

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting
Director's Conference Room - Casanova Center
November 15, 2006

Committee Members and Guests Present: Roland Ford, Joanna Gail, Dan Graham, Gary Gray, Julie Haack, Jim Isenberg, Tom Larson, Michael Moffitt, Bill Moos, Jim O'Fallon, Ed Singer, Nathan Tublitz, Paul van Donkelaar, Whitney Wagoner, Anita Weiss and Debbie Nankivell.

Graduation Rates Report

Distributed copies of the NCAA's data on Oregon's graduation rates for the class of student-athletes who entered the UO in 1999. This is the first year that the grad rate for student-athletes is lower than that of the general student body. The group represented in this report was comprised of 55 student-athletes. Gary Gray clarified the status of the 55 student-athletes, breaking the numbers down for those who graduated (26), those who did not graduate and still had eligibility (25), and those who did not graduate and had no eligibility remaining (4).

In comparing the data on the NCAA's website, Oregon's grad rates are not only in the bottom of the Pac-10, but also below the institutions considered to be the university's academic peers. The grad rates for the entire UO student body are also below those of the university's comparator institutions.

Discussed what could be done to improve the student-athlete grad rates. The university's support staff do a commendable job of working with student-athletes needing assistance. The department's coaches are also very aware that new NCAA regulations will penalize programs with student-athletes who are not successful academically.

The group agreed that it would be useful to gather some specific data regarding special admits and student-athletes who were considered to be at risk when they were admitted. Nathan Tublitz, Anita Weiss, Ed Singer, and Gary Gray will work together to decide what data should be collected. The group will share the data with the entire committee to brainstorm options for improving the academic performance of under-achieving student-athletes.

Football Game Scheduling

Bill reported that the Pac-10's most recent contract with ABC/ESPN to broadcast football games includes the possibility of playing games on Thursdays. The contract is very lucrative for the Pac-10 member institutions, however, no guarantee for a specific number of Thursday games is included in the contract. Oregon does have the opportunity to play a Thursday game in 2007 at Arizona. The game would come between bye weeks, moving the 2007 Civil War to the Saturday prior to finals week. The committee felt comfortable making an exception for this game should Bill choose to move the game.

Next IAC Meeting

The next IAC meeting has been scheduled for 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13, 2006 in the Johnson Hall Conference Room.

dln