

PROVOST'S ATHLETICS OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

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

PAOC Meeting of November 3, 2022

12:30-1:45PM

In attendance: Austin Brown, Lisa Bauer, Aaron Goodwin, Matt Iwanski, Tamica Jones, Randy Kennedy, Gloria Laureano, Daniel Niederjohn, Selena Patterson, Ivan Pulinkala, and Patrick Vickers.

Dan Niederjohn, Faculty Athletics Representative and PAOC Chair, welcomed the committee and opened the meeting at 12:36 p.m. He introduced Selena Patterson, new faculty representative from Wellstar College and reviewed the function of the PAOC.

Tamica Jones, Chief Operating Office for Athletics, provided the State of the Department. Fall Sports are still competing; soccer and lacrosse finished this past weekend. The next football game is Nov. 12 and she provided updates on other sports.

KSU will be moving to Conference USA. Thank you for the engagement and approval on Oct 14. Athletics is moving forward with the process and speaking with internal constituents regarding their needs. The department is working with a consultant and assessing needs and will be developing a business plan to complete the process of joining conference USA.

Student Athletes and SAAC continue to address mental health issues. Dr. Lindsay will attend the February meeting. She is already meeting with several of our teams and is not seeing any major themes from our program.

We are continuing to advance in the area of nutrition. Tamica is having conversations with the strength coach, Randy and the Business office regarding ways to make healthy food more readily available and leverage the resources that we have.

Athletics is working on our first ever Diversity and Inclusion plan. Tamica is leading the project and working with executive staff. Training is under way.

Aaron Goodwin provided an update from SAAC. Dr. Niederjohn attended their last meeting and Aaron suggested that it has been the most productive meeting regarding mental health. Students also brought lots of ideas, including bringing back workshops, and having mentors on each squad that could be trained regarding resources, and even reaching out to other teams to converse. Mental health aspect is a really important project for SAAC this year. Regarding nutrition, SAAC would like to see a fueling station at all facilities in which sports operates.

SAAC is also working on a DEI initiative. They are highlighting an international student aspect and want to make sure that they feel included. Tamica has sent email to all international student athletes to introduce herself and share information about SAAC. Gloria Laureano suggested the opportunities available through Well Being at KSU.

Aaron is pursuing participation in Owlswap this year and reported the success of the SAAC subcommittees. He shared that there will be a student-athlete banquet this year. More information is forthcoming.

Matthew Iwanski, Associate Athletic Director, Athletics Compliance and Risk Management provided the Compliance Report and NCAA News. Signing Day is next week and we anticipate signing 30-40 athletes. In preparation for the conference change, adherence to time management legislation (mandated by Conference USA) is being addressed. Time management legislation will restrict changes to the schedule, require days off, and require some additional considerations. Football is only team that has worked with time management, on a limited capacity. We are figuring out a way to implement this early. We plan to implement next year to make sure we have all in place.

Athletics is working to get compliance issues in front of our teams and coaches more often. We want to implement and test run early to avoid future violations. Educating and preparing our coaches, making sure they have all the support they need, and making aware of increases in resources is crucial. We are building out compliance education modules for coaches and students and are dedicated to keeping everyone up to date in this tumultuous time.

NCAA has put legislation up for vote that will potentially increase our coaching limits. The main one provides for an additional coaching position for all sports. It would allow coaches to have additional support and change volunteer positions to official hire with true coaching responsibilities. There are a couple other staffing proposals out there that include a proposal provide for two additional coaches for basketball and baseball.

Transformation committee updates should be done by January.

Randy Kennedy, Associate Athletic Director, Academic Services, provided the Student-Athlete Academic Update. There is a lot going on right now and there are only three weeks of class left until finals. Randy's group is currently requesting student-athlete feedback. Some sports are ramping down and they are now preparing for basketball.

A Learning Specialist position posting is coming up soon. They are looking ahead at what will be required as KSU moves into Conference USA, particularly regarding travel and additional academic needs.

Randy provided and commented on some APR data that is not yet public. It will be available next spring.

PAOC may need to look at some of the policies that are in place as we prepare for the conference change. Some of them have not been reviewed for several years. Dan distributed a sample, policy 4, (attachment A) that included proposed edits. Discussion ensued and suggestions were made for additional changes. Other comments and suggestions are welcome.

Dan Niederjohn, Faculty Athletics Representative and Associate Professor of Psychology, provided the FAR and Admission Advisory Committee Update. As the Faculty Athletics Representative, Dan suggested three additional policies that should be reviewed in the future. These are (1) Scheduling of athletic competitions during exams, (2) Commencement, and (3) Overnight midweek competitions.

The end of season survey will be handled in person with teams (as it used to be). Student Athletes can still fill it out electronically, but a representative will be present to encourage a better response rate. The survey includes Student Athlete Success Services, tools to succeed, coach and assistant coach ratings, NCAA rules awareness and compliance, the ability to voice concerns, medical concerns, and the athlete's overall experience. Are there other things we should be asking? Aaron Goodwin suggested that we ask SAAC for their input. Matt Iwanski requested to review survey from a compliance perspective; Dan will send him a copy to review.

The Admissions Advisory committee met yesterday. That group reviews students that don't meet full admission criteria. Dan reviewed how the process works, types of special admits, the data that is used and how process changes may be needed, particularly in reference to test scores. Special admits discussion ensued and Dan will keep committee updated.

Dr. Pulinkala announced that Sheb True will now oversee Enrollment Services.

Minutes from September 8, 2022 and October 14, 2022 PAOC meetings were approved.

Future Meeting Dates for 2022-2023 Academic Year are February 9 and April 27, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

The Provost's Athletic Oversight Council approved the Minutes of the November 3, 2022 meeting on February 9, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

Lisa Bauer

May 3, 2023

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DocuSigned by:

Dan Niederjohn

Date

May 3, 2023

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Dr. Dan Niederjohn

Date

Policy 4: Student-Athlete Missed Class Policy
(proposed revisions in red, deletions struck-through).

- 4.1 Student athletes will not miss any regularly scheduled classes for any practice activities.
- 4.2 For home competition, student athletes may not claim a conflict as the cause for a missed class if that class ends ~~two~~ **four** hours or more before the scheduled competition time.
- 4.3 For away competition with same day travel, student athletes shall not miss any classes prior to 30 minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
- 4.4 For away competition with overnight travel, no team shall depart more than 48-hours prior to the time of competition. **Barring any travel logistic issues, teams should return to campus no later than 24 hours after an away competition.**
- 4.5 The Director of Athletics will provide to the Faculty Athletics Representative ~~and the Athletic Board Chairperson~~ at least one month prior to the start of a sport's season, a listing of all competition in that sport which will necessitate student-athletes being absent from class. This listing will include the time and date of competition, destination, conference/non-conference competition, departure time, travel time, and return time. The Faculty Athletics Representative ~~and/or the Athletic Board Chairperson~~ may request that modifications to the travel plans be made.
- 4.6 ~~The Athletic Academic Support Office~~ **Student-Athlete Success Services (SASS) office** will present individual, written notifications of possible missed classes, to the instructors of all student-athletes during the first week of classes. **SASS will also send electronic notification to any professors where a class will be missed to verify this absence from class. Student-Athletes are expected to also communicate with their professors concerning any missed assignments.** ~~Athletes are required expected to retain a copy of this sheet and remind their instructor of their absence, at least 7 days prior to each contest which affects their class attendance.~~
- 4.7 The provision of/for excused absence policy is contained in the KSU Student Handbook. It is expected that student-athletes will be responsible for submitting all assignments on time and that advance arrangements will be initiated by the student-athlete for any tests which will be missed.
- 4.8 No athlete shall miss more than 20% of the scheduled class meetings for competition in any one semester. Any number beyond that stated above must be approved by the ~~ECAB~~ **PAOC**.
- 4.9 The KSU Faculty Handbook and the KSU Catalog contain the policy regarding excused KSU student absences. It is expected that faculty members will not penalize student athletes for missing classes due to conflicts with contractually scheduled athletic contests and related travel.
- 4.10 It is expected that coaches will not penalize student athletes for missing practices due to conflicts with regularly scheduled classes for which student-athletes are enrolled. This includes student-athlete required attendance for course field trips, special labs, etc.
- 4.11 Student-athletes who believe that they have received a lack of reasonable accommodation of the provisions of this missed class policy by a faculty member **or coach** should immediately contact the Athletics Academic Advisor or the Faculty Athletics Representative.

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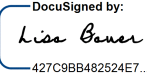
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