

FACULTY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 17, 2023

Zoom

FAC MEMBERS: David Berkoff, Lissa Broome, Robert Martinez, Abbie Smith-Ryan (Vice-Chair), Keia Sanderson, Isaac Unah, Erienne Weight (Chair)

ADVISORS: Michelle Brown (ASPSA), Dwight Hollier (Athletics), Vince Ille (Athletics), Cricket Lane (Athletics)

STUDENT-ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES: Duwe Farris (Political Science and Business Administration, Men's Basketball), Natalie Timinskas (Math, Rowing)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS, COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL TALENT, AND ADMISSIONS STAFF: Found Abd-El-Khalik, Marcus Collins, Jackie Copeland, Michael Davis, Rebecca Egbert, Nicole Else-Quest, Daniel Klasik, Priscilla Layne, Melody Levy, Jason McGrath, David Navalinsky, Abigail Panter, Valerie Pruvost, Jared Rosenberg, Bettina Shuford, Lynn Williford, Danielle Zurchel

GUESTS: Ashiya Campbell (Chancellor's Office), Amy Grau (Chancellor's Office)

STUDENT-ATHLETE ADMISSIONS (with the Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and the Committee on Special Talent)

Jason McGrath, Associate Provost and Director of Undergraduate Admissions, reviewed student-athlete admissions.

- McGrath is new to UNC and is impressed with the process and people involved in student-athlete admissions. He stressed that although the Admissions Office receives advice from various committees, the Admissions Office makes all admissions decisions.
- 197 student-athletes matriculated in 2022, with 153 admitted through the special talent process but less than 10 of those going through the Special Talent Committee process.
 - The Special Talent Committee only reviews those students who
 - present a test score and who have a predicted first-year GPA of less than 2.3, based on the test score and NCAA Core GPA in high school courses, or
 - do not present a test score and whose NCAA Core GPA is below a 3.0.
- Over time, student-athletes' entering credentials have improved and compare quite favorably to UNC system peer schools.

During the discussion following McGrath's presentation, the following points were raised:

- The number of student-athletes transferring into UNC is increasing and there are tight time windows to evaluate transcripts for these students regarding admission and the number of transferrable hours. The Provost is trying to facilitate a proactive approach to this evaluation. The process went well this semester, but it will be messy and comes during the holiday period.
 - Vince Ille suggested that the NCAA create a Transfer Clearinghouse to mirror the Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse, where student-athletes could not be recruited by other schools until they had uploaded their transcript and syllabi for their courses.

UPDATES

ASPSA Update, Michelle Brown

- The fall term GPA for student-athletes was 3.128, with a cumulative GPA of 3.2. All but 5 teams had a term GPA in excess of 3.0.
- Women's Tennis had the highest team GPA of 3.78, and Men's Fencing had the highest men's team GPA.
- Approximately twenty-five students matriculated in January. They participated in transition programming facilitated by ASPSA.

FAR Update, Lissa Broome

- The NCAA named its new President, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker.
- The NCAA approved the proposal to remove a standardized test score from its initial eligibility requirements. The new standard will require a minimum high school GPA in 16 core courses of 2.3.
- The NCAA eliminated the volunteer coach designations, meaning that many more coaches could be paid by the Athletics Department.
- The Knight Commission is advocating for more spending from the projected new College Football Playoff Revenue to go towards degree completion and health, safety and student-athlete well-being.
- ACC governance groups will meet in Charlotte in early February.
- At the December 2 Faculty Council meeting, Jeni Shannon discussed student-athlete (and student) mental health issues. Football players Elijah Green and Storm Duck pre-recorded a video that was very well-received.
- ACC Conference meetings were held in Charlotte, October 17-18.
 - Priorities for the FARs, ADs, and SWAs included enhancing the ACC brand (with an emphasis on academic excellence), equity, and the student-athlete experience (including scheduling of contests)

The December FAC meeting was cancelled. The January FAC meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lissa Broome with the assistance of Amy Grau