



Meeting Minutes
APPROVED JANUARY 2024
Wednesday, November 15, 2023
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Nieri 254 (Assembly Room)

Presiding: Jasmine Townsend, Chair, jtowns@clemsun.edu

Attendance: Mary Anne Raymond (COB, Vice Chair); Paul Russell (CAAH); Leslie Moreland (Athletic Academic Services); Chris Fioocchi (Student Affairs); Kyle Cutler (Registrar's Office); Matt Lombardi (Athletic Academic Services); Stephen Kaeppler (COS); Shelby Carroll (Libraries); Stephanie Ellison-Johnson (Athletics); Graham Neff (Athletics); Steve Duzan (Athletics); Matt Morfogen (Student Government); Andrew Tyminski (COE); Greg Batt (CAFLS); Charles Santerre (CAFLS); Julia Walsh (SAAC); Vivian Knighten (Graduate Student Government); Logan Hartnell (Student-Athlete Wellness)

- I. Minutes from September 2023 approved.
- II. AAOC/AARC update: Jasmine Townsend updated information from Antonis on AARC (applications of potential student athletes) and AAOC (systematic review).
- III. Student Athlete Wellness and Experience: Natalie Honnen, Senior Associate AD-Student Athlete Services and Performance – Oversees sports medicine; nutrition, mental health, performance and wellness services, student-athlete development etc. – makes sure units are working together; messaging support (beginning of year meeting; communications – staff on hand, monthly reminders, anonymous reports; reporting resources (see handout) – internal athletics resources, university resources, external resource – protection for all (3 times a year)
 - a. Review of Support Services (see above)
 - b. Measuring Student Athlete Experience – expectation that head coaches and administration, i.e., sport supervisors are intentional in collecting feedback on the student experience.
 - Methods for Feedback (annual student-athlete surveys, exit interviews, presence at program activities (competition, travel, practice); support staff feedback on sport programs)



- c. Real Response – Online, 3rd party platform; used for student surveys and feedback (all anonymous) – used since 2016; access to surveys – Steve Duzan (Response Management); Natalie Honnen; sport supervisors; have ability to assign additional individuals to reports, i.e. academics, confidential; surveys (overall wellness – teammates, coaches, support units; 60% response, 3,672 comments; anonymous , but able to review survey by individual; administrators have ability to communicate directly with student-athlete and remain anonymous; look for trends, identify red flags – Title IX, conduct, inappropriate behavior; try to connect with individual in person. Spring – difficult to get responses, even with reminders; athletes can communicate any time (24/7); reply within 24 hours; number to text is provided. Previously all messages were “urgent.”
- Example - Scenario 1: Teammate (named in report) has troubling behavior associated with mental health or eating disorder.
Actions: Thank respondent. Provide contact information regarding support staff that can assist. Bring appropriate staff into loop. Encourage reporter to support the individual and note concerns they see. Support staff reaches out.
 - Example - Scenario 2: Concerns about team dynamics, coaching staff are in report. Encourage to address with coaching staff; meet with individual. All actions or conversations taken are documented within each report. Tool doesn’t replace need for direct interaction. No disciplinary action can be taken off an anonymous report.
Questions: Hardest part is context. Work on things together. Surveys to head coaches, support staff and student athlete at end of season. Track and provide comparisons with other institutions that have that sport. What are pinch points? What changes would they like? How do we get students to come talk with support staff? Get to know administrators as real people! Approachable! Create mechanisms to catch things early (connect student athletes immediately).
Two (2) triggers: Return from injury (when something happens to person); why not playing? Always fine tuning! Being able to redirect to resources, knowing people would be helpful! Hard part – what are touchpoints? Coming in to discuss issues is best. Administrators provide summary at end of year to FAR. Antonis attends sporting events. Athletes talk more if feel comfortable with you.
- IV. Student Athlete Mental Health Support: Logan Hartnell, Director of Student Athlete Wellness; Clinical Psychologist; his team (website with all Performance and Wellness Services (P.A.W.S.). Why need Psychologist in Athletics when we have CAPS? Does it have impact on daily functioning? Makes a difference in how athletes show up and perform; forward-facing – individual part of it. How do we destigmatize mental illness? Confidential; then get out and talk to people (nutritionist); show up in their



- spaces; performance affects other aspects; (wear tennis shoes to get athletes to talk with them). Previously had clinician. Other schools are now posting positions for sports psychologists. Previously had 3rd person who reported to CAPS but was all for athletes. Hiring another person for recovery – inter-sport! Adding 3rd psychology July 2024. Most students are in low risk; get them early.
- V. Athletic Director report: Graham Neff – Updates: Fall sports wrapping up/championships; new sports/gymnastics starting; women’s soccer Saturday, host on Sunday; men’s soccer – won ACC; host 2nd round; if win Saturday (Gator Bowl - Jacksonville or San Diego); if lose – all different; Gladys Chepngetich (cross country, named freshman female athlete of year); volleyball – a lot of protectory. Facility Update: – Start construction of Performance and Wellness Center after last football game (Watt family named center – double cornerstone gift); renovation for Jerve; NIL announced collectives in community – the 110 Society will be launched (is actually rebranded) – conjoined with IPTAY – can help fundraise; activated for money to go to new collective which will do sponsorships/deals for NIL – funnel money to student athletes; that’s rules of games – donors can designate where funds go, IPTAY cannot. Conference landscape was also discussed.
- VI. SAAC report: Julia Walsh (rowing team); President/Senior on rowing team; announced other officers; shout out to Natalie and Logan; working on ticket distribution; connecting with student government (undergrad) and IPTAY student board since intertwined with SAAC and what they do; discussed construction; meet quarterly; exec board meets every week or every other week (7:15 T or TH)
- VII. Other Business: - Everyone has signed up for committees. Given needs, everyone will be on Welfare Committee. Figure out and have it ready to go next year.
- VIII. Adjourned at 4:58
- IX. Future Athletic Council meeting date: April 17, 2024