

Athletics Council Minutes
October 6, 2009

Members Present

Frances Ayres
Matthew Cloud
Jody Foote
Kelly Damphousse
Penny Hopkins
Taylor Huff
Emily Johnson
Sandy Kinney
Maggie McGowan
Jacob Messina
Larry Regens
Francene Weatherby
Carolyn Winchester

Members Absent

Abimbola Asojo
Lindy Ritz
Jessica Goldbeck

Ex-Officio Present

Joe Castiglione
Connie Dillon
Francene Monenerkit

Athletic Department

Gerald Gurney
Luther Lee
Larry Naifeh
Gloria Nevarez

I. Call to Order

Chair Ayres called to order at 1:02 pm. Introductions were made.

II. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the 9 June 2009. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Fiscal Integrity Committee Subcommittee Report

Professor Regens distributed the Fiscal Integrity report and advised the Council that the Regents had approved the budget recommendations for 2010. He reported that as expected, the Athletic Department closed the year with a balanced budget for the tenth consecutive year, and that \$80,000 in carryover funds that will be applied to the 2010 budget. He reminded the Council that next year's budget was developed using very conservative assumptions given the current economic climate, particularly with regard to the impact of the economic downturn upon the state economy. Mr. Phillips noted that the Department is one of only a handful of schools throughout the country that does not use university allocations or student fees in support of its athletic programs.

Mr. Castiglione advised the Council that the Department's risk assessment document was recently approved by the Board of Regents. He noted that this document was developed with the assumption that Athletic Department will continue to be financially self sustaining and as such the document identifies key risks and risk reduction strategies. Mr. Castiglione then summarized cost containing actions that are currently being implemented throughout the Department. Additionally he reported that this budget includes significant contributions to the university's academic programs, including an increase in the academic enhancement fee included in the price of tickets. He advised the Council that the current level of academic support is nearing \$8 million.

In response to a question from Professor Hopkins about the distribution of those revenues, Mr. Castiglione stated that the Department does not know how the funds dedicated to academics are distributed on campus, but he assured the Council that the department is completely transparent with respect to the distribution of funds within the Department. Additionally, Mr. Castiglione advised the Council that they are projecting the “working capital loan” will be paid in full by the end of the next fiscal year.

Mr. Phillips advised the new members that the Council reviewed the 2010 budget in detail at the June meeting. He stated that the Department will keep the Council apprised of fiscal issues throughout the year. Professor Regens recognized the work of the staff in preparing this report and thanked Mr. Castiglione and Mr. Phillips for their openness and efforts.

The Council voted to approve the Fiscal Integrity Subcommittee Report.

IV. Subcommittee Assignments

Professor Dillon summarized the responsibilities of the Council subcommittees and the principles for making subcommittee assignments, noting that Council Chair and Chair-Elect make the final recommendations. She then distributed the subcommittee assignments.

V. Council Orientation

Professor Dillon reviewed the Council charge and advised the members that the Council was established by the University Regents and has the responsibility to advise the President and Athletics Director on matters related to the governance of intercollegiate athletics. She advised them that the Council, through the Chair, reports to the Faculty Senates on both the Norman and Health Science Center campuses. Additionally, she informed the Council of the NCAA’s athletic certification process and the Council’s role in oversight of that effort. Finally, she summarized the governance process at the Conference and Association levels and advised the members that the Council is a key element in maintaining institutional control required by virtue of our membership in the NCAA.

VI. Athletics Director Report

Mr. Castiglione distributed the Department’s Annual Report and discussed the strategic planning process. He advised the Council that his philosophy is one of openness and transparency and that he welcomes open and meaningful dialogue. He encourages the members of the Council to learn about the Department, our coaches and staff and our operations.

He summarized the progress the Department has made with respect to the academic success of our student-athletes, and recognizes the important work of Dr. Gurney and his staff in that effort. He advised the Council of their important role in that success through their advice and council in the development of policies that have contributed to the academic progress of our student-athletes. He reported on the status of the Department’s athletics programs, praising the remarkable success of our coaches and student-athletes this past year. He advised the Council that the addition of women’s rowing has moved us closer to meeting our gender equity goals. Additionally, he advised the Council that since the 1999 capitol campaign, every sport has received a major facility enhancement, reporting on the progress of the Viersen Gymnastics

Center. Additionally, he informed the Council that the Department's annual giving and licensure programs have been very successful, noting the Department surpassed its record in annual giving, with 10,000 donors this past year.

VII. Fall Meeting Dates

Professor Dillon advised the Council that the next meeting will be scheduled sometime in November.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business

IX. New Business

There was no new business.

X. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Francene Monenerkit

cc: President David L. Boren
Chris A. Purcell
Nancy L. Mergler
Clark Stroud
Aimee Franklin, Norman Campus Faculty Senate
Larry Regens, Faculty Senate, Health Sciences Center
Nicholas S. Hathaway