

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, August 28, 2020 – Online Via Zoom
12:00 pm

Attendees:

Kermit Bailey – Faculty, Graphic & Industrial Design
Kimberly Bush – Faculty, PRTM
Wendy Crumpler – NC State Student Aid Association
Ricky Etheridge – NC State Alumni Association
Jeremiah Feducia - Faculty, Chemistry
Jason Flores – Faculty, Biological Sciences
Joy Gayles - Faculty, ELPHD
Cynthia Zuckerman Hyman – Faculty, Communication
Betsy Lanzen – Associate General Counsel
Jason Osborne – Faculty, Statistics
Joel Pawlak – Faculty, Forest Biomaterials (*Chair – Council on Athletics*)
Joe Rhyne – NC State Alumni Association
Lynsey Romo - Faculty, Communication
Randy Woodson - Chancellor, University Administration
Carrie Zelna, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs / Interim Director, ASPSA

Guest Attendees:

Beverly Armwood, Ben Broussard, Buzzy Correll, Josh Dalton, Fred Demarest, Carrie Doyle, Will Hale, Raymond Harrison, Jenna McLaughlin, Stephanie Menio, Garrett Munro (athletics administrators); Leon Krapf (SAAC representative); Emily Shepard (guest student-athlete); Laurie Henes (guest head coach)

Unable to Attend:

Jason Bocarro – Faculty, PRTM
Laura Bottomley – Faculty, Engineering
Boo Corrigan –Director of Athletics
Rachel Finn, Undergraduate, Student Senate
Katie Graham – Director, ASPSA
Michael Kanters – Faculty, PRTM (*Chair – Faculty Academic Committee*)
March Krotee - Faculty, Health and Exercise Studies
Jim Mickle – Faculty, Plant and Microbial Biology
Jimbo Robbins – NC State Student Aid Association
Sheri Schwab – Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity
Nicole Teague – Undergraduate, Student Senate

1. Welcome. Dr. Joel Pawlak welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.
2. Previous Minutes. The minutes of the April 24, 2020 meeting were reviewed, with no recommendation for edits,

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the April 24, 2020 Council on Athletics meeting”
(*APPROVED - Unanimously*)

3. Committee Charge from Chancellor. Chancellor Randy Woodson addressed the committee to provide direction for the upcoming year. Chancellor Woodson, entering his 11th year as Chancellor at NC State, discussed the challenges that we have faced as an institution and society. He expressed his gratitude for all of the faculty, staff, and administrators for all that they have done to help make NC State campus safe and serve our students. Chancellor Woodson noted his appreciation of Dr. Joel Pawlak, as our Faculty Athletic Representative, and the rest of the Council. Chancellor Woodson then went on to note the purpose of the Council and their importance to the University. Chancellor Woodson closed by noting that this has been a highly unusual year with a significant amount of uncertainty. Uncertainty tends to bring about anxiety on our student-athletes and staff. This has been a very difficult time in our country with systemic racism and social unrest and we are working collaboratively to address this at NC State to be a part of the solution. Thank you for all of your time with this.
4. Guest Head Coach. Laurie Henes, Head Women's Cross Country/Track & Field Coach, joined the group as the guest head coach for the Council. Coach Henes expressed her gratitude for the leadership of the University, the Council and the Athletics department. Coach Henes highlighted how the Women's Cross Country and T&F teams have great student-athletes with very lofty goals academically and athletically. The Women's Cross Country team has won the last 4 ACC Titles and the freshmen who arrived in the Fall '20 make up a recruiting class that was recognized as the number one recruiting class in the Nation. In addition, following the last term, the team achieved a cumulative GPA around 3.5. Coach Henes and her team focus on gratitude and the opportunity that they have to compete for NC State. Coach Henes and her staff are very thankful for the student-athletes on the team. The team currently has two of the top 3 freshman distance runners in the country with many publications listing them as having the #1 recruiting class in the country. Given our environment, the freshmen will have additional time to train and focus on academics with team Zoom study hall on Sunday's to help prepare them for classes. With recruiting, we have done quite a bit of Zoom meetings to meet with recruits and families. Thank you again for everything. Our student-athletes really appreciate all that you do!
5. Guest Student-Athlete. Emily Shepard, Women's Gymnastics Student-Athlete, joined the group to discuss her experience at NC State. Emily is a Sophomore, from Kansas, currently studying Biology. She is grateful for the tremendous resources at NCSU that help her find the best fit. When Shepard was looking for places to come for school, she discovered NC State was where she could sharpen her skills and routines and find opportunities outside of academics and athletics. Shepard has competed in gymnastics since she was 18 months old, learning a lot from her mom, dad, and family on how to stay fit. Since the pandemic, she has taken up running to help stay in shape and she has enjoyed doing virtual workouts together with her team. They have also had movie nights to stay connected and communicate with each other.
6. ASPSA Adjustment Updates. Carrie Zelna joined the council to provide updates on the ASPSA group. She highlighted that the ASPSA staff is doing a fantastic job continuing to provide services to our student-athletes. Since classes shifted to online platforms, the ASPSA staff have transitioned to all online meetings. It's worth noting that, with the transition to online, there has

been an increase in assignments for students. There have been a total of 1,316 tutoring sessions and students have been in contact with staff more often via zoom. She noted that the Learning Specialists are working with ESOL students and re-watching sessions to assist. Overall, their work to support student-athletes through this challenging time has gone well.

7. Athletic Department Update. Deputy Athletic Director Stephanie Menio provided a brief update regarding the Athletic Department matters, as follows:
 - Academics has done a wonderful job through this transition.
 - Challenging few weeks, but we are excited to move forward.
 - No season tickets at Football games and capacity is still undetermined.
 - Great support from fans with 57% of our fans choosing to “Preserve the Pack” by donating their season tickets.
 - Department wants to support and amplify the student-athlete voice.
 - Fans at games are still undetermined.

8. SAAC Update. Leon Krapf, President of SAAC, provided an update on SAAC initiatives. Leon noted that he was very thankful for all of NCSU’s leadership in all of this.
 - We want to provide support to all our Student-Athletes and role models in our community.
 - SAAC provides a voice for all Student-Athletes to communicate their concerns.
 - We have created a list of strategic priorities as a group.
 - Set the tone in a positive manner, be good role models following rules, provide a platform for Student-Athletes that feel unsafe or encounter issues as a result of the pandemic.
 - We have a big group of Student-Athletes that want to fight against racism, injustice, and police brutality → #PackUnited with three pillars: Action, Awareness, Education
 - Educate and represent the voice for Student-Athletes with NCAA Legislation
 - Sustainability has become a priority with athletics and the student-athlete body.
 - SAAC has formed partnerships with Student Government and Greek Life to explore ways to collaborate and overcome issues
 - We have a great leadership group to get things up and running. I’m very excited about these items.

9. Sub-Committee Updates. Joel Pawlak provided updates on the various Sub-Committees.
 - Faculty Academic Committee - upcoming meetings
 - Sending out surveys to invite people to serve on the two other sub-committees

10. Other Business. No other business.

11. Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2020, virtually.

12. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Will Hale.