Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting  
University Faculty Senate  

September 10, 2013, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.  
502 Keller Building

Present: Ryan Belz, John Boehmer, Renee Borromeo, Linda Caldwell, Julie Del Giorno, Charmelle Green, David Han, Benjamin Hickerson, David Joyner, Russell Mushinsky, Robert Pangborn, Thomas Poole, Robert Ricketts, Michael Ridenour, David Saxe, Tramble Turner

Absent: Arianna Lantz, Michaleris Panagiotis, John Nichols

I. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

II. Minutes from March 12, 2013 were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes and seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. The committee discussed an informational report prepared by Hunter Rawlings for the University of North Carolina. This report addresses the culture associated with college athletics and will be posted to the IAC committee ANGEL site. Much of the report is about academic integrity violations.
   a. This committee will continue to monitor academic integrity for student athletes within the University.

IV. Chair, Dr. John Boehmer shared that informational reports will be shared in writing in this year’s Senate plenary meetings. Time will not be allotted for presentation.
   a. Committee members shared feelings that a short presentation each year is necessary to connect senators to the current state of the committee. Without explicit discussion on athletics, senators may not frequently consider the topic sufficiently.

V. The Committee on Campus Athletics has been officially assembled and held two meetings (one organizational) to date.

VI. As brought to committee attention by a fellow faculty member, the committee discussed concern over the potential for graduated students, who are continuing their intercollegiate athletic careers at Penn State, to not participate in classes. This is true for a few students (estimated at 1-2 students per semester) who enroll in courses to fulfill the NCAA eligibility requirement, but know that their season will end prior to the end of the class. The then either late-drop the course or take a failing grade. Approximately 30-50 students return each year to begin a graduate program or second undergraduate degree. There are adverse consequences to the University’s academic progress rating (APR) if students drop or do not pass courses. With more students attending summer school, these numbers could increase. Solutions to the issue included:
   a. Including language in scholarship tenders that will require re-payment of funds if not making sufficient progress toward a degree (R. Mushinsky, D. Joyner).
b. Attendance/grade policies enforced by individual team coaches.

VII. The faculty partner program will continue this year. To maintain consistency in the program, Linda Caldwell suggested that the FAR/SAC are key in running the program because of frequent turnover on the IAC committee.

VIII. Faculty representation on hiring committees for head coaches has been strong. Three coaches (baseball, softball, m/w swim/dive) were hired this summer and a faculty member was included on each committee.

IX. Team athletic competition schedules were reviewed for men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s fencing, men’s and women’s swimming & diving, men’s and women’s gymnastics, M/W indoor track & field, and wrestling. All schedules were approved and compliant with the 8-day rule with a few exceptions:
   a. Some teams (e.g., men’s tennis) may exceed the 8-day rule, but no individual player on the team will attend enough events to exceed the rule.
   b. Wrestling has a match scheduled on graduation day vs. Iowa, which was reviewed and approved by the committee.

X. The committee revisited the idea of adding a student-athlete to the committee. A student is present, but a student athlete may bring some perspective. The student-athlete cannot be added as a voting member, but will be invited as a guest for subsequent meetings.

XI. A motion to adjourn was made at 9:26 a.m. and seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

XII. The next meeting will be held October 22, 2013 in 502 Keller Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Benjamin Hickerson, Co-Chair
John Boehmer, Chair