

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, November 18, 2016 – Talley Student Union, Rm #4280
2:00pm

Attendees:

David Beam – NC State Alumni Association
Nathan Corder – Graduate Student
Dave Ellis – NC State Alumni Association
Jeremiah Feducia - Faculty, Chemistry
Ed Funkhouser – Faculty, Communications
Joy Gayles – Faculty, Leadership Policy & Adult and Higher Education
Rob Hoon – General Counsel
Michael Kanters – Faculty, PRTM
Madison Maloney – Undergraduate Student
Jim Mickle – Faculty, Plant and Microbial Biology
Joel Pawlak – Faculty, Forest Biomaterials (*Chair – Faculty Academic Committee*)
Jimbo Robbins – NC State Student Aid Association
Lynsey Romo – Faculty, Communications
Roby Sawyers – Faculty, Accounting (*Chair – Council on Athletics*)
Deborah Yow – Director of Athletics

Guest Attendees:

Georgia Brown, Chris Boyer, Carrie Doyle, Michael Lipitz, Diane Moose (athletics administrators); Lisa Zapata (interim director of ASPSA; Gabi McDermott (student-athlete); Elliott Avent, Simon Earnshaw (guest head coaches).

Unable to Attend:

Astra Ball – NC State Student Aid Association
Jason Flores – Faculty, Biological Sciences
Katie Graham – Director, ASPSA
Tommy Holden – Faculty, Health and Exercise Studies
Ed Lindsay – Faculty, PRTM
Tracey Ray – Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity
Paul Williams – Faculty, Accounting
Christopher Tonelli – Faculty, Libraries

1. Welcome. Dr. Roby Sawyers welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.
2. Previous Minutes. The minutes of the October 21, 2016 meeting were reviewed, and with no recommendations for edits,

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the October 2016 Council on Athletics meeting.”
(*APPROVED – Unanimously*)

3. Guest Head Coaches.

- a. Simon Earnshaw, women's tennis. Coach Earnshaw is in his third season with the women's tennis program. Originally from Northern England, he had a very successful coaching record at DII Armstrong State prior to coming to NC State. In 2015-16 the team made the NCAA Tournament and was ranked nationally in the low 40s. This year's recruiting class was great and is a part of the continued building phase to change program culture. His goals are for the program to be in the top 16 and they look to be in the top 25 nationally this season. The team is doing great things off the court, with a team GPA of 3.3 and strong participation in outreach events.
- b. Elliott Avent, baseball. Coach Avent explained that his beard is part of awareness efforts in support of Chris Combs, former baseball student-athlete and current Wolfpack Club staff member, who is fighting ALS. The team will additionally be part of a benefit game versus Boston College on April 22 in Boston. The ACC continues to be a very competitive baseball league. The team lost key players from the 2016 season, notably in pitching and home run production, but key leadership expectations have been passed down. The team focuses on work ethic and currently has a GPA of 2.9. He noted that the Talley renovation project is the best project in his time on campus and many of the baseball alumni consider Raleigh their home.

4. Guest Student-Athlete. Gabi McDermott, a senior communications major on the women's swimming and diving team, addressed the group. Hailing from Illinois, she started as a gymnast and eventually transformed into a diver. She discussed the tough mental aspects of diving. She has stepped away from competition this year to focus on leadership roles and responsibilities. She is the current SAAC president and shared the group's initiatives and priorities for the year. She is interested in a career with event planning and has taken part in NCAA Leadership Forums that have enhanced her leading abilities.

5. Athletics Director Debbie Yow briefed the group on a number of topics listed below:

- a. Men's Basketball Eligibility. AD Yow thanked Deputy General Counsel Rob Hoon for all of his assistance in navigating the NCAA's eligibility procedures for two men's basketball student-athletes. Both student-athletes have been cleared to play for portions of the 2016-17 season. The group discussed the procedures and international eligibility issues.
- b. Fall Competitive Updates. The Men's and Women's Cross Country teams will race in the NCAA Championship on November 19th. The men are ranked 17th and the women are ranked 2nd going into the race. Additionally, Women's Soccer advanced to the 2nd round of the NCAA tournament and will compete against Pepperdine on Friday night. The Football program needs one more win to become bowl eligible as it winds up a

grueling regular season playing what ESPN called the most difficult schedule among all ACC teams. The recruiting class for 2017 is solid. Volleyball has had a great season under first-year coach Linda Hampton-Keith. The staff is excited about an incoming graduate student, daughter of alumnus Thurl Bailey. Strong candidates are currently being interviewed for the position of Men's Soccer Head Coach. Contract extensions for Coaches Rollie Geiger and Elliott Avent have been executed with the Board of Trustees.

- c. Reynolds Coliseum. Reynolds Coliseum continues to host successful marquee events, including rallies by First Lady Michelle Obama and Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. The North Carolina Governor's Ball will be held in January.
 - d. Captain's Council. A council, consisting of key on-field leaders from each team, was established to provide the Athletics Director feedback on areas of student-athlete service within the department. Plans are for the group to meet once a semester. The group met for dinner this week and critiqued the annual end-of-year surveys and the leadership speaker series. The council provided relevant responses that will be discussed by sport supervisors.
 - e. Leadership Speaker Series. Dr. Derek Greenfield met with the entire student-athlete body on the evening of Sunday, October 16th with programming geared towards dealing with the volatile social climate and a focus on inclusion.
- 6. Compliance Report. Senior Associate AD Carrie Doyle reviewed NCAA legislative proposals with the group, particularly those dealing with recruiting. The group discussed the seemingly unenforceable nature of some of the proposals, as well as many of the proposals' attempts to curb early recruiting.
 - 7. Faculty Athletic Committee. Dr. Joel Pawlak, chair of the FAC, summarized their meeting on October 31st. The group discussed NCAA legislative proposals, particularly those concerning graduate student transfers. The committee will meet again on December 2nd to hear from Dr. Louis Hunt on trends related to student-athlete course enrollment.
 - 8. Next Meeting. The next meeting for the Council on Athletics is scheduled for Friday, January 27th and will be held in Talley Student Union Room #3285.
 - 9. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by Georgia Brown.