

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, September 25, 2015 – Talley Student Union, Rm #3285
2:00pm

Attendees:

David Beam – NC State Alumni Association
Karen Bullock – Faculty, Social Work
Dave Ellis – NC State Alumni Association
Jason Flores – Faculty, Biological Sciences
Joy Gayles – Faculty, Leadership Policy & Adult and Higher Education
Tommy Holden – Faculty, Health and Exercise Studies
Rob Hoon – General Counsel
Michael Kanters – Faculty, PRTM
Ed Lindsay – Faculty, PRTM
Jim Mickle – Faculty, Plant and Microbial Biology
Roby Sawyers – Faculty, Accounting (*Chair – Council on Athletics*)
Joel Pawlak – Faculty, Forest Biomaterials (*Chair – Faculty Academic Committee*)
Tracey Ray – Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity
Jimbo Robbins – NC State Student Aid Association
Christopher Tonelli – Faculty, Libraries
Paul Williams – Faculty, Accounting

Guest Attendees:

Chancellor Randy Woodson, Chris Boyer, Georgia Brown, Sherard Clinkscales, Carrie Doyle, Michelle Lee, (athletics administrators), Ashley Eli, Alexis Perry (student-athletes), Jon Choboy, Mark Stevenson (guest head coaches), Bob Kennel

Unable to Attend:

Astra Ball – NC State Student Aid Association
Katie Graham – Director, ASPSA
Page Marsh – Athletics, Head Women's Golf Coach
Larry Silverberg – Faculty, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Deborah Yow – Director of Athletics

1. Welcome. Chairman Roby Sawyers welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.
2. Membership introductions. Chairman Sawyers welcomed all new committee members who were unable to attend the first meeting.
3. Chancellor Remarks. Chancellor Randy Woodson thanked the group for serving on the council and reminded everyone of the critical advisory role that the council plays. He has the responsibility to oversee intercollegiate athletics and ensure that it remains consistent with the mission of the university. The council has a big role in determining student-athlete eligibility. He also thanked everyone for their part in making sure NC State student-athletes are given every opportunity to succeed at the highest level, both athletically and academically.

4. Previous Minutes. The minutes of the August 28, 2015 meeting were reviewed, and with no recommendations for edits,

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the August 2015 Council on Athletics meeting.”

(APPROVED – Unanimously)

5. Guest Head Coaches.

- a. Mark Stevenson, gymnastics. Coach Stevenson is in his 36th year at NC State and explained how grateful he was for being able to work at NC State. The previous gymnastics season was a rebuilding year after losing seven seniors, but the team finished as #25 in the country and had two individuals qualify for NCAA national competition. He is excited for this year as the two qualifiers will return and the team will also add four accomplished freshmen to the lineup. He thanked administration for the positive changes to facilities and budget. He explained that gymnastics does not tend to recruit internationally because the US is such a strong gymnastics power.
- b. Jon Choboy, men’s tennis. Coach Choboy is entering his 13th year at NC State. Last year, the team qualified for their fourth consecutive NCAA appearance while losing ten 4-3 matches. That squad lost three great seniors, but they will be replaced by great incoming freshmen. The team strives to be a top 16 seed in the NCAA tournament so that they can host. He remarked on how easy it has become to recruit at NC State with the improvements in facilities on campus. He invited to group to come visit the tennis center and attend a home meet.

6. Guest Student-Athletes. Student-Athlete Alexis Perry, a senior on the women’s track and field team, who is majoring in nutrition science, addressed the group. She discussed her decision to stay local for school because of how she felt valued at NC State. She went over her most recent successes and said she hopes to continue competing post-collegiately in the Olympic Trials year. Her long term plans are to attend grad school and work in public health.

Student-Athlete Ashley Eli, a senior on the women’s basketball team, who is majoring in engineering with a health care concentration, also spoke to the group. She described the transition of coaching staffs, but relayed that the result has been positive. She is planning on attending graduate school and staying in the Triangle area.

7. Athletics Update. Deputy Athletics Director Chris Boyer briefed the group on a number of topics listed below:
 - a. NCAA Violation Articles. Recent articles claimed that, due to media presence during several recruiting visits by the men’s basketball head coach, NC State had committed

NCAA violations. After thorough study, athletics administration is confident that the men's basketball staff was not involved with contacting the media and did their best to avoid the media.

- b. Competitive Update. The perennial goal for each team is to be a national Top 25 program. Currently, two fall teams are ranked in the top 25, with two other teams standing undefeated. The football team will compete in the upcoming weekend with a talented South Alabama squad.
 - c. Reynolds Coliseum. Renovations are well underway and can be seen through periodic video updates placed online.
 - d. Event Updates. The October 3rd football game is Ag Day. There will be a Tailgate Tipoff" event with the men's basketball team playing on a temporary outdoor court near the fan zone area. The Swimming and Diving programs will host their first ever "Wolfpack Games" event tonight as a kickoff to their season. The baseball team will face the Czech Republic National team on October 2nd and 4th. Women's basketball will play their competitions either at PNC Arena or Broughton High School. All council members are encouraged to attend.
8. ASPSA Update. In the absence of Director of ASPSA Katie Graham, Chairman Sawyers provided a report that reviewed data from the previous academic year, including student-athlete GPAs, graduation rates and majors. The data displayed a steady upward trend, which was attributed to an increased focus on academic performance and efforts to engage former student-athletes in order to finish their degrees. Other changes that could be factors in the success are the Summer Start program, tiering at-risk student-athletes and a more concentrated investment in the ASPSA program. The Faculty Athletics Committee was charged with looking at the data in more detail.
 9. Compliance Education. Senior Associate AD Carrie Doyle reviewed a summary of the NCAA's Publication of Proposed Legislation document. She discussed various items of particular interest or concern. The council can provide input on the legislative proposals where appropriate.
 10. Committees. Chairman Sawyers shared the subcommittee membership assignments and explained that the chairs of all groups had met to review and rewrite their charges.
 11. Case Commons. Paul Williams discussed a prior study that recommended more space be allocated to academic instruction than what was currently provided at Case Academic Center and asked if any plans had been discussed to adjoin the center and the proposed Case Commons dorm to allow for that expansion. Deputy AD Boyer explained that the early study showed that to be unfeasible, but that there was potential to have additional study space within the stand-alone Case Commons building.

12. Next Meeting. The next meeting for the Council on Athletics is scheduled for Friday, October 30th and will be held in Talley Student Union.
13. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:56pm.

Respectfully submitted by Georgia Brown.