

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting

Director's Conference Room - Casanova Center

October 2, 2002

Committee Members and Guests Present: Renee Baumgartner, Laura Fair, Marian Friestad, Susan Gary, Gary Gray, Dave Heeke, Jim Hutchison, Jenny Kenyon, Tom Larson, Bill Moos, Jim O'Fallon, Jim Schombert, Brad Shelton, Dan Williams, and Debbie Nankivell.

Update from Dan Williams

Dan Williams, vice president for administration, thanked the members of the committee for their service. Dan informed the group about the creation of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee and its evolution into its current form. In the mid-1990's, the State Board of Higher Education allocated funds to each of its institutions requiring that all athletic department budgets be balanced.

The IAC's primary responsibility is to provide the athletic director with well informed advice on policy issues. The committee serves as a bridge between the university as a whole and the department, helping to ensure that the department is in harmony with the university's mission. The university administration feels that the department is an asset to the institution and is pleased that good leadership has resulted in the reduction of university funding of the program.

Brad Shelton, committee chair, meets with Dave Heeke, the committee liaison from athletics, on a weekly basis. Jim O'Fallon, the faculty athletic representative, serves as the president's representative regarding Pac-10, NCAA, and compliance issues.

Athletic Department Update

One reason for the expansion of Autzen Stadium was to reduce the need for university funding. Due to good fiscal management and the continuing success of its programs, the department has become self-sufficient this year, two years ahead of schedule, enabling the university to use those funds for academic needs. The stadium project requires double bond payments this year, so creating a reserve fund will need to wait until next year. Oregon will be one of only 30 self-sufficient programs in the nation.

\$ The NCAA Athletic Directors' Association recently presented the department with the prestigious Program of Excellence award for its SOAR program. This program provides opportunities for student-athletes to be involved in service activities within the community.

\$ Four of its programs (football, men's basketball, women's basketball, and men's cross country) are currently ranked in the top 25 nationally.

\$ The recently announced graduation rates for Oregon's student-athletes are very high.

\$ Exhaustive research has taken place and a decision should be made soon regarding which women's sport will be added to the program. Competition in the new sport is expected to begin in the 2003/04 academic year.

\$ A new arena is on the horizon with preliminary planning underway. It is anticipated that funding for a future arena will be managed in the same way as for the Autzen expansion project.

\$ After successfully completing the NCAA certification process in 1997/98, the university submitted its interim report to the NCAA in late July.

Athletics Task Force

Dave Frohnmayer formed a task force last year to research and advise the university on athletics issues. The group is looking at athletics issues on a national level and determining where the university fits in this picture. Some members of the IAC are also members of the Task Force.

NCAA Graduation Rates

The most recent NCAA graduation rate report and an article about the data were distributed. The rates are based on student-athletes entering the university during the 1995/96 academic year. The rates for this group are very high, significantly higher than the university's general student body during this period.

Compliance Update

The investigation continues regarding a couple of student-athletes who exchanged game tickets for rent reductions. The issue will be taken to the conference compliance and enforcement committee, then forwarded to the NCAA. The entire process for resolving this situation could take a year or more.

Perception of Athletics on Campus

The negative perception of athletics among some staff on campus persists. Discussed whether this perception can ever change among some people. The most helpful way to avoid this negativity may be for department staff to interact more frequently with faculty and staff on campus.

Next IAC Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6th in the Johnson Hall Conference Room.

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