

## **Minutes of the BOAC Meeting, October 13, 2009**

**Members Present:** Iyer, Klyde-Silverstein, Stephens, Adams, Henderson, Mills, Larson, Stotlar, Ellis, Peercy, Schaffer, Hinrichs, Vandriel, VanderVelde, Hyland, Jennings, Atzenback, Puckett, Guzman, Christman, Frye

**Guests:** Ben Cherrington, Kevin Smallcomb, Eric Schultz, Walt Francis

The meeting was held at the High Plains Room at Nottingham Stadium and called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Chair Mills began the meeting by asking present members to introduce themselves.

In the Chair report Mills noted that Lyda Ellis had agreed to continue serving as the Board's representative to the Transfer Appeal Committee. Mills noted also that University representatives Hinrichs, Adams and Mills had recently returned from the Big Sky Conference meetings in Park City, Utah and gave a report on the meeting. Ben Cherrington, the head wrestling coach was introduced as the replacement for former coach Jack Maughan, who is now full-time with the UNC Foundation. Cherrington explained briefly his priorities for 2009-2010, the outlook for the season and went over this year's intercollegiate competition schedule.

Jimmy Henderson, Assistant Athletic Director for Student Success, distributed a grade report for spring 2009, noting that the overall GPA for the Department's student-athletes was 2.94 (cumulative) and 2.95 (for the term). Henderson went on to explain the overall APR scores for all teams and what is being done team by team to address the few deficiencies found in the academic performances of the 19 sports, noting that in the Big Sky Conference, UNC is ranked near the top in nearly every category, especially Graduation Success Rate (GSR).

Next, Chair Mills asked AD Jay Hinrichs to address the BOAC bylaw requirement... "policies governing athletic conference affiliation, post-season competition, intercollegiate athletic schedules, sponsored sports, and eligibility requirements." Hinrichs noted that UNC competes in 14 core Big Sky Conference sports and is a conference member for five more non- BSC sports. He also gave a competition report for fall 2009 for football, soccer, volleyball, and cross-country. He finished his report by announcing volleyball competitions for the weekend and the upcoming Reverse Raffle on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Under Old Business, a number of items were discussed. The effects of a series of alterations to the BOAC Attendance Policy (originally passed October 26, 2006) were discussed by Henderson. These alterations were designed to address issues related to better ensuring student-athlete academic welfare and establishing policies regarding changes made to BOAC approved intercollegiate competition schedules. The net effect of policies addressing absence letters and timely registration had positive results for the student-athletes for the beginning of the semester of fall 2009.

Next, head baseball coach Kevin Smallcomb presented his 2010 intercollegiate competition schedule which had been sent back in spring 2009 by the Board due to what was judged as excessive class absence days and under utilization of the Spring Break period for away games.

Smallcomb's revised schedule, as presented to the Board, meant many fewer class absences (10 as opposed to 14) and was approved unanimously by the Board. Chair Mills then commended Coach Smallcomb for his work in revising the schedule and noted the positive direction the team was moving in regards to academic considerations.

Under New Business, Mills then asked Assistant AD for Compliance Sarah Adams to outline a series of possible policy changes meant to address issues in how the Department deals with prospective transfer student-athletes. These proposed policy changes were co-authored by the staffs of the Student-Athlete Academic Success Center and Compliance, and the Faculty Athletics Representative, and were a direct outgrowth of discussion during the Certification Committee's deliberations. These measures will be submitted for review and comment by the coaches and staff of the Department and appear for recommendation by the BOAC during the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

1. Before a prospective transfer student-athlete will be allowed on an official visit, either official or unofficial transcripts from each collegiate institution attended must be submitted for unofficial evaluation to the staff of the Student-Athlete Academic Success Center (SAASC).
2. In situations involving identified at-risk prospective transfer student-athletes (by GPA, test scores, core course credits, etc.), to ensure the best possible evaluation of the student's academic success, the Student-Athlete Academic Success Center (SAASC) will forward the preliminary evaluation to the Faculty Athletics Representative for secondary evaluation and GPA calculation of the prospective at-risk student-athlete.
3. Prior to any National Letter of Intent (NLI) or athletic aid contract being issued, prospective transfer student-athletes must have completed the NCAA Eligibility Center process by having submitted all final high school transcripts with graduation posted on the transcript and all test scores from the testing agency and have completed the student-athlete Statement of Amateurism. These records must also be submitted to the Compliance Office before any NLIs or athletic aid contracts are issued.
4. Any prospective transfer student-athlete who has signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) or athletic aid contract must, prior to enrollment, submit updated transcripts from the most recently completed term. The deadlines for fall and spring semester submission of these transcripts will be June 30<sup>th</sup> and December 30<sup>th</sup> respectively.
5. If a prospective transfer student-athlete is deemed academically ineligible for practice and/or competition, the final decision regarding the issuance of an NLI or athletic aid contract will be made by the specific sport coordinator.
6. In the event that a prospective transfer student-athlete does not submit final transcripts to the University by the first day of the respective term, the prospective transfer student-athlete will not be allowed to participate in any athletically related activities including meetings, practices, and competitions.

SAAC co-president Sydney Vandervelde then gave the SAAC report noting that the group was looking to increase increased participation and enthusiasm for student-athlete governance and activities that included the Relay for Life and other events. VanderVelde expressed excitement about the coming year for SAAC and the student-athletes.

The Chair then thanked the members present for their service and noted that BOAC would reconvene on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in the High Plains Room.

There being no further announcements or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Submitted by  
Michael Mills, Chair of Board of Athletic Control