 Voting members no longer on the committee:**

Dave Hartzell, Kenan-Flagler Business School, 2021  
Daryhl Johnson, Surgery (Chair), 2021  
Ed Shields, Exercise and Sport Science, 2021  
Tatiana String, Art History, 2021

### **Non-voting consultants:**

Michelle Brown, ASPSA  
Debbi Clark, Office of the Provost  
Bubba Cunningham, Athletics  
Dwight Hollier, Athletics  
Robbi Pickeral Evans, Athletics  
Vince Ille, Athletics  
Katie Sessoms, Office of the Chancellor  
Two student-athlete liaisons from the Student-Athlete Advisory Council

### **Leadership Structure**

The Chair of the committee for 2021-22 is Melissa Geil. Robert Martinez serves as Vice Chair. The Chair of the committee for 2020-21 was Daryhl Johnson and Melissa Geil served as Vice Chair.

## **Academic Processes for Student-Athletes**

In Fall 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 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 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 FAC Onboarding Document – updated June 2019 at <http://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.

Its members are:

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

Associate Provost Dr. Debbi Clarke

**2020-2021 Actions and Initiatives**

Coaches Meeting  
Review of Academic Processes for Student-Athletes  
Continued Faculty Engagement Efforts  
Onboarding and Agenda-Setting Retreat (One Day)  
COVID-19 Information Gathering  
Name, Image, and Likeness Monitoring  
Athletic Implications from COVID-19  
Academic and Mental Health Support Resourcing  
FAC-SAAC Meeting (fall and spring semester)

**2021-2022 Proposed Actions and Initiatives**

Review of Academic Processes for Student-Athletes  
Continued Faculty Engagement Efforts (including FAC Team Liaison Connections)  
FAC-SAAC Listening Sessions (fall and spring semester)  
Coaches Meeting  
Internship & Study Abroad Opportunity Information Gathering  
COVID-19 and COVID-19 Vaccine Information Gathering  
Athletic Implications from COVID-19  
Academic and Mental Health Support Resourcing  
Name, Image, and Likeness Information Gathering and Advising  
Graduate Student-Athlete Information Gathering