

ANNUAL REPORT

University Standing Committee: Council on Athletics

Academic Year Covered by Report: 2017-18

Date Report Submitted: May 31, 2018

Report Submitted by: Joel J. Pawlak, Chair

Number of times committee met: Seven

RECOMMENDATIONS

Through the academic year there was one motion made and approved by the Council as a whole. This was related to student athletes taking off-campus classes. The resolution as put forth by Dr. Michael Kaners, Chair of Faculty Academic Committee. The resolution reads as follows:

“All student-athletes should obtain approval from their academic advisor in their academic department or college and then inform their ASPSA (Academic Support Program Student Athletes) 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.”

This resolution was passed unanimously by the Council on Athletics at the October 20, 2017 meeting.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION ITEMS/ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEE

Council Charge: Chancellor Randy Woodson met with the Council at its initial meeting on August 28, 2017 and reaffirmed the group’s role as an advisory board on athletics matters. He stated that the work of the council is important, ensuring that athletics remains an integral part of the university and operates with integrity. He praised the senior management team in place as well at the continuing academic eligibility review that we have in place at NC State University.

Head Coach Guests: During the academic year, the following coaches met with the Council and provided reports on their teams: Tim Santoro (women’s soccer), Press McPhaul (men’s golf), Kim Landrus (gymnastics), Kyle Spenser (men’s tennis), George Kiefer (men’s soccer).

Student Athlete Guests: During the academic year, the following student athletes met with the Council and discussed their experiences as student athletes: Harli Hubbard (softball), Matt O’Donnell (swimming and diving), Akela Maize (women’s basketball), Bethany Neely (women’s cross country), Derya Pekari (rifle), Jessie Malit (football), Leon Krapf (men’s soccer), A.J. Cole (football), Maggie Tamburro (gymnastics) and Kylie Pickrell (volleyball).

Athletics Director Updates: Athletics Director Debbie Yow shared and discussed multiple topics with the Council throughout the year including updates on NCAA rule changes, the ACC network, maintaining a culture of compliance within the organization. Dr. Yow also commented on the

extraordinary athletic success NC State has had during the past year. This include 21 of 23 teams making the post season, a mid-year top 5 ranking in the director's cup standings, and a high chance of a top 20 finish in the director's cup standings. This level of overall athletic success is un-matched at NC State.

Financial Reporting Updates: Athletic Director Yow provided an overview of the budget for the coming year. This included noting that we will have a ~\$82 million budget which will place in the bottom quartile of the Power 5 schools.

ASPSA Updates: Katie Graham, Assistant Dean and Director of Academic Support for Student Athletes, reported to the group at several of our meetings providing detailed academic information from the 2016-17 academic year as well as fall 2017 including student athlete GPAs, graduation rates and majors. She also reviewed the information reported to UNC System Office in the Intercollegiate Athletics Report. In the fall of 2017, the student athlete population had a 3.08 GPA including 40 student athletes with a 4.0 term GPA and 20 student athletes for 8 different teams with a 4.0 CUM GPA.

Compliance Education: Senior Associate AD Carrie Doyle briefed the group on various topics throughout the year. Much of the discussion throughout the year surrounded the impending transfer student athlete legislation and the on-going activities of Rice Commission on college basketball. Both topics were discussed at a number of meetings as they have the potential to significantly impact college athletics.

Title IX Review: Associate AD Michelle Lee provided a report on Title IX compliance including the percent of men and women student athletes compared to the overall student body, and details on scholarship and other athletics spending for men's and women's sports. The university continues to be in good shape regarding Title IX compliance in athletics, but the Department plans to be vigilant in their oversight efforts. There continues to be pressure on athletics as the percent of women attending the university is edging towards 50 % meaning that maintaining balance in gender equity will need to be closely monitored in the years to come.

Committee Reports:

Faculty Academic Committee: Chair Michael Kanters

The primary role of the Faculty Academic Committee (FAC) is to determine the continuing academic eligibility of our student athletes. In this role, the committee met four times to conduct a continuing eligibility review – at the end of the first summer session(June 2017), before the beginning of the fall semester (August 2017), at the end of the fall semester (December 2017) and at the end of the spring semester(May 2018).

The committee met an additional two times during the academic year dealing with the following topics:

- At the October 11th meeting the committee recommended the following policy change for student athletes seeking to complete courses from other institutions:

“All student athletes should obtain approval from their academic advisor in their academic department 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 Athletics Representative or Chair of the Faculty Academic Committee to take any non-NCSU course.”

This recommendation was later approved by the Council on Athletics as a whole.

- At the March 26th meeting the committee discussed the need to change the Student Athlete attendance policy. There was agreement among committee members that the SA attendance policy should be revised to include reference to the new electronic monitoring system now used to monitor at risk SAs class attendance. The policy revision is still under development and will be revised and submitted for approval to the FAC in the Fall of 2018.

Comments of Faculty Athletics Representative: The Athletics department continues to live out many of the university goals and priorities through athletics. The student athletes are succeeding in many ways beyond field of competition achieving great successes in the classroom and in the community. The Council on Athletics continues to be valuable asset in the advisement of the athletics department. The model put in place at NC State in 1990 is only beginning to be embraced at other institutions as they realize the importance of stakeholder input in the advisement of the athletics department. The Council on Athletics creates a space where university stakeholders can interact with athletics in a constructive manner to continue to strengthen the connection between athletics and academics. The Council will continue to review and revise its bylaws and committee structure in the coming years to better support the mission of both the university and athletics.