

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
UNIVERSITY SENATE COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2013

I. Call to Order

George Pierce called to order the meeting of the University Senate Committee on Athletics at 11:45 a.m. in Room 235, University Center.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was presented to approve the minutes from 2-27-13 and was seconded. All were in favor and minutes were approved.

Attendees-

Jamie Boggs, Fred Brooks, Richard Fendler, Dena Freeman-Patton, MaryAnne Gaunt, Peggy Gallagher, Kerry Heyward, Cheryl Levick, Mike Metzler, Erik Paz, George Pierce, John Portland, Rebecca Stout, Andy Sumner

III. Standing Reports

A. Athletic Director's Report

- i. Sports Update – AD Cheryl Levick first stated that Andy Sumner is retiring as our Faculty Athletic Representative. We will honor him at the upcoming Blue Carpet Awards. George Pierce is the newly appointed FAR by President Becker. Also, Mike Metzler is leaving the committee after serving many years and he was thanked for his service.

The Men's Basketball team could not compete in post tournament play, but a couple of players earned honors nonetheless. RJ Hunter was named CAA Rookie of the Year and James Vincent was named to the CAA All-Defensive Team. Also, the Women's Basketball team only senior, Cody Paulk, finished her year strong by being named to the CAA All-Academic Team, CAA All-Defensive Team and is Georgia State's career leader in blocked shots. The baseball and softball teams have strong records to date and the golf and tennis teams are heading into conference play. The inaugural Sand Volleyball Match was a success with over 900 people in attendance. The football spring game is Saturday, April 20th. Our first home football game will be on Friday night during the first week of school.

The Sun Belt Conference has added two new institutions as members. Georgia Southern and Appalachian State will join next year. The conference goals are to have east/west divisions and have a total membership of 12 institutions. President Becker is actively involved in the committee for these decisions being made.

FY14 will be a financially lean year for the Athletics Department. We are currently in preparations to present a balanced budget to the GSUAA on 5/16. Senior Staff has been diligently meeting to make a 5% budget cut across the department. However, by joining the Sun Belt Conference we will receive a minimum of \$1MM that will go to the operating budget in FY14-15. These monies come from the BCS and that dollar amount is our portion of shared monies by the other member schools of the conference.

Atlanta will have a new arena for the Atlanta Falcons by 2017. Our football team will play in the Georgia Dome for the next three years. We are having ongoing discussions with Dome authorities about us playing in the new arena.

Ticket sales have been going well as we are up 500 season tickets this time last year. We need a sharp uptick in charitable ticket sales for this upcoming year.

After hosting the Final Four, the Mayor and others received positive feedback except for some glitches with MARTA. The city would like to host again and if so, Georgia Start would like to bid to be the host university.

ii. Academics Update

- a. Freshman Learning Communities - Dena Freeman-Patton stated that Georgia State is moving to FLC for a majority of the freshmen (80%). Our goal in Athletics is to integrate our student-athletes into block classes.
- b. Summer School Policy – The policy has been evaluated and solidified. The criteria to attend is need for graduation and if your GPA is below a 3.0. If a student-athlete fails a class, he/she will be required to repay the tuition.

IV. Old Business

A. SACS Accreditation

Jamie Boggs is serving on the Educational Programming Committee which will meet at the end of April and Rebecca Stout is serving on the Student Affairs and Services Committee.

V. New Business

- A. Fall Sports Schedules Approval – All SCA members were given sports schedules for the fall sports to review. This included: Football, Cross Country, Court Volleyball, M/W Soccer. A motion was made to approve and it was seconded. All in attendance were in favor and schedules were approved.
- B. New Collegiate Model for NCAA Rules – Jamie Boggs and Erik Paz presented and explained the new rules passed for coaches and student-athletes through the NCAA. The rules affect amateurism, recruiting, eligibility and extra benefits for student-athletes. A power point is available for reference.
- C. Best Practices: Monitoring On-Line Classes – Dena Freeman-Patton explained that an influx of online classes has increased and as administrators, we want our student-athletes to take advantage of this coursework, but set guidelines as well. An online class policy was proposed and given out for the SCA members to review. It was suggested that we change wording to guideline instead of policy. Also, work with Legal Affairs for specific language throughout.
- D. Transfer Academic Enhancement Plan – The full university senate meets next week. Andy Sumner will mention our new Gender Equity Policy. After the university wide senate meets, we will have a new SCA and it may be smaller in number.

VI. Future Meetings

- A. May 2nd or May 3rd meeting - A brief meeting will need to be held with the new committee members either 5/2 or 5/3.
- B. Fall Dates - For future meetings, it was suggested to avoid the 3rd Thursday of every month so that it won't conflict with the Dean of Student's office and students on the board.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.