

NC State Council on Athletics
Friday, October 27, 2023 – Carmichael 2150
12:00 pm

Attendees:

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
Tara Mullins - Faculty, Performing Arts and Technology
Jason Osborne - Faculty, Statistics
Wendy Crumpler - SAAR, Student Aid Association
Buzzy Correll - NC State Student Aid Association (Wolfpack Club)
Boo Corrigan - Athletic Director, Athletics - Ex-Officio
Shawn Troxler - General Counsel - Ex-Officio
Jaiden Thomas - Student-Athlete, SAAC
Megan Aljian - Student Senate Representative
Catherine Carter - Student Government Representative
David Elrod - Associate Vice Provost, OIED (*attending for Sheri Schwab*)

Guest Attendees:

Michelle Lee, Stephanie Menio, Todd Stansbury, Colin Hargis, Carrie Doyle, John Portland, Paige Timberlake, Simon Earnshaw (Guest Head Coach), Mary O'Neill (Guest Student-Athlete)

Online Attendee:

Joel Pawlak, Cathy Crossland, Grant Johnston, Katie Graham, Raymond Harrison

Unable to Attend:

Sheri Schwab, Kimberly Bush, Ralston Turner, Laura Bottomley, Keith Edmisten, Christopher Roland

1. Welcome. Kanton Reynolds welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.
2. Previous Minutes. The minutes of the September 29 meeting were reviewed.

It was MOVED to:

“Approve the minutes of the September 29, 2023 Council on Athletics meeting”
(*APPROVED - Unanimously*)

3. Guest Head Coach. Simon Earnshaw is the Head Coach of the Women's Tennis team. Had the best performance in NC State Women's Tennis history with a runner-up finish in the 2023 NCAA Championship. Talked about the good momentum going into last year with a lot of experienced returners. Went through a tough process to gain eligibility for freshman Diana Shnaider. Was the first active college player to be in the Top 100 since the 1980s and a huge addition to last year's

roster. Team rose to #3 in the country and played 4 of the top 6 teams within a 10-day period during the regular season. Went into the post-season and won the ACC Championship versus UNC in under 2 hours. Made it to the NCAA Championship match and faced UNC again, but lost and finished 2nd. Said he was looking forward to the 2024 season. Diana turned professional and is #60 in the world. Alana Smith also turned professional and is playing just below the top tier of professional tour. Looking forward to seeing the freshman #7 recruit in the country as well as our new transfer on the court. Had three of the Top 10 recruits on campus and confident the team can win a NCAA Championship with them on the roster. Talked about the team's work with the Abilities Tennis Association of North Carolina where they have 100 athletes with intellectual disabilities come and participate in a collegiate-level clinic.. Team also works with Tennis For Life which is a group of breast cancer survivors who bond over tennis. Allows them to see a different side of the sport. Was asked about the transfer portal and said it was helpful during COVID because they couldn't recruit and got 3 transfers. Hard to utilize because there are only 30 days in May to recruit transfers and that is right in the middle of post-season play.

4. Guest Student-Athlete. Mary O'Neill is a diver on the Women's Swimming and Diving team from Cleveland, Ohio. Also a Caterpillar Top Scholar-Athlete majoring in Animal Science. Looked for schools with a platform diving program as well as an Animal Science major and NC State had both. Came to NC State during COVID so didn't get a lot of volunteer opportunities at the beginning. Joined Pack United because she missed the volunteer work and is now the Treasurer. Also have built Habitat for Humanity houses with the Diving team. Had a bumpy road as a student-athlete with losing the diving coach her freshman year and getting a concussion during her sophomore year. Loves the team and the culture they have built because they are always together. Men's and Women's teams are also close at NC State and that isn't the case at other schools. Looks at her time at NC State as a personal journey rather than an athletic journey. Dad got cancer and passed away this past summer and she had 40 women supporting her. Said this is more important than the sport itself. Applied to Vet School and hopes to go into Equine Medicine after she graduates from NC State. Was asked if the Swimming and Diving teams travel separately and said it depends on the type of meet they are going to. ACC and NCAA meets are dual-meets so they travel together for those.
5. Athletic Department Update. Boo Corrigan, NC State Athletic Director, provided the update. Announced the Women's Cross Country team won their 8th ACC Championship in a row and Katelyn Tuohy won Individual Championship. Mentioned Laurie Henes is doing great in her new role of Director of Track and Field / Cross Country. Spoke about how Isaac Trumble, a wrestler, won the gold medal at the U23 World Championship. Also had 3 swimmers win gold medals in the Pan American games in Chile. Encouraged everyone to go and see our student-athletes in their natural environment when they are competing. Department is focused on making NC State people's second favorite team since Raleigh is growing. Also want to create a great environment and showcase our student-athletes. Also want to make NC State a great experience for our student-athletes by hiring the right people and establishing a good attitude, culture and resources around them. Football sold every ticket we could sell before the season started. TV advertising budget was \$0 this year. Thanked the Council for being a part of this and for coming to support our student-athletes and staff.

6. SAAC Updates. Update provided by Jaiden Thomas. SAAC kept the same committees this year. Campus Engagement is having a Civic Engagement Day at the Boys and Girls Club on November 7th. Also donating Thanksgiving meals to the Salvation Army. Mental Health and Wellbeing highlighted teams during Mental Health Week and had a lot of engagement on social media. Planning to keep the topic for Winter and Spring sports of “More Than A _____”. Professional Development is hosting a resume and LinkedIn building workshop as well as career fairs. Hosting a talk about professional careers and different paths within STEM.
7. Sub-Committee Updates.
 - Faculty Academic Committee - No updates as Laura Bottomley could not attend the meeting.
 - Student-Athlete Health and Wellness - No updates as Keith Edmisten could not attend the meeting.
 - Legislative - No updates from Kanton Reynolds.
8. Recent Athletics’ Facilities Updates. John Portland, Senior Associate AD of Operations / Capital Projects, gave a review of the latest athletic facility improvements. Went over new upgrades to the Carter-Finley scoreboard, Weisiger-Brown Nutrition Station, Murphy Center Weight Room, Women’s Basketball Locker Room, Men’s Basketball Player Lounge, Lonnie Poole Short Game Facility, and the future plans for the baseball locker room and stadium upgrades. Was asked where the money for projects comes from and described that the Wolfpack Club has an initiative called the ‘ImPack Program’ that is used to maximize the student-athlete experience. Was also asked if our projects focus on sustainability and when possible, we do. The appendix includes more specific details on the Athletics Facility Improvements.
9. Adjournment. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:07pm.