

PROVOST'S ATHLETICS OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

**Academic Integrity & NCAA Rules
Compliance Institutional Control
Student-Athlete Welfare**

PAOC Meeting of April 27, 2022
12:30-1:45PM
HS1001

In attendance: Lisa Bauer, Mark Geil, Jacob Higgs, Tamica Jones, Randy Kennedy, Daniel Niederjohn, Milton Overton, Ivan Pulinkala, Patrick Vickers, Mark Warner, Andrew Whittmayer, Aaron Goodwin.

Dan Niederjohn, Faculty Athletics Representative, opened the meeting at 12:31 pm. He reported that Mindy DeBruce and Brett Cowley have left the department. Jacob Higgs will represent Compliance today and Tamica Jones will handle the Sr. Woman Administrator report.

The Minutes from February 2, 2022 were approved.

Milton Overton, Director of Athletics, is excited to report that things are going well. From a competition standpoint, we now have our first ever tennis championship and another Big South football championship.

Academically, our fall semester overall gpa is 3.13. 98 student athletes made the dean's list and 66 were presidential scholars. Eleven of our twenty-one fall graduates are cum laude. 67% of our student-athletes earned a 3.0 or higher and 13 teams earned a combined 3.0 or higher for the semester. Milton shared additional team highlights (see attachment A).

Milton reported that Joe Harrington was awarded GM of the year and that Ingalls has been brought on as sponsor. We still need a full-time nutritionist, and this will require even more funding. Fueling student athletes in the appropriate way is important, not just for competing, but from an injury prevention standpoint. Strength and Conditioning, Sports Medicine and appropriate nutrition all matter in the overall development and performance of student athletes. We have a long way to go, but we are making positive strides in the right direction.

Tamica Jones reported for Student-Athlete Welfare and shared that their recent Mental Health All Student Athlete Educational Event was led by Sterling Brown and Timothy Alexander. In addition, 30 students attended a meeting on March 24 where everyone knew a victim of self-harm, and all were engaged. Mental Health issues are prevalent in our population, and we've seen some recent national attention to mental health as well. We need to make sure our students have the resources they need on campus.

Dr. Nicole Philips recently spoke to our coaches about resources and how student can interact with their office. Mike Young, Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Medicine, has provided a COVID update, and we are now in symptomatic-only testing. The numbers are down and not impacting our teams significantly.

NCAA has a concussion safety protocol that is being updated. We are in good shape and compliant. We have a list of recommendations and a big challenge is to make sure coaches understand that exercise cannot be used as a punishment.

Ms. Jones also reported on SAAC activities. This year, they committed to engage more with student athletes and teams. They facilitated the SAAC Kickback, their last event, two weeks ago; this was a carnival type event and another opportunity for students to get to know and support each other.

Aaron Goodwin thanked Tamica Jones and Sterling for helping with the SA kickback. He is pleased with accomplishments over the last two semesters and proud of the work done on nutrition and campus engagement. They have lots of ideas for next year.

Aaron feels that improvements regarding nutrition were crucial because nutrition is key to recovery. Aaron appreciated having two home track meets this year. Getting people out to support athletes at home events is not only fun, but it provides a level of comfort as well. It's great for the student body and other athletes to see what we do and it opens doors for campus engagement.

Milton thanked the institution for supporting the new track. It's a gamechanger for track and field with regards to the environment, the budget, and our fans. He shared thoughts on a possible indoor track and what it could mean to KSU, as well as other ways to invest in our students like a sports medical facility, a hydrotherapy pool, special treadmill with low load for injury recovery, and a football facility.

Jacob Higgs, reporting for Compliance and NCAA News, shared that there were 20-30 pieces of legislation to be voted on in April, but the NCAA tabled all and voted on none. He will be in a meeting (annual compliance call) with the Commissioner tomorrow and some of the tabled legislation will be discussed.

The transformation committee is focusing on transfers and legislation that surrounds transfers. Fall or winter sports athletes must enter the portal by May to be eligible at next school; spring sport athletes must enter the portal by July 1.

He is awaiting guidance on responsibility – How much responsibility will be at the institutional level, the conference, and the NCSS.

Milton added that this NCAA change is a 100-year change. The transformation

committee has completely reshaped and changed college sports. However, our mission will always be education, no matter what. We will make some adjustments in the new marketplace and hope to be more visible with our consistent mission.

Jacob reminded the group that, with NIL, student athletes can be paid. However, by legislation, they need to provide something in return. It could be social media posts, guest appearances, people engagement, etc. Discussion ensued regarding what our athletes are currently receiving.

Randy Kennedy, Associate Athletic Director, Academic Services, provided the Student-Athlete Academic Update. Regarding the transfer issue, we are seeing graduation rates increasing. Athletes are still above the percentage of the student body. Graduation success rate is 86% and this is consistently increasing.

A week from tomorrow, we will have the Student Athlete graduation ceremony and provide them with ASUN stoles and tassels. Last month, we had our first ever networking night. This was for graduating athletes and community professionals. Food and drinks, tables for the professionals, and a panel where student athletes could ask questions, made for a great event. 100% of the attendees said it was a good event and important.

Randy's group is moved into their new ALC space and are working to fill four different positions. Football advisors that have been in the football space will move to the ALC. His group is seeing a last-minute push at end of the semester; some students are pulling it together at the last minute.

He requested that we consider holding one of the PAOC meetings in the ALC next year. It could include a tour of the Student Athlete Success area.

Dan Niederjohn, Faculty Athletics Representative and Associate Professor of Psychology provided the FAR and Admission Advisory Committee Update.

Coach Blue (basketball) is requesting PAOC's permission to participate in a competition on Dec. 10 during finals. As we do not have a quorum today, Dan will call for an email vote in the future. Moving forward, we may want to consider adjusting our policy to allow for some competitions during finals. We will continue this discussion.

Dan will report on the End of Season Survey at our first fall meeting.

The Admissions Advisory Committee continues to meet and consider special admits. Their goal is giving opportunities and providing good structure, while balancing out the risks.

Standardized tests not being required. It will be interesting to see how this plays

out as we move forward.



Other Business included recognition of committee members completing their terms. They are Mark Geil, Wes Rhea, and Mark Warner. Dan reviewed the procedure for electing PAOC membership (Faculty Senate elects). We have one seat available, and it will be filled from the colleges not already represented by faculty on PAOC.

Meeting Dates (now on Thursdays) for 2022-2023 are September 8, November 3, February 9, and April 27.

Milton shared information on an Ambassador program. Athletics has been inviting departments to attend competitions and their hope is to get a spokesperson in departments that will encourage others to attend.

Chair Niederjohn adjourned the meeting at 1:45 pm.

The Provost's Athletic Oversight Council approved the Minutes of the April 27, 2022 meeting on September 8, 2022.

<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <hr/> <small>427C9BB482524E7...</small> Lisa Bauer <small>DocuSigned by:</small>	october 17, 2022 <hr/> Date
 <hr/> <small>B327F0F5E70E429...</small> Dr. Dan Niederjohn	october 17, 2022 <hr/> Date