Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting
University Faculty Senate

January 28, 2014 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
502 Keller Building

Present: Ryan Belz, John Boehmer, Renee Borromeo, Julie Del Giorno, Charmelle Green, Benjamin Hickerson, David Joyner, Keefe Manning, Russell Mushinsky, Robert Pangborn, Thomas Poole, Robert Ricketts, Michael Ridenour, Matt Stolberg

Absent: Linda Caldwell, David Han, Arianna Lantz, Panagiotis Michaleris, John Nichols, Daniel Perkins, David Saxe, Tramble Turner

Guests: James Franklin, Preston Gall, Ellen Ginsburg-Simon

1. Meeting begins at 8:00am. Meeting minutes from 12-10-13 are unanimously approved.

2. Special guest, football coach James Franklin is in attendance and speaks with the committee. The team goal is to put PSU on top of GPA/APR for B10. Recruiting students of high character is a continuing model from his time at Vanderbilt.

3. David Joyner discusses NCAA conference and the talks about big 5 conferences joining as a larger division (to offer more control over destiny: attendance cost, use of revenue to increase student experience, ability to finish education if leaving the university for pro sports). No great progress, but no revolt from other NCAA members. Other conferences want to know: How will this work? Early discussions suggest there will be broad guidelines to be followed by the university, but also a number of discretionary decisions that are not included in these broad guidelines.

4. Rob Pangborn discusses the reserved spaces policy: To admit athletes who do not meet admission standards at UP, but their sport is not offered at other campuses and they have special talents (this can also apply beyond sports). Currently this is only a fall admission policy, but over time spring/summer admits have become more popular so more students are coming under “reserved spaces”. The number for athletics (140) would still be sufficient to account for the 72 fall spaces actually used and the 52 spaces used in spring and summer. Total reserved spaces for all categories will still be under the 330 current limit. Does this policy need to be expanded to include the entire academic year? We should review performance of reserved space students to determine if they track with prediction models and possibly track graduation rate?

5. Tramble Turner: Not present; working on formalizing FAR report for campuses and campus version of the 8-day rule (different times for what constitutes a “day”).

6. Concussion management documents will be posted to ANGEL from response to COIA. Report writers (Sebastianelli, etc.) invited to the next meeting to discuss the responses.
7. We continued discussion of the Rawlings Report from previous meetings, items 19-28.
   #19: If athletics is an integral process of education, should not money from the institution be provided? Inversely, should athletics ever need to share with academics? Is there a separate “business” part of athletics (ie. football). #20: Same as #19. Not how much is spent (ratio) but appropriate spending. #21 formal groups (B10, etc.) already exist; also informal groups being formed (beyond spectre of B10, within B5). #22: See reserved spaces policy discussion from above. #23: 240/250 student athletes per year (some baseline assessments are done upon arrival). ~60 (20-25%) at-risk academically who need more tutoring/mentoring. This group can change (not always the same students). Morgan Center uses both quant/qual to assess students and continue to monitor continuously. #24: Already practiced by PSU. Reserved spaces are not for low performance: predicted GPA’s are still more than acceptable. #25: August 2016: NCAA will require an academic redshirt year if the GPA’s do not predict highly. Anticipated impact for PSU will be small. #26: NCAA should reconsider what is “accountable activity” for the 20 hour-rule. B10 has large influence over schedule, so while we approve, there is little that can be done to make changes. We do have influence largely using FAR and academic directors. Lots of hosting done by the university to reduce travel. Could be a future committee search/discussion. #27: B10 compliance, NCAA compliance, athletic integrity agreement, mandatory reporter/Clery act already required to be completed by coaches. #28: Done. BOT, senior administration, and others have spent many hours evaluating athletics at PSU; refer to Mitchell reports.

8. In 2011 the responsibilities of the IAC were reviewed. Benchmarking vs. other institutions (B10 and other universities: UNC, Vanderbilt, Temple, Pitt, Nebraska). This information will be included in the operations manual. Schedules, academic progress, majors/colleges of enrollment, faculty partnership program, reserved spaces, longevity of membership on the committee should be reviewed. Are we satisfied with structure (FAR, etc.) we have to oversee athletics? Do any changes need to be made?

9. Document circulated to assess summer missed class time to create a guideline that fits the general 11% missed class time standard which would be equivalent to 3 days during the summer. Policy 67-00 does not have information about summer missed classes. Sports that may have events that lead to missed classes: baseball/softball, playoffs that extend. Outside competitions such as track, soccer.

10. Meeting adjourns at 9:44am.