

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Retreat

Stadium Club - Autzen Stadium

September 27, 2006

Committee Members and Guests Present: Renee Baumgartner, Mark Blaine, Lauren Brownrigg, Dan Graham, Gary Gray, Melinda Grier, Jim Isenberg, Mike Marlow, Bill Moos, Jim O'Fallon, Harry Price, Ed Singer, Steve Stolp, Paul van Donkelaar, Whitney Wagoner, Anita Weiss, and Debbie Nankivell.

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Overview

Jim Isenberg, the committee chair, reported that the IAC dealt with many issues two years ago, however, last year's meeting topics were less contentious. The retreat and the information distributed are designed to help committee members understand more about athletics.

Committee Charge

Melinda Grier, university counsel, provided a historical perspective on the creation of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee. When Myles Brand was the UO President, the State Board of Higher Education had serious concerns about all state universities' athletic department budgets. President Brand felt it was important to have a number of faculty members who were knowledgeable about all aspects of intercollegiate athletics and reformulated the mission of the IAC. The committee was designed to have representative constituents of the university to advise the university president on athletics policy issues and to counsel the athletic director. Dave Frohnmayer and Bill Moos believe that feedback from the IAC is important. The issue has grown nationally with the NCAA now requiring faculty involvement in issues affecting athletic departments.

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Overview

Bill Moos welcomed committee members and guests to the retreat. Overall, the department is healthy and continues to grow without being a financial burden to the university. The department is one of only a few departments nationwide that is totally self-sufficient. The department budget is fragile, as it has not been possible to put funds aside in a reserve account over the past few years.

The department's programs are doing well this fall with record football season ticket sales and Duck Athletic Fund donations. Bill's recent promotion of Gary Gray to senior associate athletic director signals the importance of academics and rules compliance.

Department staff continue to work on the funding model for the arena project. The design phase has been completed and the former Williams Bakery site has been purchased. There is no firm timetable in place for the project at this time. The athletics treatment center in the Casanova Center is being upgraded to nearly double its current size. The project is expected to be state-of-the-art and be completed next August. The new treatment center space will include the current wrestling program practice facility. Locations for moving the wrestling program to campus are being explored.

The academic services area on campus also needs major upgrades. Originally, the treatment center and academic services office were included as part of the arena project and are being separated out of the larger project at this time.

After completing ten years as AD, Bill has hired Ted Leland, former Stanford Athletic Director, to

conduct an assessment of the department to make sure it is continuing to head in the right direction. Ted will conduct the evaluation by meeting with many staff members, campus representatives, and donors, then report his findings to Bill and Dave Frohnmayer.

Briefly touched on the issue of an athletics arms race which Myles Brand, NCAA President, is addressing on a national level. For the past few years, many areas of the university have had facility expansion projects, not just athletics. Arms race discussions include not only facilities expansions, but also ever-increasing salaries.

Gender Equity Overview

Renee Baumgartner informed the committee about gender equity in athletics and Title IX requirements. To comply with Title IX, one part of a three-part test to provide participation opportunities for individuals of both genders must be met. Oregon complies by meeting the second part of the test - demonstrating a history and continuing practice of program expansion which is demonstrably responsive to the developing interests and abilities of the under-represented members of one gender. Our teams all have equal access to all services and facilities, and all programs are fully funded. Women's golf was added in 1986, women's soccer in 1995, and women's lacrosse in 2003.

Operations & Events Overview

The department's facilities are the pride of the Pac-10 Conference. A schedule of the events hosted in the department's facilities and the number of visitors each year are included in the retreat notebook.

Fund-Raising Overview

Mike Marlow oversees the department's marketing, ticket office, media services and fund-raising activities. New challenges are being addressed for catering the suites during this football season. Department staff have worked diligently to develop the Code of Conduct, a campaign designed to promote good sportsmanship among Duck fans. Duck Athletic Fund donation information is included in the retreat notebook.

Briefly discussed student ticket issues. A contract is negotiated between the department and the ASUO regarding the number, location and costs associated with the tickets offered to UO students. Discussions take place each year.

Academic and Student Services Overview

Steve Stolp reported on the academic services provided by his unit which is located in Esslinger Hall next to Mac Court. Lorraine Davis oversees this area which is designed to enhance the academic lives of the student-athletes. Members of Steve's staff, comprised of academic advisors, tutors, and learning specialists, are responsible for tracking NCAA requirements as well as monitoring and reporting on progress achieved by student-athletes. They coordinate with faculty members and work closely with athletics staff, headed by Gary Gray, to ensure that the student-athletes' academic needs are met.

Lauren Brownrigg informed the group about the student services area that Karen Nelson oversees in the department. Karen's unit directs the department's Life Skills program called SOAR. All incoming freshman and transfer student-athletes are required to take an EDLD class designed to address issues that will affect them during their UO tenure. Representatives from each sport take part in the Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) which meets twice a month. The SAAC manages many of the events the student-athletes take part in such as community service events, toy drives, opening ceremony, quack-in-action, and career receptions.

Compliance Overview

Jim O'Fallon reported that new NCAA rules and compliance issues have exploded in the past few years, making his job as FAR as well as those who monitor compliance issues on a daily basis, much more time consuming and complex.

Gary Gray oversees the compliance area of the department. His staff has grown through the years to monitor all Pac-10 and NCAA rules and regulations, including recruiting, eligibility, financial aid,

benefits, playing and practice times. Compliance staff members are involved in teaching and providing interpretations of the rules, as well as investigating possible violations. All violations are reported to the Pac-10, then the NCAA. New requirements include the NCAA's graduation and satisfactory progress reports.

IAC Meetings

The committee was developed to foster better relationships between faculty and the department, improving understanding between both groups. Jim Isenberg recommended that committee members forward agenda topics for future meetings to him. [The October 4th meeting was subsequently cancelled]. The next IAC meeting has been set for 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2006 in the Johnson Hall Conference Room.

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