



Athletic Council Minutes

Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 3:30 pm

Attendance: Jasmine Townsend, Brian Booth, Janie Hodge, George Marks, Bill Baldwin, Jack Wolf, Dan Radakovich, Steve Duzan, Michael Godfrey,, Greg Batt, Jae Espey, Mary Anne Raymond, Amanda Gray, Sarah Cooper, Abel Bartley, Stephanie Ellison, Pat Layton, Brenda Burk, Deborah Smith, Kyle Cutler, Brandon Lockhart, Jeff Kallin, Antonis Katsiyan, Matthew Diamond, John Griffin, , Graham Neff, George Smith

Jasmine Townsend, Chair, welcomed everyone. The November minutes were approved.

I. Athletic Council Policies and Procedures Updates: Jasmine provided updates and noted we don't need general council approval on revisions. She'll get revised version to council.

II. Academic Support Services: Fall 2020 Grade Report – Steve Duzan provided highlights - great semester, lots of anxiety; 3.25 overall GPA; all virtual appointments. He thanked faculty for working with student athletes; noted thresholds and trends. Steve's office goes more in-depth than the OIR report; always look at whether cumulative GPA of student athletes in reaching GPA of general student body – getting very close; 20 athletes with less than 2.0 – average but better than in past; annual report – look at GPA by major – put together over the summer.

III. FAR Athletic Academic Oversight Committee: Janie Hodge reported information on graduation success rate (GSR) for all athletes in year vs. federal graduation rate (FGR) which was submitted to IPTAY Board. Clemson outperformed other schools; women's sports typically outperform men/have more stable rates. Many reasons when GSR drops (i.e., students leaving; coaching changes). Congratulations extended to ACC graduate scholarship recipients – Courtney Jones, Melissa Guimbarda; William Nottingham – honorary.

IV. SAAC report: George Marks noted objectives focused on mental health. SAACS' sponsored night with everyone attending in same area; held food drive through rowing to benefit surrounding community; main provider of student service opportunities; reading to children but can't do many other things virtually; engage Olympic sports athletes (primarily track and how to support them). He'll make sure SAAC report is automatically sent to AC.

V. Director of Athletics report: Dan Radakovich discussed the Men's XC and Track & Field situation and provided Clemson Athletics Update.

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COUNCIL

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Decision at hand – Where are we and where should we be? Gender equity; Review Title IX and current financial situation and cost to add women’s sports from gender equity stance.

Male/female – higher on male (56.3% vs. 43.7%); 64 more men than women

Announcement made on November 5th.

- More than 150 personal responses via email and phone calls
- More than 20 personal meetings with more than 175 individuals
- Letter to 170 state senators and representatives

Men’s track and field and cross country – 51 student athletes (25 walk-ons; 26 receive aid - 12.6 total men’s scholarships) (many receiving aid graduating by August 2021); ethnicity still above national average without track.

Questions were addressed with the following key points:

Look at number of participants, then another level of whether supporting equivalently for gender; then ratio; must address portionality first. Relates to number of females (gender admissions) to Clemson. If out of compliance with Title IX, it could jeopardize federal dollars received.

Email and fundraising campaign – Pledges, not real cash; takes years to get significant funding. IPTAY – checked track and field alums – 87 members of block seat organization; not a lot given considering how many went through program over years.

Scholarships won’t go to other sports. Help in other perspectives for student athletes i.e., nutrition, conditioning.

Compared to other ACC schools, we’ll be at NCAA minimum of 16. May have to add another women’s sport (different options mentioned). Mix of public/private schools in ACC; UVA - 27 sports, but has \$16 million from students to fund athletic program – recurring stream of revenue.

How do we tell people? Letter sent (170) satisfied 150. It’s those others that have to understand information. Can’t let this issue affect what Clemson does. Be able to tell General Assembly.

Give similar presentation to Faculty Senate, if asked.

VI. Next meeting: April 7, 2020 @ 3:30 pm <https://clemson.zoom.us/j/95435870519>