

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting

Johnson Hall Conference Room

February 5, 2003

Committee Members and Guests Present: Renee Baumgartner, Gary Gray, Dave Heeke, Jim Hutchison, Jenny Kenyon, Tom Larson, Sherri McDowell, Kirsten McEwen, Jim O'Fallon, Jim Schombert, Brad Shelton, Dara Wone, and Debbie Nankivell.

Delegation of Budget Authority

Sherri McDowell, director of business affairs, outlined the proposal to delegate significant budget authority to the department's business office. Business affairs has delegated varying degrees of budget authority to a number of campus departments. The decentralization is intended to streamline tasks, increase efficiency, strengthen communication regarding policies, and allow the business affairs staff to be more responsive in their role of oversight for quality assurance. A period of transition is planned for training and implementation. University and state audit requirements will remain in effect and the current lines of accountability will continue.

Football Game Scheduling

Discussed the possibility of moving the Mississippi State game in Starkville from Saturday to Thursday, August 28th in order to have the game televised on ESPN. Football student-athletes would need to return to campus three days earlier than previously planned to accommodate this change. Also discussed moving the Utah game from Saturday to Friday, October 3th. Most Utahans celebrate a holiday on October 4th and University of Utah administrators believe attendance at the game would suffer on that date. They have expressed interest in moving the game to Friday night, which would increase the likelihood that the game would be televised, but require our football student-athletes to miss one day of class. Because home teams have the flexibility of scheduling game days and times, this situation may be unavoidable this year. The IAC strongly urges the department to attempt to address these issues to limit the potential for missed class time as future game contracts are negotiated.

Track Program Update

Gary Gray informed the group about the restructuring to take place in Oregon's track programs. The men's and women's teams will be merged under the leadership of Martin Smith, who will be the director of men's and women's track & field effective July 1, 2003. Also discussed the possibility of Hayward Field becoming the permanent NCAA Track Championships site. The community would be very receptive to having the championships here annually, but there are a number of issues that could make this prospect difficult, not the least of which - sometimes conflicting with UO's summer graduation. The decision regarding the possibility of having a permanent site for NCAA championships is years away.

Football Recruiting Issues

Discussed the extension of a football scholarship to a student-athlete with a criminal record. The offer

is contingent upon the student-athlete's felony conviction being reduced. The issue was discussed with administration prior to the letter of intent being sent, however, President Frohnmayer had not been aware of the situation. The committee requested clarification of the process in place for handling controversial recruiting issues at a future IAC meeting.

Next IAC Meeting

The date of the March IAC meeting will be announced soon.

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