INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 16, 2008

Attendees: Anita Weiss, Neal Zoumboukos, Pat Kilkenny, Whitney Wagoner, Jim Isenberg, Jim O’Fallon, Melinda Grier, Paul van Donkelaar, Sandy Weintraub, Deb Morrison, Dan Williams, Matt Merriman, Anna Poponyak, Dev Sinha

Guests: Dave Frohnmayer, Bill Clever, Steve Stopl, Lorraine Davis

Chaired by Anita Weiss.

Opening comments were made by Anita Weiss in regards to the “ExCom” meeting on April 9. The discussions addressed issues that will be addressed in the remaining regular IAC meetings.

If schedules permit Anita would like to change the date for the last regular meeting June 4 to May 28 or June 11. The new IAC Chair will be elected at this meeting.

President Frohnmayer:

President Frohnmayer discussed the process and procedures to appoint the next Faculty Athletic Representative. The president would like the appointment to take place in the next month so the individual can shadow Jim O’Fallon for approximately one year.

Frohnmayer asked that if any prospective individual names are discussed in this meeting that those individual names are kept in confidence. He has also consulted with the FAC on the process/procedure of the appointment. Frohnmayer feels this person is crucial for the institution as the individual will have a public figure aspect. The individual will be the face for the University of Oregon externally to other FAR. The position is very time consuming as the individual will have to review eligibility, games schedules, etc. The position has always been held by a lawyer at the University of Oregon. O’Fallon stated that right now in the Pac-10 conference there are 4 lawyers and 6 non-lawyers who hold the FAR position. Frohnmayer asked to get opinions and feelings from the group:

Isenberg stated he doesn’t feel the individual needs to be a lawyer and there should be course release as there is now. He also feels there should be considerable overlap with O’Fallon.

Lorraine Davis has had discussions where it is recommended that there should be 2 4 year appointments or 8 years with a maximum of 12 years.
Anita Weiss likes term appointment and feels overlap is needed. She also feels there should be a limit of 2 terms and would like to see additional compensation with course release. Anita liked the idea of a law school individual but doesn’t want to exclude anyone from the process.

Jim O’Fallon wanted to point out that with this position stability is essential to win creditability from other FARs. A need to develop relationships is crucial for any FAR.

Kilkenny wanted to add that O’Fallon’s creditability is a tremendous asset for the University especially for himself being new to the athletic director position and his disadvantage of time being on the job. With the help of O’Fallon, Baumgartner and Frohnmayer it brings a good balance.

Anita would like more feedback emailed to Frohnmayer on the subject of the succession of Jim O’Fallon for the FAR position.

Services for Student Athletes:

Steve Stopl gave a presentation with handouts on the graduation rates for the University.

The projected numbers presented, used for all students take into account fall admits on aid, doesn’t count transfers or odd term admits, is the only true comparator to general student population and remains the standard reference for graduation nationally.

During the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 years the grad rate for Oregon student athletes vs. general students was lower than in previous years and years to follow. The explanation for this drop was the percentage of males vs. female student athletes. There were more female athletes during this period of time.

Bill Clever gave a presentation with handouts on APR comparison between the Pac-10 Conference Institutions. It was reported that all Oregon sports are over the cut score of 925. One interesting fact that Clever wanted to point out was the 90% graduation rate of University of Oregon student-athletes with exhausted eligibility. Oregon was tied with Oregon State for third out of the 10 universities in the Pac-10. This percentage is the graduation rates of student athletes who entered during the 1991-92 through 2000-01 academic years and exhausted their eligibility. The rate indicates the percentage of student athletes that have graduated by August 2006.

Student Learning Center:

Lorraine Davis gave an overview on the details she has been involved with as it pertains to the
Student Learning Center. She stated the NCAA requires eleven different services provided at the learning center to include but not limited to, mentoring, study hall, tutoring, counseling, etc. Annually the university submits a report to the NCAA on these requirements. Davis stated what is asked of the student athlete is different than what is asked from other students. Also the current facility that is being used has been in discussion to update for many years. The facility is antiquated. The learning center will be 35,000 square feet and if the university claims that academics and athletics go together than this building will solidify that statement. Davis stated the donor went to great lengths to tour Division 1 campuses and their learning centers and what is offered in way of services and what their buildings contain. Davis spoke of the staff already being hired well before the building is complete.

Frohnmayer stated he was bothered by the criticism of providing something for the student athlete than the general student population. He made it clear that the University of Oregon has already been providing services to all students but the facilities are inadequate. Frohnmayer wanted to point out that the ground floor has a 128 seat lecture hall and the building is gift funded which are just a couple of wonderful benefits. A concern Frohnmayer had is if the student athlete does not succeed the consequences go well beyond the student athlete. The team is affected by the individual’s failure. The APR is affected and is a bad representation of the University as a whole.

On another topic, President Frohnmayer wanted to let the IAC know that within the next month or so a task force will be established to give recommendation of the foot print of Mac Court, Eslinger Hall and possibly the outdoor tennis courts.

Weiss and Sinha are concerned in regards to the integration of the learning center and the students being separated from each other. It was stated that a professor would likely go to the ground floor where the non-student athlete gather than to the second floor where the student athletes gather. It is believed by Sinha that going to the second floor will take more of the professor’s time.

Kilkenny stated the learning center is a great asset to the university to attract both student athletes and non student athletes. He stated if recruiting of good football players is not done the program could go into a tail spin and since the football program is 80% of the athletic department’s revenue it would disastrous. The learning center is an asset to present and to all incoming students and student athletes.

Whitney Wagoner wanted to know what the access to the lecture hall would be for classes. Frohnmayer assured her the athletic department will have first call in using it but regular classes and the university senate will also have access to it.

Other Business:

Neal Zoumboukos wanted to remind the faculty that April 26 is the spring game and it is also Faculty Appreciation Day. Faculty appreciation will take place in the Club Room.