

# **Athletics Committee Meeting**

**November 4, 2014**

## **I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Athletics Committee was called to order at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

## **II. Roll Call**

Present: Dr. Miranda Bowie, Mr. Mark Linder, Mrs. Debbie Williams, Mr. David Shields, Mr. Dominic Summerhill, Mr. Todd Vardaman, Mrs. Lisa Burton, Dr. Lisa Clayton, Mr. Daryl Brown, Dr. Pat Roden, Mrs. Doris McDaniel, Mr. Ben Baker

Absent: Mr. Clinton Carter, Mrs. Christa Raney, Mr. Green Davidson, V

## **III. Approval of Minutes from the October 2, 2014 meeting**

Mr. Ben Baker made the motion to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2014 meeting and Dr. Pat Roden seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

## **IV. Minority Opportunity Committee Report**

Mr. Daryl Brown reported that the Minority Opportunity Committee met on October 23, 2014. The Minority Opportunity Committee discussed the Minority Student Athlete mentoring program. The mentoring program will be a one semester commitment for mentors and mentees with approximately eight scheduled contacts within that semester. Mentors and mentees will have an introductory meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 2:00 pm in the GUC Lion's Den (game room).

## **V. Gender Equity Committee**

The Gender Equity Committee will meet on November 5, 2014.

## **VI. Faculty Athletic Representative Report**

Dr. Pat Roden, FAR, stated an issue needed to be addressed and discussed with the Athletics Committee. An article was written in the FlorAla regarding academic preferential treatment for student athletes in the classroom. The article stated that a faculty member had given a student athlete a take home test. The faculty member is no longer employed at

UNA. Dr. Pat Roden has investigated and concluded that this incident was an isolated incident. The committee discussed that faculty must ensure fair and equitable treatment to students and student athletes. Mr. David Shields, suggested that Dr. Pat Roden send an email to faculty, reminding them of policies and changes regarding student athletes. If faculty have any questions, faculty members may contact her.

The NCAA voted on new legislation in January 2014. To maintain eligibility Division II student athletes must pass 9 hours per semester instead of 6 hours. The NCAA is making a commitment to academics and putting forth an effort to put academics first.

### **VII. Athletics Director Report**

Mr. Mark Linder stated that all five fall sports are still active; Football is ranked #3 in the region, Soccer is #3 in the region; Volleyball is ranked #8 in the region; Women's Cross Country is ranked #4 in the region; and Men's Cross Country is ranked #10 in the region.

Mark gave the committee a Division I update. A conference invite has not been received, but UNA is prepared for the transition. \$1.2M of the 1.4 million application fee is secured. The executive council is 100% unified on the Division I transition.

### **VIII. New Business**

Grades checks will be given out on November 10 and will be due on November 19, 2014. Classroom attendance has approved. The Athletic Department has a stricter attendance policy for student athletes.

The committee discussed Grades First. Grades First is an online software program that communicates with Banner and previously used for student athletes in the Athletics Department. Instead of using grade checks faculty could enter grades electronically through Grades First. When used by UNA there was only a 40% response from UNA faculty. UNA athletics started using hard grades checks instead of the online system. The committee discussed engaging the Deans of the departments. David Shields and Mark Linder will bring up the topic of Grades First and how to communicate to faculty in an executive council meeting.

The committee discussed nominating a student athlete of the month. The student athlete would be a positive image for other student athletes.

The Student Athlete handbook on the [www.roarlions.com](http://www.roarlions.com) will be updated by Todd Vardaman and Shane Herrmann.

**IX. Adjourn**

Dr. Pat Roden made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Lisa Clayton seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.