



Wednesday, April 8, 2026

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Nieri 254 (Assembly Room)

Presiding: Mary Anne Raymond, Chair, mar@clermson.edu

Present: Leslie Moreland (Athletics), Natalie Honnen (Athletics), Jill Shelnut (COE), Rose Imbesi (SAAC representative), Rosie Hanna (Student Body President), Angel Feliz (Undergraduate Senate President), Brian Booth (CECAS), Rikishi Rey (CBSHS), David Scott (COE), Kyle Cutler (Enrollment Management), Kathryn Kisska-Schultze (COB), Antonis Katsiyannis (Faculty Athletics Representative), Karen Burton (Libraries, Vice-Chair).

AGENDA:

- I. Welcome and Approval of January 2026 minutes
 - a. Minutes were approved
- II. Athletic Department updates – Graham Neff
 - a. 2 teams won an ACC (women's indoor track & field, and gymnastics), and multiple coaches and administrators won awards this year.
 - b. Portal season for gymnastics and basketball has begun
 - c. Graham discussed the complicated landscape of college athletics and the potential effects of Executive Orders on the practicalities of running an athletics program
 - Constant changes, little concrete guidance.
 - Eligibility rules may be changing, introduces a lot of uncertainty.
 - Includes new transfer portal guidelines: student athletes can transfer 1 time without question and play immediately, after that they must sit out from playing for a year.
 - d. Revenue generation
 - Jersey patches now de-regulated, could bring in millions.
 - Logos on the field also de-regulated, could bring in millions.
 - Graham discussed the inherent difficulties of balancing the need to commercialize and monetize while still keeping the traditions of college athletics in general and Clemson athletics specifically.
- III. Academic Support Services update – Leslie Moreland
 - a. Finalizing summer/fall registration this week
 - b. 113 student athletes scheduled to graduate in May or August

- c. Around 80 new student athletes are arriving to start in summer 2 session.
- IV. SAAC report - Rose Imbessi
- a. Successful events this year included a student athlete formal, tailgates before women's lacrosse and softball, as well as service opportunities.
 - b. Rose and Jake are graduating, so there will be new SAAC representatives next academic year.
- V. Faculty Athletics Representative update - Antonis Katsiyannis
- a. Graduation success rate (GSR) for 2015-2018 cohorts 96%, 2nd best among public institutions.
 - b. 10 sports with 100% GSR in 2023, 9 in both 2024 and 2025
 - c. Volleyball had 21 consecutive cohorts with a GSR of 100%
 - d. Football recorded a 98% GSR, or better in the last 3 cohorts. Only Clemson and Harvard have done that.
 - e. All teams earned a semester GPA of 3.0 or higher, student athletes had a fall 2025 semester GPA of 3.33
- VI. Other Business
- a. New members (fall); Members whose terms are ending.
 - The current Chair has received new member names from some colleges and is in the process of updating the membership roster.
 - b. Elections for Chair and Vice Chair
 - Karen Burton agreed to serve as Vice Chair, and no other candidates put forth their name.
 - Kathryn Kisska-Schultze indicated her willingness to serve as Chair, but since she is currently the alternate for COB this may not be possible. She and the current Chair will investigate avenues for how this could happen.
- VII. Next Athletic Council meeting date: TBD in September.