

# **Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes**

**February 2, 2016**

## **I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Athletics Committee was called to order at 1:00 pm on February 2, 2016.

## **II. Roll Call**

Present: Mrs. Doris McDaniel, Dr. Lisa Clayton, Mr. Mark Linder, Dr. Pat Roden, Ms. Whitney Pacil, Mr. Mark Foster, Dr. Jean Ann Helm Allen, Mrs. Debbie Williams, Mr. Ulrich Groetsch, Mr. Todd Vardaman, Mr. Evan Thornton, Mrs. Cassie Morgan

Absent: Mr. Clinton Carter, Mr. David Shields, Mrs. Shauna James, Mr. Alex Gould, and Mr. Adam McCollum

## **III. Approval of the Minutes from the Athletics Committee meeting on November 17, 2015.**

Dr. Pat Roden made the motion to approve the minutes on November 17, 2015 and Mrs. Doris McDaniel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

## **IV. FAR Report**

Dr. Pat Roden stated she had some concerns that she wanted to discuss with the Athletics Committee.

- The welfare for student-athletes after eligibility has been exhausted is a concern. It's a mental adjustment to transition from a student-athlete to a student. Typically a student-athlete, that has exhausted their eligibility, will graduate the next semester after eligibility has been exhausted.
- The return to play policy for concussions is a concern. Faculty should be educated on the policy and the protocol when a student-athlete has a concussion.
- Student Counseling Services is available to students who show signs of depressions or mental health issues. A protocol or policy should be established to recognize needs or problems.

## **V. Minority Opportunity Committee Report**

Mrs. Doris McDaniel stated that she had sent an email to faculty and staff in December 2015, asking faculty and staff if they would like to mentor a student-athlete for the spring 2016. On January 12, 2016 the mentors and mentees met in the GUC game room for an introductory meeting. Tentative group events have been scheduled for the mentors and the mentees; February 26, 2016 – Frostbite or Starbucks, March 2016 - UNA Baseball game, April 16, 2016 – volunteer to help with the Color Run.

The work-group for the mentoring program was approved. The members of the work-group are: Mrs. Doris McDaniel, Mrs. Christa Raney, Mr. Daryl Brown, Mr. Mark Linder and Ms. Janae Lyde.

## **VI. Gender Equity Committee**

The Gender Equity Committee will meet on March 15, 2016 to review the updated strategic plan for the committee. The results of the Athletics Interest Survey were emailed to the Athletics Committee members. The survey is administered to the UNA students every 3 to 5 years to ensure that the needs and wants of sports are met.

## **VII. Athletic Director Report**

Mr. Mark Linder updated the committee on the following:

- The majority of the benchmarks have been met for the Division I transition. The financial information on the survey for Division I is in the process of being updated.
- An online store with UNA merchandise will be available soon.
- Signing date for soccer and football is February 3, 2016
- In July, 2016 construction will begin at Florence Middle School. The construction will eliminate parking at Braly Stadium. The athletics department administrative staff is working on a strategy for parking at UNA football games.
- The GSC is expanding the conference, adding Auburn-Montgomery.
- A capital campaign will be launched on March 22, 2016.
- A new program, the Lion Leadership Academy for student-athletes, will be launched on Monday, February 8, 2016. The academy will focus on leadership skills and responsibility.

## **VIII. New Business**

Dr. Pat Roden suggested that the Athletics Committee attend a UNA Softball and Baseball game during the spring 2016.

Academic night for student-athletes is Thursday, February 11, 2016.

Student-athletes who receive a 3.20 GPA or higher for the spring 2015 and the fall 2015 will be recognized during halftime of the UNA men's basketball game.

Grades for student-athletes are monitored throughout the semester. When student-athletes receive their grade checks, Dr. Pat Roden will email faculty members to let them know. The grade checks are used to track the attendance and class progress for student-athletes.

## **IX. Adjourn**

The next Athletics Committee meeting will be held in March 2016.