

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, February 26, 2021 – Online Via Zoom
12:00 pm

Attendees:

Kermit Bailey – Faculty, Graphic & Industrial Design
Jason Bocarro – Faculty, PRTM
Laura Bottomley – Faculty, Engineering
Kimberly Bush – Faculty, PRTM
Buzzy Correll – NC State Student Aid Association
Boo Corrigan – Director of Athletics
Wendy Crumpler – NC State Student Aid Association
Keith Edmisten – Faculty, Crop & Soil Sciences
Ricky Etheridge – NC State Alumni Association
Jeremiah Feducia – Faculty, Chemistry
Joy Gayles – Faculty, ELPHD
Katie Graham – Director, ASPSA
Cynthia Zuckerman Hyman – Faculty, Communication
March Krotee – Faculty, Health and Exercise Studies
Betsy Lanzen – Associate, General Counsel
Jim Mickle – Faculty, Plant and Microbial Biology
Jason Osborne – Faculty, Statistics
Joel Pawlak – Faculty, Forest Biomaterials (*Chair – Council on Athletics*)
Lynsey Romo – Faculty, Communication
Taylor Thomas – Student Government
Paul Williams – Faculty, Management

Guest Attendees:

Beverly Armwood, Ben Broussard, Josh Dalton, Fred Demarest, Carrie Doyle, Will Hale, Raymond Harrison, Michelle Joshua, Michelle Lee, Jenna McLaughlin, Stephanie Menio, Garrett Munro, Rob Murphy, John Portland (athletics administrators); Melissa Evans (guest student-athlete); Kevin Keatts (guest head coach); Leon Krapf (SAAC representative); Virginia Blake (guest student researcher)

Unable to Attend:

Rachel Finn – Undergraduate, Student Senate
Jason Flores – Faculty, Biological Sciences
Michael Kanters – Faculty, PRTM (*Chair – Faculty Academic Committee*)
Joe Rhyne – NC State Alumni Association
Sheri Schwab – Vice Provost, 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 12:03 pm.
2. Previous Minutes. The minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting were reviewed, with no recommendation for edits,

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Council on Athletics meeting”

(APPROVED - Unanimously)

3. Guest Head Coach. Kevin Keatts, Head Coach for Men’s Basketball, joined the group as the guest head coach for the Council. Coach Keatts thanked the council for their tremendous support for NC State Athletics and the Men’s Basketball program. He highlighted the improvements with the team’s overall gpa in the Fall of 2020, which was the highest gpa they have ever had in program history. Keatts emphasized the leadership of Dr. Joel Pawlak, Katie Graham, Boo Corrigan, and Raymond Harrison who helped the team make those improvements. Men’s Basketball has seen tremendous growth over the past couple of years with a 1,000 APR. Keatts expressed appreciation for the council for their leadership and support academically. Keatts mentioned the 2020-2021 year was a challenge to play basketball in the midst of COVID. He highlighted that every coach has been through more challenges this year than they have ever had in their life. Keatts noted he and his staff miss the personal bonding formed with the team meals they used to have and the recruiting aspect of bringing people on campus, but that was lost with COVID. Sports Psychology has been tremendously helpful with mental preparation for their athletes. Lastly, the team is looking forward to the remainder of their season, and holding themselves to a higher standard athletically, academically, and in life.

4. Athletic Department Update. Athletic Director Boo Corrigan provided a brief update regarding the Athletic Department matters, as follows:
 - Several teams ranked in the top-10
 - Every team except for one finished above a 3.0 academically in the Fall of 2020
 - Athletic Department hired a new producer to improve services for the ACC Network
 - Thank you to Sports Medicine and Sports Psychology for their efforts and services in COVID
 - We always want to be in a growth mindset with initiatives
 - We reported that the losses were going to be around 22.8 million and now it is closer to 9.2 million
 - We will continue to do the most right thing by caring for our students
 - New ACC Commissioner - Jim Phillips

5. Athletics Budget Update. Beverly Armwood, Associate AD for Business Operations, joined the group to provide an update regarding the Athletics Department budget.
 - Original deficit was 22.8 million and now it is 9.2 million
 - Revenue is 60.9 million and expenses are 83.7 million
 - Department implemented staff salary cuts and limited travel to reduce expenses
 - Projections in Spring → 72 million in revenue and closer to 81 million in expenses → closer to 9.2 million loss
 - Guardian Wolves has provided \$4.0 million to offset losses
 - Total Revenue loss at \$29 million for FY21
 - Total cost savings of \$18.675 million for FY 21

6. Sports Medicine Updates. Rob Murphy, Associate AD for Sports Medicine, joined the council to provide an update regarding Sports Medicine services to our student-athletes.
 - Medical expenses have increased with COVID and services provided
 - There are 20 Athletic Trainers and 3 individuals are certified EMT's
 - Sports Medicine has multiple Physicians and on-site clinics with an array of services provided to the Student-Athletes
 - COVID-19 has increased our relationships with various external entities
 - Contact tracing, Tele-Medicine, Screenings, Transportation, & Meal Services are all services that have been provided by Sports Medicine
 - Testing frequency based upon risk within the sport and it changed over time
 - Kinexon Technology - used for tracking and contact tracing
 - Return to sport - measurements and physical progressions help athletes return
 - No current athletes in COVID protocols
 - Concerns → COVID Fatigue, and UK & South African Variants
 - 2020 Take-Away → We are in this together!

7. ACC Research Grant - Mental Health Strategies for SA's. Dr. Jason Bocarro, Faculty for Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management, joined the group to discuss ongoing research funded by the ACC surrounding student-athlete mental health strategies.
 - Pilot program and competitive grant program
 - 20 participants representing 11 of the 15 ACC schools
 - Themes: increase in utilization of mental health services among student-athletes, telemedicine, diversification of mental health personnel, importance of administrators and coaches, and mental health trends in a COVID year
 - We learned a lot about the successes and challenges of various strategies.

8. Guest Student-Athlete. Melissa Evans, Volleyball Student-Athlete, joined the group to discuss her experience at NC State. Evans is a graduate student pursuing a master of arts in Liberal Studies. She noted that COVID has brought challenges for the Volleyball team. The season was pushed back and they are about to begin the 2nd half of the season this Spring. After graduation, she was planning on going overseas but it was pushed back due to COVID. The #PackUnited student group was created to address social and racial issues in the community which she enjoys leading. Lastly, #PackUnited was the only student organization to have a t-shirt sold in a University bookstore.

9. FAC Report. Dr. Jeremiah Feducia, Faculty in Chemistry, provided an update regarding the FAC Report.
 - Thank you to Katie and her team for presenting on the ASPSA Services provided to the student-athletes
 - Next meeting will be March 3rd where they will be discussing internships and measuring academic success

10. Legislation Sub-Committee Report. Dr. Jason Flores, Faculty in Biology, provided an update on the Legislation Sub-Committee.

- Information coming soon
11. Student Health and Wellness Sub-Committee Report. Dr. Cynthia Zuckerman-Hyman, Faculty in Communication, provided an update on the Student Health and Wellness Sub-Committee.
 - Amazing administration and staff that help to oversee our programs and services
 - Working with the Pack Performance Team and Raymond Harrison to make connections with student-athletes on their health and well being
 12. SAAC Updates. Leon Krapf, SAAC President, provided updates to the council.
 - Email will be provided to Dr. Pawlak
 13. Other Business. No other business.
 14. Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2021, virtually.
 15. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Will Hale.