

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, September 29, 2023 – Talley 3285
12:00 pm

Attendees:

Joel Pawlak – Faculty, Forest Biomaterials (*Chair – Council on Athletics*)
Laura Bottomley – Faculty, Engineering
Keith Edmisten - Faculty, Soil & Crop Sciences
Amanda Edwards - Faculty, Public & International Affairs
Chris DePerno - Faculty, Forestry & Environmental Resources
Marion Martin - Faculty, Chemistry
Kanton Reynolds - Faculty, E.P. Fitts-Industrial & Systems Engineering
Steven Lechner - Faculty, History
Christopher Roland - Faculty Senate, Physics
Wendy Crumpler - SAAR, Student Aid Association
Buzzy Correll - NC State Student Aid Association (Wolfpack Club)
Grant Johnston - AAR, Alumni Association
Ralston Turner - AAR, Alumni Association
Katie Graham - Academic Support for Student Athletes - Ex-Officio
Boo Corrigan - Athletic Director, Athletics - Ex-Officio
Shawn Troxler - General Counsel - Ex-Officio
Bayne Bennett - Student-Athlete, SAAC
Megan Aljian - Student Senate Representative

Guest Attendees:

Michelle Lee, Stephanie Menio, Todd Stansbury, Beverly Armwood, Colin Hargis, Paige Timberlake, Press McPhaul (Guest Head Coach), Will Sistruck (Guest Student-Athlete), Brian Murray (WRAL)

Online Attendee:

Kimberly Bush

Unable to Attend:

Cathy Crossland, Sheri Schwab, Tara Mullins, Jason Osborne

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 August 25 meeting were reviewed.

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the August 25, 2023 Council on Athletics meeting”
(*APPROVED - Unanimously*)

3. Guest Head Coach. Press McPhaul has been the Men's Golf Coach for 7 years. Been to the post-season every year with 11 tournament titles and 10 individuals titles. Said the current team is in a transition period from impacts of COVID and Transfer Portal. Encouraged and excited for this team. Talked about golf being the only sport with a ball not played on a level surface and it allows the student-athletes to deal with adversity in a controlled environment. Have competed twice this year with one being at Folds of Honor. Little things happened that encouraged him about where the team is headed such as skipping dinner to finish a putting challenge. Focused on the character they are developing more than how they perform. Short game practice facility is almost complete at Lonnie Poole. 16,000 square feet chipping and putting green that will challenge the players and allow all practices to happen at one place. Previously driving back and forth to the University Club. Was asked about recruiting and where North Carolina ranks. A lot of interest in NC student-athletes and most end up at SEC schools. Target areas other than North Carolina are the mid-Atlantic, Northeast and Midwest. Also asked if computer generated equipment is used. Use it to be efficient and it brings a challenge of using it in a reasonable fashion and not focusing on too much information. Best way to come out and watch the team is their tournament in April and practice every day.
4. Guest Student-Athlete. Will Sistruck is a long and triple jumper on the Men's Track and Field team. From Charlotte, NC and majoring in Economics. Set his personal record for the long jump in 2023 with 7.42 meters (24 feet and 4 inches). Picked NC State because of Coach Coleman and how great of a coach he is and because it's close to home. Said the jump squad at NC State is always Top 10 and they go against top tier SEC programs. Talked about the Men's team being in a rebuilding year because of COVID and extra years of eligibility. Freshman class has a lot of student-athletes that are making the team's culture better. Goal is to make Regionals and Nationals this year. In the conditioning part of the season so no jumping yet. Said he is able to balance school and track well because he started using all of the resources available. Was asked how NC State is special compared to other programs and said there is great academic support and a focus on student mental health here. Also said the facilities are great and the use of the Indoor Practice Facility during the winter is a nice addition. Plans to go to grad school and major in economics, finance or marketing. Looking for a financial analyst internship to help decide what he wants to do.
5. Athletic Department Update. Boo Corrigan, NC State Athletic Director, provided the update. Boo spoke about how the ACC has expanded and what discussions were had. Main change was around teams traveling and what it will look like. No sport will go to the West Coast in back to back years and the Senior Women Administrators are looking at schedules and narrowing it down. Still a lot of work to do on it and there are ACC meetings in October that will give more clarity. Was asked what the incentive for the schools to join the ACC was and said Cal and Stanford fit into the ACC best with culture of school and the number of public and private institutions. Also noted there was a financial benefit to adding them with media rights and exposure to TV markets. Also a great benefit for competition with the success of Cal, Stanford, and SMU's programs. Talked about Day of Giving and how NC State Athletics identified Mental Health as the focus. Have picked up an additional day of Psychiatry support and added another clinical psychologist on staff. Wanted to raise money to put into action to benefit our students.

6. Legal Landscape of College Athletics. Shawn Troxler, General Counsel, gave a high level review of major litigation going on within college athletics. Discussed three different cases dealing with Name, Image, and Likeness that have been filed. Alston's case deals with whether the NCAA could prohibit extra academic benefits. House's case deals with the NCAA conspiring to price fix and prohibit student-athletes from getting compensation. Hubbard's case is about the backpay in Academic Achievement awards. Also some employment litigation about violating the Fair Labor Standards Act and whether student-athletes are employees of the universities. The appendix includes more specific details on the Legal Landscape of College Athletics.
7. SAAC Updates. Update provided by Bayne Bennett. Spoke about Pack United week and the events that had taken place such as Donor Dinner, Rise Against Hunger meal packaging, Gigi's Playhouse, and redoing dug-outs at the Girl's Club. Also discussed Mental Health Awareness week and the events planned. Teams will wear green warm-up shirts with "More Than A ___" on the back as well as hand out wristbands and green ribbons to support student-athletes' mental health. Also will paint the Free Expression Tunnel with a design from a member of the Wrestling team. SAAC voted on legislation proposals at their last meeting. Opposed eliminating the annual limit of 25 prospects that can sign National Letter of Intent and also opposed the change in timing of transfer windows.
8. Sub-Committee Updates.
 - Faculty Academic Committee - Assignments for committee members will go out on Monday. No update from Laura Bottomley.
 - Student-Athlete Health and Wellness - Assignments for committee members will go out on Monday. No update from Keith Edmisten.
 - Legislative - Assignments for committee members will go out on Monday. No update from Kanton Reynolds.
9. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:48pm.