

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, October 20, 2017 – Talley Student Union, Rm #5101
2:00pm

Attendees:

Astra Ball – NC State Student Aid Association
David Beam – NC State Alumni Association
Jason Bocarro – Faculty, PRTM
Chase Conner – Undergraduate Student
Ricky Etheridge – NC State Alumni Association
Jeremiah Feducia - Faculty, Chemistry
Ed Funkhouser – Faculty, Communication
Rob Hoon – General Counsel
Michael Kanters – Faculty, PRTM (*Chair – Faculty Academic Committee*)
Zach Lewis – Student Senate
Jim Mickle – Faculty, Plant and Microbial Biology
Tracey Ray – Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity
Jimbo Robbins – NC State Student Aid Association
Lynsey Romo –Faculty, Communication
Roby Sawyers – Faculty, Accounting (*Chair – Council on Athletics*)
Paul Williams – Faculty, Accounting
Cynthia Zuckerman Hyman – Faculty, Communication

Guest Attendees:

Chris Boyer, Georgia Brown, Josh Dalton, Carrie Doyle, Michelle Lee, Michael Lipitz (athletics administrators); Harli Hubbard, Bethany Neely (SAAC representatives); Joel Pawlak – Faculty, Forest Biomaterials

Unable to Attend:

Laura Bottomley – Faculty, Engineering
Jason Flores – Faculty, Biological Sciences
Katie Graham – Director, ASPSA
Tommy Holden – Faculty, Health and Exercise Studies
Ed Lindsay – Faculty, PRTM
Deborah Yow –Director of Athletics

1. Welcome. Dr. Roby Sawyers welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.
2. Previous Minutes. The minutes of the September 29, 2017 meeting were reviewed, and with no recommendations for edits,

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the September 2017 Council on Athletics meeting.”
(*APPROVED – Unanimously*)

3. Athletics Updates. Athletics Director Debbie Yow was out of town at an Elon Board of Trustees meeting so Deputy AD Michael Lipitz briefed the group on a number of topics listed below:
 - a. Competitive Updates. The fall competitive season is shaping up to be one of the best fall seasons in NC State Athletics history, with all teams looking to finish strong in conference standings and qualify for NCAA Championships. The football season has been fun so far; the team is already bowl eligible. There is no decision yet if we will host College GameDay for the Clemson game. Winter sports are also getting underway, with Primetime with the Pack and a home swimming and diving meet tonight.
 - b. National Basketball Scandal. He reiterated AD Yow's message from last month's meeting: there is no reason to believe any current or former NC State staff are involved, but should something be discovered, we will continue to act with integrity when addressing the situation.
 - c. Recent NCAA Ruling. He shared that many in college athletics do not understand the NCAA's stance on the UNC-CH academic fraud case, with the biggest question now becoming what that ruling will mean for future cases and issues.

4. Guest Student-Athletes
 - a. Bethany Neely - Bethany is a graduate student on the women's cross country team. She is originally from Indiana and attended Indiana University before transferring to NC State. She earned her undergraduate degree in sport management and is continuing on in the Parks, Recreation and Tourism program. After enduring a personal tragedy, she has found NC State to be a perfect change; she loves the personal connection to staff, both in athletics and her academic department. She is appreciative of all the amazing support provided by the Pack Performance program and will be completing her thesis on student-athlete development and wellness.
 - b. Harli Hubbard – As an ACC autonomy representative, Harli recently attended conference meetings in Miami. She shared with the group topics of discussion at those meetings, including mental health and time demands legislation. Additionally, she spoke of NC State-specific SAAC initiatives that include mental health, supporting the non-profit Backpack Buddies, and initiatives to bridge the gaps in the student-athlete community.

5. ACC Fall Meetings. – Dr. Sawyers and Associate AD/Senior Woman Administrator Michelle Lee briefed the group on other discussions that occurred in their respective groups at recent conference meetings. Those topics included early recruiting and the work of the NCAA Student-Athlete Experience Committee, esports as a conference sponsored activity, and the NCAA Transfer Working Group.

6. Compliance Education. Senior Associate AD Carrie Doyle provided the group with an update on topics, including a summary of upcoming legislative proposals and the NCAA infractions report on the UNC-CH academic fraud case.
7. Faculty Academic Committee. Dr. Michael Kanters reviewed the recent meeting of the Faculty Academic Committee. The group discussed ongoing concerns with the NCAA rule that requires student-athletes in graduate programs to take six credit hours towards degree completion each semester. This can be a big issue as some programs aren't structured to offer that every semester. The committee also discussed the issues that arise when student-athletes, particularly those that are in the attendance monitoring program, take classes at outside institutions. He presented to the council a revised policy to address those student-athletes seeking to complete courses from other institutions:

“All student-athletes should obtain approval from their academic advisor in their academic department or college and then inform their ASPSA academic coordinator before enrolling in any non-NCSU course. Additionally, student-athletes that are subject to the class attendance policy are required to inform their ASPSA academic coordinator, who then seeks approval from the Faculty Athletic Representative or Chair of the Faculty Academic Committee to take any non-NCSU course.”

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the revised policy for student-athletes seeking approval to complete courses from other institutions.”

(APPROVED – Unanimously)

8. Next Meeting. The next meeting for the Council on Athletics is scheduled for Friday, November 17th and will be held in Talley Student Union, room #5101.
9. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Georgia Brown.