

Athletic Council
McFadden Conference Room
Wednesday, May 1, 2019
Noon

Attendance: Bill Baldwin, Janie Hodge, Brenda Burke, Matt Diamond, Nolan Lennon, Bert McCarty, Jack Wolf, Jae Espey, Jasmine Townsend, Kyle Cutler, Abel Bartley, Sheri Webster, Sarah Cooper, Brad Woody, Leslie Moreland, Steve Duzan, Elliott Charles, Julia Meredith, Dan Radakovich, Stephanie Ellison-Johnson, Georges Fadel, and Michaela Franklin

April minutes approved.

I. Michaela Franklin; Head Coach Volleyball

Michaela Franklin presented to the group on the growth of the program since arriving to Clemson 2 years ago. She discussed that creating the culture of the program was key and using a pyramid of “Championship Behavior” – being the best person you can be, best teammate you can be, best student you can be, and lastly, the best volleyball player you can be. Franklin discussed many methods she uses to help reinforce the culture such as boxes for encouraging messages and summer reading. Emphasized that at first really were after talent, but now able to recruit talented athletes that also fit into the culture. Huge upswing from 7 wins in first season to 19 in second season. Very young team and now the upperclassmen understand the culture and she is not the only one who understands the culture. Franklin tries to have coffee with at least one time a semester to be sure she gets to know them more as people as opposed to just volleyball players.

II. Policies and Procedures: Vote for Secretary

Jasmine Townsend volunteered to be the Secretary for the Athletic Council for the upcoming year.

III. Nieri Academic Center Update – Steve Duzan

Thanked all departments as they had a 67% return rate on their faculty feedback requests for student-athlete progress reports. Final exams this week and preparing for future terms. Will begin working with current students to get ready for summer courses as well as preparing for new students who will arrive for the summer 1 session.

IV. Year end Compliance Report – Elliott Charles

Charles provided the group with summary report. Discussed the re-org in the department with one representative now handling all aspects of football and also the addition of a new position for the Compliance Office. Reported great interaction with many departments on campus this year for rules education. Monitoring efforts increased with the Tiger Select Elite Student-Athlete Monitoring Program focused on one-on-one interaction with student-athletes that were highly recruited or have potential professional sport opportunities. NCAA is in the second year of the time demand policies and tracking involved and discussed the difficulty associated, but emphasized the support and buy-in of sport supervisors and ensuring the student-athletes are educated on the policies makes it work.

V. FAR report - Janie Hodge

ACC meeting upcoming which will include conversations on topics such as sports wagering. Involved with a LEAN process for the admission of student athletes and this will continue with several other events, including eligibility certifications. AAOC has continued to meet and will have an end of the year report to present to the Provost. Continued work to update the Policies and Procedures Manual.

VI. SAAC report (and Project Life) – Nolan Lennon

Updated the group on the huge success of Project Life. Announced that the legislative aspect of SAAC was basically non-existent going into this year but they now have a voice. Lennon discussed the importance of student-athletes being informed on legislation so they know what is right and wrong and can hold coaches, etc. accountable. End of year meeting with Dan, Janie, and Elliott to continue to improve SAAC.

VII. Athletic Department Update – Dan Radakovich, Director of Athletics Budget

Radakovich discussed some of the renovations to the McFadden building. Eric George is at VT collaborating on best practices so will look to present budgeting info in September. APR award numbers released this afternoon for those in the top 10% for given sport. Duzan reported all APR data will come out next week. If rowing makes NCAA tournament all women sports will be in postseason play. Clemson will host the ACC rowing event in a few weeks. Radakovich encouraged group to read the report presented to the Board of Trustees regarding Dabo's contract. This wasn't presented in the usual fashion as they wanted all to understand how they got to the numbers, including the media. Softball stadium should look more like a stadium by August and the soccer building will begin after next football season. The IPTAY building will be ready for upcoming season. Ellison-Johnson discussed the tennis facility and the opportunity for faculty, students, and the public. 32 slots will be available for those interested in a tennis club and should be out to the public by the end of the month. The facility will be utilized for classes and club program, but no free play for others.

VIII. Committee Reports:

a. Academic Policies and Integrity

Webster presented end of year report that will be placed on the website. Charles had the group review the Compliance Report as he wanted to get feedback from faculty. One of the other items that was addressed was regarding academic integrity issues and compliance being informed of on going cases.

b. Student Athlete Welfare and Experience

Baldwin presented the highlights from the final report for Mike Godfrey who was unable to attend due to exam schedule. Report will be published on the Athletic Council website. Next year we will need additional members. Recommendation for this group to come to a SAAC meeting so they are aware they have another group they can approach if issues arise.

c. Administration and Communication

Wolf presented report to group at the April meeting and it will be published to the Athletic Council website.

Baldwin closed out the meeting by discussing the highlights from the year. The updated website now contains all the minutes and reports from the year and encouraged the members to share the website with departments.

Minutes submitted by Kyle Cutler

Future meeting dates for the Athletic Council:
September 4, 2019