

Meeting Minutes
University Athletics Council
Thursday, February 2, 2012
12:00pm University Suite

PRESENT: Linda Bennett, Karen Bonnell, Steve Bridges, Brody Broshears, Kevin Celuch, Katie Ehlman, Scott Gordon, Jon Mark Hall, Mary Jo Harper, Sandy Hatfield, Marco Lara Gracia, Jay Newton, Eric Otto, Kim Reddington, Linda Tribble, Brad Wannemuehler

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Karen Bonnell calls the meeting to order at 12:00pm and invites Council members to partake in the lunch provided by Dr. Bennett. Dr. Linda Bennett thanks Dr. Karen Bonnell for replacing Dr. Nadine Coudret as the new Chair of this University Athletics Council. Dr. Bennett expresses how important she thinks this Council is and thanks the entire Council for its work. She extends her continued support. Dr. Bennett reminds that the Blueprint Report points out that the creation of this Council is a sign of best practices. Dr. Bennett adds that she sees so much potential in the gathering of this group and bringing the different minds to the table for looking ahead to develop athletics and muster more support to our student athletes both in terms of their academic work, and also in terms of scholarship support. Dr. Bennett wishes to continue with the forward momentum. Dr. Bennett thinks the advising initiative being implemented across campus, which came out of the strategic planning process, can be a big help to our student athletes. Dr. Bennett again thanks the Council for putting in the time for this important project.

NOVEMBER 29, 2011 MINUTES

Minutes and Agenda posted on website and Committee reports on UAC Blackboard site. Dr. Bonnell asks for any requests for additions/changes to minutes and receives none. Motion to approve minutes is made by Dr. Scott Gordon, Steve Bridges seconds the motion. Minutes are approved.

Dr. Bonnell distributes the updated UAC membership roster and the subcommittee membership handouts and asks Council members to check service terms, spelling, etc. and asks for any corrections. Due to subcommittee roster changes, and to ensure that it doesn't look like Athletics is leading so that it is clear that leadership is coming from somewhere outside of Athletics; Dr. Bonnell announces new Chair to Governance and Compliance subcommittee. Dr. Scott Gordon will chair this subcommittee.

Dr. Bonnell asks for discussion regarding changes to UAC by-laws to reflect the University's change from five Colleges to four, pointing out that this could cause the Council to lose one faculty members' input. Dr. Bennett points out the possibility of having an additional at-large member or simply changing the by-laws now to reflect the reality of one fewer College with possibility reexamining issue later. Motion is made by Dr. Kevin Celuch to change UAC by-laws to 15 members and four Colleges and seconded by Dr. Scott Gordon. Motion is passed.

Data Dashboard project – Dr. Bonnell discusses moving into high gear and sets a deadline of April 15, 2012; synthesizing the work the Committees have done and then presenting the information to the

public. The Data Dashboard is meant to give us a very quick overview for public consumption about athletics at USI covering not only our achievements on the court but also in the classroom. Adhering to this April deadline would allow presentation of the Data Dashboard to both the Faculty Senate and the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Bonnell asks Council for any foreseen challenges in meeting this April 15 deadline. Mr. Steve Bridges asks if dashboard is meant to be representative of each Committee or of the University Athletics Council? Dr. Bonnell explains we are looking for a Dashboard for this year, out of work that Council has compiled, that includes submissions from each of the subcommittees. She adds that most subcommittees have submitted some items. Mr. Bridges gives his thoughts regarding work he has done pertaining to what the Dashboard would look like leading to these four items: graduation rate, grade point average, wins and compliance issues. Dr. Bennett reminds of report distributed about different schools in our conference. Mr. Jon Mark Hall describes recent work and meetings with Mr. Jay Newton and Mr. Joe Wingo covering all the information Mr. Brody Broshears had submitted, regarding all the academic information, gpa, classifications, probationary status, etc, also comparing conference information. Mr. Bridges discusses other metrics used to measure and expresses it would easy to get caught up in so much data. He thinks perhaps it would be best to start with basics of how an athletic department should be measured using the four points listed above. Kevin Celich suggests perhaps having each subcommittee select a couple of their top findings to be submitted for Dashboard use with perhaps links to enable viewers to see more information. Dr. Bonnell likes and agrees that it would be the work of the sub committees to recommend four or five things to be part of the Dashboard. She states that Dashboard should encapsulate some of the most important things that people want to know about our Athletics programs.

In order to make this happen, Dr. Bonnell thinks that rather than trying to come together as Council as whole it might be more helpful meet as sub committees. Dr. Bonnell decides to meet with Council as a whole in March and at that time the subcommittees would be able to say what information (data) they want to put in the Dashboard. Then at Council's April, 2012 meeting Data Dashboard information can be finalized.

ATHLETICS DIRECTORS REPORT

Athletic Director Jon Mark Hall plans to send an athletic directors' report to the Council electronically a few days the meetings. Mr. Hall distributes this months' report to Council members. Briefly, Mr. Hall describes some new NCAA legislation that passed regarding coaches contact (texting, phone calls) with prospective student athletes and explains that this will eliminate some painstaking procedures that the Athletics Dept. has had to worry about in the past. Other new legislation includes sickle cell testing. See attached report.

FACULTY ATHLETIC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS AND INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

Mr. Brody Broshears reports that athletic absence reports have been working effectively. Mr. Broshears describes that due to the academic calendar change, we are seeing more teams now more than ever participating in conference tournament competitions during final exam week. Mr. Broshears is working with coaches and student athletes in communicating that it is imperative to their professors know very

early on of any potential conflicts. Mr. Broshears states that this can be a very stressful time for both the instructors and the student athletes and asks the faculty members present for understanding and explains that USI Athletics cannot control this scheduling.

Mr. Brody Broshears states that the academic piece for the Data Dashboard request has gone to Joe Wingo. At present, gathering data for the 10-11 academic years in terms of putting together some kind of snapshot that would be easily shared with university constituencies and maybe the general public. Mr. Broshears states that he feels that once this initial tool is complete it will be a very easy tool to release.

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Scott Gordon is developing a scheduled time for committee to meet for one hour every other week on Fridays to work on many different items need to be addressed soon. One such item is a series of five or more internal audit reports. There are several issues surrounding Grant In Aid to student athletes that need to be addressed, essentially a lot of it is dealing with a flow between various offices. Dr. Scott Gordon explains that in 2004 he developed an internal compliance review document and in that document, at that time, financial aid had thirty-three separates tasks involving six different offices or individuals and had approval at six different stages. At that time a flow chart was developed for three different areas of financial aid, returning students, new recruits and those student athletes having aid adjustments. Dr. Gordon shows chart of how many steps, signatures, and offices that are involved; hugely complex. Things are getting done, things are good, except for we need to work on efficiencies, timing, flow; a lot of work to be done to address the internal audit compliance report. Consequently, the first thing on the agenda for this committees' meeting a week from Friday will be to review the internal audit report which Dr. Gordon will send to committee members by the end of the week. Dr. Gordon will also send athletic grant-in-aid flow chart for comparison to determine where the processes not going smooth and how to adjust. After this comparison is made, other items on compliance blueprint will be addressed. Dr. Bonnell adds that she has added herself to this committee. Ms. Mary Jo Harper, Director of Financial Aid, adds that she likes this plan and thinks that it will definitely assist Financial Assistance department. Dr. Bennett interjects that in 2013 accreditation process will be begin and that this type of documentation and the work of this Council will be very important.

STUDENT ATHLETIC WELFARE AND EQUITY REPORT

Dr. Katie Ehlman reminds that Mr. Jon Mark Hall asked their committee to review and help compose a pregnancy policy for USI Athletics. Dr. Ehlman reports that the pregnancy policy will be similar to the gender equity policy that was approved by this Council. In addition to that, some pieces of information will be included in the student athletic handbook.

Also, in relation to the gender equity policy, this year will be year one to review four areas related to gender equity. Those are the coaches, athletic scholarships, tutors and scheduling for games and practices.

FACILITY PLANNING AND FISCAL INTEGRITY

Mr. Steve Bridges reports work on the risk assessment for fiscal integrity. Mr. Bridges has been reaching out to auditors to get that scheduled. Mr. Bridges reminds that on Blackboard is the 2010 Division II Financial Report. This financial report contains a lot of data and also crosses over to compliance and equity a bit, and can be found in September, 2011 entry. Mr. Bridges reminds that copyright rules prohibit republication of this report.

Mr. Jon Mark Hall states that he would like to meet with Mr. Bridges about a session that he and Mr. Broshears attended at the NCAA Convention. The session was on the new NCAA financial dashboard. Computers were brought in and most were presently surprised with the information they could access and the comparisons that could be made. After sitting through this session, a lot of good information can be obtained. Mr. Hall thinks this information may be very helpful for the larger dashboard.

Dr. Bonnell asks for any new business, none mentioned. Dr. Bonnell schedules next meeting for 12:00 noon on Tuesday, March 15. She asks that sub committees meet for a few minutes today and plan their next subcommittee meetings. Dr. Bonnell asks for motion to adjourn general meeting. Ms. Linda Tribble makes that motion and Mr. Brody Broshears seconds. Meeting is adjourned.

Attachment: UAC Director of Athletics Report 2/1/2012