

Minutes of the BOAC Meeting, November 26, 2007

Members Present: Ellis, Schreck, Mazurana, Schaffer, Stephens, Doerner, Falger

Ex-Officio Members Present: Feddersen, Lambden, Henderson, Mills, Hinrichs, Haack, Oltjenbruns, Christman, Frye, Cardenas, Stotlar

Guests: Michael Kallsen, Chris Kiser

The meeting was held at the Multipurpose Room at Jackson Stadium and called to order at 5:00 p.m. Chair Mills asked the any new members, ex-officio members present to introduce themselves and thanked the members for their time.

In accordance with the University's bylaws concerning the BOAC, especially Bylaw III "The Powers and Duties of the BOAC," Chair Mills reminded the Board that of the four specified duties outlined in the Bylaws, policies governing the financing of intercollegiate athletics and their effectiveness would be examined at that meeting. University CFO Randy Haack and AD Hinrichs reported on the present state of funding intercollegiate athletics at UNC. The majority of funding for intercollegiate athletics comes from fundraising, sponsorship, other revenue streams, and institutional/state support. Hinrichs noted that UNC funding for athletics lags significantly behind every other school in the Big Sky Conference, limiting the ability of teams to compete against better staffed and funded competition. Discussion ensued about what might be done to increase funding and Hinrichs noted that a review of UNC Athletics was being done by the Monfort Institute which would be looking into several issues concerning the future of intercollegiate athletics at UNC, including funding.

AAD Jimmy Henderson then reported on the Academic Success efforts for student athletes. Henderson delivered a summary of approximate progress in his one plus year as the academic officer for Athletics and noted successes in better consistency in procedures and paperwork, academic support for student athletes in advising and facilities, and involvement with university stakeholders including faculty and the liaison program. Henderson was reasonably happy with the direction of the office, the progress of academic efforts by SAs, and increased staffing. With this movement forward, he felt comfortable that academic support would be able to implement further measures in the coming year to improve efforts already underway.

Michael Kallsen, Athletic Academic Advisor/Eligibility Specialist, delivered an overview of UNC's Academic Progress Rate (APR) efforts. Kallsen began with a primer on what APR entails, how it is measured, and the contemporary and historical penalties the NCAA administers to programs who fail to meet the 925 minimum score. The 925, Kallsen explained, correlates to an approximate 5th year 60% graduation rate for cohorts of recruited and/or athletic aid receiving SAs. Teams that fall below 925 are required by the NCAA to construct APR improvement plans. Proactively though, UNC is requiring all teams at 940 or below to develop APR improvement plans. At the time of his report, Kallsen reported that 3 of 19 sports had APRs between 900 and 925: men's track & field, football, and men's basketball.

AAD Chris Kiser delivered his report on Foundation and fundraising activities. On November 9th, the annual Hall of Fame Dinner was held, and six individuals and the 1997 National Championship Division II football team were inducted. This year's Reverse Raffle, which funds student gifts and the annual Academic Awards Banquet was held in November 16th and nearly \$60,000 was raised. General consensus was that the event was quite successful. Emphasis is being placed on donor-directed funds, and monies for scholarships and endowments. Kiser noted that external funding would invariably increase with raised competitiveness and notoriety of sports programs. He also noted his perception of a palatable sense of interest and excitement building about UNC Athletics. Board member Oltjenbruns asked for clarification about facility improvement priorities. Kiser mentioned that a new weight room and football locker room were the highest priorities.

Kati Falger, SAAC Representative, delivered a report on activities having to do with the Student Athlete Advisory Council. Ms. Falger announced that SAAC was revamping the "lettering" program, which recognizes years of intercollegiate athletic achievement through the awarding of "letters," jackets, and other gifts. Falger also noted that SALT's (Student Athlete Leadership Team) inter-athletic "Olympics" was upcoming, wherein UNC varsity athletic teams are pitted against each other in friendly competition as teams challenge each other in fun "sports" and events to earn points. SAAC will also again participate this year in the fund raiser Toys for Tots and have started planning for the athletic awards and academic banquets which will be combined this year. A new program designed for "adopting" children by UNC student-athletes is also being discussed.

AD Jay Hinrichs delivered announcements of external and special events. Almost all UNC sports programs have been either competing, practicing, or in some way active during this period. Hinrichs noted the post-season successes of the volleyball and soccer teams, with volleyball placing two sophomore SAs on the Big Sky all-conference team. In football, Big Sky honorees included first and second team UNC players and six athletes named honorable mention. Hinrichs also noted personnel issues including the retirement of men's golf coach Wally Goodwin: a search is underway to fill that vacancy. Among other empty positions, the Assistant in Media Relations position will need to be filled. Emphasis is being put first on filling the AAD Compliance position and Head Strength and Conditioning Coach position; searches for these two positions are presently being conducted.

Chair Mills announced to the Board that he had consulted with faculty, faculty senators, and other stakeholders in the University community about how information about UNC student-athlete academic issues and BOAC meetings and actions might be better disseminated. The general consensus was that a bi-annual newsletter written by the Faculty Athletic Representative might be distributed to the university community to help spread this information. Chair Mills then solicited suggestions about what might be included in this newsletter; some of the ideas presented included semester grade reports, graduation rates, majors by athletes, advising information, information on liaison

program, spotlights on coaches and players, and NCAA regulations pertaining to academics.

Chair Mills asked the Board to consider how the university might better provide support and socialization for the unique circumstances of international student-athletes and under-represented groups (as well as by region) as a group homework assignment. The question will be raised again at the next Board meeting in February. The Chair reminded the attendees that the BOAC website (www.unco.edu/BOAC) was up-to-date to reflect the new membership of the Board and recent meeting minutes. Mills then asked for suggestions about when meetings of the BOAC during spring 2008 might more profitably be held to allow for the greatest number of members to attend. After some discussion, the general consensus was that spring semester meetings would be held at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.

There being no further announcements or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by

Michael Mills, Chair