

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Retreat

Stadium Club - Autzen Stadium

September 29, 2004

Committee Members and Guests Present: Renee Baumgartner, Bob Beals, Suzanne Clark, Gary Gray, Dave Heeke, Jim Isenberg, Tom Larson, Mike Marlow, Steve McBride, Michael Moffitt, Bill Moos, Rick Mowday, Karen Nelson, Jim O'Fallon, George Rowe, Jim Schombert, Kim Sheehan, Steve Stolp, Nathan Tublitz, and Debbie Nankivell.

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Overview

Bill Moos welcomed committee members and guests to the retreat which was designed to give IAC members a basic understanding of the structure and operation of the department. Bill stressed that the department is a part of the university even though separated physically from campus. Overall, the department has grown significantly in the past few years without being a financial burden to the university.

The success of Oregon Athletics has been accomplished by hiring and retaining good staff, developing effective fund-raising strategies, and improving facilities. The status of the arena project will be discussed in detail at an upcoming meeting.

Fall sport competitions are now underway and the new lacrosse program has begun practicing.

Gender Equity Overview

Renee Baumgartner informed the committee about the importance of gender equity in athletics and Title IX requirements. To comply with Title IX, one part of the three-part test to provide participation opportunities for individuals of both genders must be met. Oregon complies by meeting the second part of the test - demonstrating a history and continuing practice of program expansion which is demonstrably responsive to the developing interests and abilities of the under-represented members of one gender. Women's golf was added in 1986, women's soccer in 1995, and women's lacrosse in 2003.

Support Services for Student-Athletes Overview

Steve Stolp reported on the academic services provided by his unit which is located in Esslinger Hall next to Mac Court. Lorraine Davis oversees this area which is designed to enhance the academic lives of the student-athletes. Members of Steve's staff, comprised of academic advisors, tutors, and learning specialists, are responsible for tracking NCAA requirements as well as monitoring and reporting on progress achieved by student-athletes. They coordinate with faculty members and work closely with athletics staff, headed by Gary Gray, to ensure that the student-athletes' academic needs are met. New NCAA rules will require additional monitoring by Steve's staff.

Karen Nelson informed the group about the student services area she oversees in the department. Karen's unit directs the department's Life Skills program called SOAR. All incoming freshman student-athletes are required to take an EDLD class designed to address issues that will affect them during their UO tenure. Representatives from each sport take part in the Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) which meets twice a month. The SAAC manages many of the events the student-

athletes take part in such as community service events, toy drives, opening ceremony, quack-in-action, and career receptions. Karen has also served as the department's representative on a number of campus committees. The IAC felt it was important that additional efforts be made to publicize the involvement of student-athletes in community service projects to faculty and boosters.

Operations & Events Overview

Steve McBride and Bob Beals reported on the department's operations and events unit. This group works behind the scenes to support the department's coaches and customers. An additional focus of this unit is with new and ongoing facility projects. Athletics has its own maintenance staff assigned to manage the department's many facilities and properties. Department staff work with a number of groups such as EPD, EMS, DPS, and CMS to provide needed security for the large volume of events held in athletic facilities.

Fund-Raising Overview

Mike Marlow updated the committee on the department's fund-raising activities. All units of the department assist in the fund-raising efforts of the Duck Athletic Fund. In addition, approximately 100 volunteers throughout the state, west coast and across the country assist during the annual fund drive. The DAF has three offices - in the Cas Center in Eugene, in Portland, and in Medford. The mission of the DAF is to fund the costs associated with student-athlete scholarships. Data shows that DAF donors also tend to contribute to other areas of the university. Although success in competitions helps with fund-raising efforts, the UO's environment and special events help to maintain stability in donor contribution levels.

Athletic Department Budget Overview

Tom Larson reported on the department's budget process and its current status. The department's budget committee is charged with reviewing all budget requests and determining priorities based on need and anticipated revenue. The current budget is over \$37 million with no reserves. Efforts have been made to reallocate funds from the department's administrative areas to create a reserve for unanticipated expenses. A number of handouts were included in the retreat notebook providing more detailed information about department expenses and revenue sources.

Compliance Overview

Jim O'Fallon explained the responsibilities of the Faculty Athletic Representative, a position he has held for 15 years. The NCAA rules and compliance issues have exploded in the past few years, making his job as well as those who monitor compliance issues on a daily basis, much more time consuming and complex. Jim also has served on a number of Pac-10 and NCAA committees, ensuring that faculty members have a voice on issues involving athletics.

Gary Gray oversees the compliance area of the department. His staff has grown through the years to monitor all Pac-10 and NCAA rules and regulations, including recruiting, eligibility, financial aid, benefits, playing and practice times. Compliance staff members are involved in teaching and providing interpretations of the rules, as well as investigating possible violations. All violations are reported to the Pac-10, then the NCAA. An upcoming meeting will be devoted to informing IAC members about recent changes in the NCAA's recruiting rules.

Athletics Task Force Overview

Suzanne Clark reported on the charge and findings of the Athletics Task Force which just completed its three year run. The group looked at the relationship between academics and athletics, taking testimony and meeting in small group sessions. A number of recommendations were proposed by the task force, with the IAC to take the lead in implementing the proposals. The university senate also needs to approve the recommendations.

Next IAC Meeting

The next IAC meeting has been scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 6, 2004, in the Johnson Hall Conference Room. Preliminary agenda items include an update on the arena project from Dan Williams.

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