

Faculty Athletics Committee
January 26, 2021
Minutes
Location: Zoom

Present: Committee Members: Lissa Broome, Stacey Daughters Melissa Geil, Amanda Holliday Robert Martinez, Aimee McHale, Jay Smith, Abbie Smith-Ryan, Lisa Rahangdale, Issac Unah, Erianne Weight

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

Student-Athlete Representatives: Alessandra De Vito (SAAC)

Guests: Robbi Pickeral Evans (Athletics), Amy Grau (Chancellor's Office)

I) Welcome and Housekeeping Items

Melissa Geil, Chair of the Faculty Athletics Committee, welcomed committee members and everyone present introduced themselves.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved by unanimous vote. Review and approval of the minutes from the December meeting was postponed until the February meeting.

Team Liaison Reports

Jay Smith reported that the Swimming & Diving team has good morale and a good relationship with the head coach. There were three areas of concern expressed by the students: parking, key fob access to the pool, and how some instructors treated excused absences.

With respect to parking, the students complained that there were not enough spots, the spots that were available were not convenient, the lottery system was an irritant, and that parking cost was not reimbursed by Athletics. Senior Associate Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Development, Cricket Lane, provided some context. A representative from parking attended the last Student-Athlete Advisory Committee meeting and discussed some of these concerns. Also, parking can be partially reimbursed by Athletics. The parking lottery for students and appeals from the lottery are run by students. The S11 lot that is often available for student parking is, ironically, convenient to the swimming facility, but inconvenient for most other students. Aimee McHale wondered whether football student-athletes are required to participate in the lottery to obtain on-campus parking privileges. McHale also noted that students could share parking with their teammates. Erianne Weight said that students see on-campus lots that are not full and she wonders if there is a more efficient system of allocating parking spots.

Students would like access to the pool through a key fob system so they are not dependent on coaches being present to use the facility. The coaches are working on ways to increase pool access. Some students complained that when they missed class for competition they were not given an opportunity to make up missed quizzes, but instead directed to use the missed quiz as the one quiz that all students were permitted to drop from their grade. Isaac Unah wondered

whether FAC should draft a statement that students could give professors about why this approach did not treat student-athletes fairly. Jay Smith offered to prepare an initial draft. Aimee McHale said it was important that such a statement come from faculty peers on FAC rather than Athletics. In addition, it would be possible to discuss this statement at a meeting of the Council of Chairs in the College of Arts & Sciences.

Aimee McHale has met with the Women's Golf team and coaches and with the coaches of Men's Golf and Fencing. She also met with a Women's Basketball player who was interested in learning more about academic opportunities in the School of Public Health.

FAC Liaison Info Sheet

Chair Geil shared a draft of FAC Liaison Information sheets that could be shared with coaching staff and with student-athletes. One suggestion was to add pictures and academic disciplines of FAC members on the sheet so student-athletes would know who to reach out to for additional information about majors and graduate programs. Geil asked for other input prior to the February FAC meeting, where these sheets would be finalized.

II) FAC-SAAC Focus Groups

Focus groups will be scheduled this spring for the winter and spring sport student-athletes. Aimee McHale and Jay Smith will postpone discussion of the fall sport focus groups until the next meeting, but a few issues were highlighted: disparate treatment of student-athletes in the Honor Court, inefficient down time during practice periods, parking, and access to graduate programs.

III) Faculty Athletics Representative Update

Faculty Athletics Representative Lissa Broome reviewed her written report (attached). She and Athletic Director Bubba Cunningham attended the NCAA Annual Convention in Indianapolis on January 20, where the NCAA's new Constitution was approved in an association-wide one-school, one-vote meeting with 80% voting in favor. The Transformation Committee will not begin reviewing the Division I Bylaws on an ambitious timeline. In February, the Committee on Academics will consider a proposal from the NCAA Standardized Test Task Force to eliminate the standardized test score from NCAA initial eligibility requirements. The NCAA waived the test score as a result of COVID for 2020, 2021, and 2022 matriculants.

The ACC Faculty Athletics Representatives met on December 4 for their annual Best Practices Meeting and met again on January 14 to review information about ACC students in the transfer portal. Broome pointed committee members to an NCAA document with interesting transfer trends, particularly slides 5,11,16, and 21. The three advisory groups (ADs, SWAs, and FARs) meeting for the ACC winter meeting February 9-11.

Erienne Weight noted that there is always student-athlete interest in the EXSS Sports Administration graduate degree, but not enough space to accommodate all of those interested. She spends a lot of time talking with student-athletes looking for graduate degree opportunities and hopes that there could be a clearinghouse of information for students and coaches about

programs at Carolina that might be of interest to student-athletes. Michelle Brown, Director of the Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes, noted that pre-COVID a staff person from University Career Services had office hours at Loudermilk and provided information about graduate school. A new person has just been hired for this position. FAC members can hopefully be resources for student-athletes about graduate programs in their areas. Many student-athletes have an extra year of athletics eligibility as a result of COVID that they would like to use while pursuing a graduate degree. Graduate transfers also come to UNC and are looking for graduate degree programs. Could we track students who leave UNC to learn more about their outcomes?

IV) Process Review Pilot

Lissa Broome and Michelle Brown presented a one-year pilot program to facilitate the review and update of the academic processes for student-athletes. The pilot anticipates that Broome and Brown would coordinate with appropriate University staff to review and update the processes presented on the [apsa.unc.edu website](https://apsa.unc.edu). Approximately one-quarter of the processes would be updated each semester. Following the update, the FAC Topic Group covering that process would review the process, lead any discussion with staff invited to a FAC meeting (when appropriate), and formulate any recommendations for policy changes to be discussed and voted on by FAC and then forwarded to the Executive Committee on Student-Athlete Academics upon a favorable FAC vote.

Aimee McHale was concerned that policy changes would be made by the Executive Committee which is composed of a number of athletics administrators and wondered what had become of suggestions her topic group made last year for processes 18, 19, and 20. Others suggested that we devise metrics to determine whether the pilot program was a success. Jay Smith noted that not all of the processes merit discussion every two years. Lissa Broome hoped the pilot would allay some of the concerns expressed with greater transparency about the review, a clear timetable (which would in itself serve as a metric of success), and discretion to discuss important processes in FAC and update, but not discuss, less consequential processes.

V) Athletic Director Update

Athletic Director, Bubba Cunningham, noted the significance of the new NCAA Constitution and the work now being done by the Transformation Committee. N.C. State Chancellor Randy Woodson is a member of that committee.

The 2022 ACC football schedule will be released on January 31. At the upcoming ACC Winter meetings, expected topics include the future of college sports, including the relationship between the student-athlete and the university.

In response to a question submitted by email in advance of the meeting by former FAC member John Stephens, Cunningham noted that a number of states that have now legalized sports gambling, following a Supreme Court decision invalidating a federal law that limited legalized sports gambling. Cunningham predicted that North Carolina would legalize gambling sometime in the next few years. Sports gambling is already legal on Native American reservations in

North Carolina. UNC's current policy is to not accept sponsorships or allow student-athletes to have NIL deals relating to NCAA banned substances, adult entertainment, and gambling.

Aimee McHale was concerned about a Tweet she had seen from a recent men's basketball game showing former football players in the stands without masks on. Cunningham detailed efforts being made to encourage mask wearing with announcements, signs, and videos. Robbi Pickeral Evans said the former student-athletes did have masks but had taken them off for the picture. She apologized for UNC tweeting out that picture. McHale encouraged stronger enforcement efforts, perhaps having the team forfeit if there was less than 90% compliance.

VI) ASPSA Update

Michelle Brown, Director of the Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes, reported that the fall term GPA for student-athletes was 3.11, the sixth semester with a GPA greater than 3.0. Women's Fencing had a 3.54 and Men's Fencing a 3.44, to lead the women's and men's team GPA competition. Some students are still struggling with the return to the classroom. Brown will be presenting to the Partners for Equity in Teaching on February 14 at 3:00 p.m. Abbie Smith-Ryan and Aimee McHale will be participating. This program is offered through the Center for Faculty Excellence. FAC members may register to get the Zoom invite.

VII) Heel Zone Training

Aimee McHale and Abbie Smith-Ryan also discussed a more involved training to support student-athletes that they are interested in developing. It could be called Heel Zone – Supporting Tar Heel Student-Athletes and would mirror in many respects some of the other ally training programs like Green Zone, Safe Zone, and Haven. Faculty completing the program would get a placard for their door. Student-athlete Allesandra De Vito thought this would get a favorable reaction from student-athletes.

Additional questions are who would facilitate this training? Would it be FAC or in conjunction with CFE? It could be provided to all new FAC members. Are there ACC or NCAA grants that might help offset any costs? McHale said she would provide a rough sketch of the various pieces of this training at the February or March FAC meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Lissa Broome (with the assistance of Amy Grau)

Attachment

FAR Update

Process Review Document

**Faculty Athletics Representative Update
January 26, 2022**

NCAA

1. Annual Convention, January 20
 - a. New constitution adopted in an association-wide one-school, one-vote meeting and approved by over 80% of those voting
 - b. November 15 – Discussed [draft](#)
 - c. Notable features
 - i. Delegates to Divisions and Conferences authority and autonomy to reorganize and restructure themselves
 - ii. Reaffirms fundamental principles, but replaces amateurism with the “collegiate student-athlete model” – no pay for play, but may receive educational benefits and benefit from name, image and likeness
 - iii. Association-wide Board of Governors reduced from 21 to 9 members
 - iv. For the first time, the Board will include a SA as a voting member
 - v. Affirms importance of SA mental and physical health – requires designation of an Athletics Healthcare Administrator
 - vi. New emphasis on diversity, inclusion, and gender equity – requires designation of an Athletics Diversity and Inclusion Designee
 - vii. Retains revenue allocation among Divisions (3.18% to DIII, 4.37% to DII)
 - viii. Provides that if an institution has an “athletics advisory board, administration, faculty members and student-athletes shall constitute at least a majority of the board.”
 1. FAC may wish to consider whether it should recommend to Faculty Council that our SA reps become voting members of FAC.
 - d. Some sections of former constitution moved to DI Bylaws
 - e. Transformation Committee will be reviewing DI Bylaws on an ambitious timeline
2. Knight Commission, January 20 – Presented [Connecting Athletics Revenues with the Educational Model of College Sports \(CARE Model\)](#)
 - a. Proposed 5 core principles
 - i. Transparency –
 1. Public disclosure of distributed revenue allocations and uses
 2. Disclosure of gender and ethnicity demographics of athletics program athletes and staff
 - ii. Independent oversight – to approve all revenue distribution plans and compliance with these principles
 1. A board with a majority of independent directors not associated with the NCAA, CFP, member institutions, or corporate or media partners
 2. At least one-third of the board should be current or former college athletes

- iii. Gender equity – revenue distribution policies should be equitable with regard to gender
 - 1. Cannot distribute revenue on basis of success on MBB only (as is currently done via the Basketball Performance Fund)
- iv. Broad-based sports opportunities – nationally generated revenues should benefit all sports and not disproportionately support those sports that generated the revenue.
 - 1. Incentives to reward schools for offering more teams than the minimum required for DI membership.
- v. Financial responsibility – Conferences distributing shared revenue should measure how the spending is used to support
 - 1. Athlete education,
 - 2. Athlete health, safety, and well-being,
 - 3. University academic programs,
 - 4. Athletic programs that provide broad-based opportunities and achieve racial and gender equity
- 3. Committee on Academics to consider in February proposal from NCAA Standardized Task Force to eliminate the standardized test score from NCAA initial eligibility requirements
 - a. NCAA has waived test score for COVID for 2020, 2021, and 2022 matriculation
 - b. Any recommendation would be forwarded to the DI Council

ACC

- 1. ACC FARs met December 4 for a Best Practices Meeting
 - a. Topics included FAR role in SA Exit Interviews, Academic Support Program access to Learning Management System, SA Mental Health Support and potential conflicts of interest
- 2. ACC FARs met (virtually) January 14 and reviewed information collected by ACC office on ACC students and the transfer portal (Sakai: Transfer Portal Summary)
 - a. NCAA DI data (Sakai: Attachment A: Transfer Portal Data – see slides 5, 11, 16, 21)
- 3. Governance Groups (ADs, SWAs, and FARs) meet February 9-11

UNC

- 1. Academic Process Review Pilot
 - a. <https://apsa.unc.edu/>
 - b. See Sakai: Process Review Schedule 2022

Student-Athlete Academic Process Review Pilot for 2022

Schedule

	Process	Review Date by Academic Year(s)				Reviewer(s)	2022 Mtg Date
		18 – 19	19 – 20	20 – 21	<i>Proposed</i> 21 - 22		
1.0	Recruitment		11.07.19				
2.0	Admissions	12.05.18	12.10.19		12.2022		
3.0	Financial Aid		11.07.19				
4.0	Orientation and Summer Programs	09.04.18	03.05.20				
5.0	Enrollment and Advising	11.07.18 02.05.19 05.07.19	02.06.20	03.03.21			
6.0	Registration	05.07.19					
7.0	Academic Support for Student-Athletes	11.07.18 02.05.19				Michelle Brown	03/09/22
8.0	Faculty Relations and Governance	02.05.19 04.02.19			10.2022		
9.0	Class Attendance and Travel		10.10.19 05.07.20		9.2022		
10.0	Resources for Student-Athletes with Disabilities		01.09.20				
11.0	Eligibility and Compliance	01.08.19 03.06.19	03.05.20				
12.0	Academic Performance Monitoring	09.04.18 03.06.19	10.10.19				
13.0	Communications and Recognition	03.06.19				Robbie Evans, Kathy Zambrana	02/16/22
14.0	Budgeting	03.06.19	04.02.20			Martina Ballen	04/13/22
15.0	Facility Use and Programming	03.06.19	04.02.20		11.2022		
16.0	Carolina Housing		01.09.20				
17.0	Honor System		09.05.19 10.10.19	05.06.21			
18.0	Student Athlete Development	10.02.18 11.07.18 02.05.19	02.06.20				
18.2	Student-Athlete Well-being and Mental Health Resources		02.06.20	10.01.20 11.05.20		Jeni Shannon Dwight Hollier	02/16/22
19.0	Supporting Non-Participant Student-Athletes	01.08.19 02.05.19			10.2022		
20.0	Focus Groups and Surveys	04.02.19	03.05.20	11.05.20			
21.0	Ongoing Review and Improvement of Processes					Lissa Broome	01/26/22

Student-Athlete Academic Process Review Pilot for 2022

Guidelines

The Executive Committee on Student-Athlete Academics agreed to a one-year trial for the Process Review described below at its December 2, 2021, meeting.

- The FAR and ASPSA Director with the assistance of the FAR support person from the Chancellor's Office (the Process Review Team or PRT) will be tasked with coordinating the process review with a goal of reviewing approximately one-half of the processes each year so that all processes are reviewed within a two-year period. These processes are all cataloged at <https://apsa.unc.edu>.
- The PRT will establish a schedule for the review (draft for Spring and Fall 2022 is below) and forward each process to the appropriate staff to review and update. The PRT will review any updates that are proposed to ensure consistency in how each process is presented. Any updates will then be forwarded to the Provost's office to update the website.
- The PRT will create a Microsoft Teams site and give permission to appropriate staff and ask them to update the word document for the process with Track Changes on.
- The PRT will notify the relevant FAC Topic Group for the academic process when the process update is complete so that the FAC Topic Group can meet with its Liaison to review the process and ask any questions. If the topic group believes there are issues that would benefit from further discussion with FAC or wants to suggest policy or process changes, they will notify the PRT and the PRT will schedule time at a FAC meeting to discuss with the FAC.
- The PRT will also establish a schedule for informational discussions about each process with the Faculty Athletics Committee (FAC). Some processes will be discussed with the staff responsible for the area every year; some, every two years [; and some, every three years]

If, after discussion and a vote, FAC recommends a policy or process change, the PRT will forward the recommendation to the Executive Committee for Student-Athlete Academics and report back to FAC on any action taken by the Executive Committee.