

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO  
Minutes of Athletic Council Meeting  
Wednesday, September 3, 2014  
Lobo Club Board Room

**Members Present:** Alfred Mathewson, Paul Krebs, Marie Lobo, Janet Poole, Michael Rocca, Gig Brummell, Jeffrey Long and Phillip Felipe Gonzales.

**Absent:** Todd Seidler, Mike Thomas, Daniel Barkley, Jackie Hood, Karl Hinterbichler, Jessica Marshall, Amy Neel, Aasha Marler, Kendall Spencer and Janice Ruggiero.

**Guests:** Aimee Dunavant, Asst. Swimming Coach and Lamont Smith, Assoc. Men's Basketball Coach, Mark Miller, Colt Balok,

**Staff Present:** Rita Chavez, Henry Villegas, Dawn Martinez. and Dennis Dunn.

**AGENDA ITEM/DESCRIPTION**

**MINUTES/ACTION TAKEN**

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**OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order @ 2:05 p.m. by Alfred Mathewson, Chair

**MEETING MINUTES:**

(May 21, 2014 minutes were approved via email in June.)

**AIMEE DUNAVANT,  
ASST. WOMEN'S SWIMMING COACH**

Aimee Dunavant and Lamont Smith brought a request to the council to allow them to compete during finals week. Aimee stated that swimming will be competing in the UNLV Winter Invite, Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> thru Monday December 15<sup>th</sup>. The team will travel by bus to Nevada, leaving Friday December 12, <sup>th</sup>, the day of the final exam, and will involve twenty-six female student-athletes. Of the twenty six student-athletes ten have conflicts with their finals. Aimee is awaiting information from the professors to see if they can have the exams given by a Procter on the road, or complete some type of project to count as their final exam. The student-athletes have good grades and do very well academically. UNM had no control over the scheduling of the tournament.

Marie Lobo made a motion that the council supports the women's swimming team going to the competition in Las Vegas, NV, provided they take care of their academic needs prior to leaving for the competition. Mike Rocca 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. A unanimous vote supporting the motion followed.

**ACTION:** It was suggested that the council contact all UNM coaches to remind them of the finals week policy.

**LAMONT SMITH,  
ASSOC. MEN' S BASKETBALL COACH**

Lamont stated that a men' s basketball game has been scheduled for Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> and the time has not been officially set. The basketball season usually starts in January, but was pushed back a week and the first game landed on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The coaches just found out about this discrepancy due to a coaching change. At this time Lamont is not aware of any conflicts with student exams during finals on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. It would be very rare if there was a final given on Saturday. It was also noted that commencement takes place in the Pit on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The facilities workers will have the PIT ready for the game on Saturday. A motion was made by Mike Rocca to support the men' s basketball team' s request to play a basketball game on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Gig Brummell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. A unanimous vote supporting the motion followed.

**ATHLETICS REPORT  
PAUL KREBS (Cont)**

Paul reported on the recent incident involving women' s soccer. His key points were:

- There was no nudity or urine involved. This story evolved from an unsubstantiated television news story that went national;
- There was some sort of soccer initiation on Sunday the day before school started;
- Alcohol was involved, but there was no alcohol poisoning, though two women were taken to the hospital due to concerns over the amount of alcohol they consumed;
- It has been determined that this was a hazing incident;
- There is concern within the Athletics' Department that, due to a lack of education on the subject, the student-athletes do not understand what hazing is.

## ATHLETICS REPORT

### PAUL KREBS (Cont)

#### **Actions being taken:**

- The Texas Tech game has been canceled;
- All non-freshman have been suspended for one additional game;
- Coach Kit Vela was suspended for a week, without pay. This action was taken because the coaching staff should have known something was going on within the team;
- The team has attended a hazing education program, presented by Tomas Aguirre, the Dean of Students;
- The team is attending an alcohol/binge drinking program, which will be extended campus wide. The program will address not only the issue of underage drinking, but the effects of binge drinking on personal performance and the damage done physically;
- Two practice dates have been missed due to the team performing community service;
- The team, on their own, are working on a social media/video campaign on hazing the team plans on educating youth programs with the video;
- The Athletic Department is in the process of drafting a hazing policy, and is being modeled after literature provided by the NCAA, and the draft of this policy is now out for review;
- The Athletic Department is offering each of the teams a two-hundred (\$200) dollar grant, which would be applied for yearly, which would be used toward a proposed team building activity. This is based on a program developed by Northwestern University to address hazing on their campus.
- Each of the UNM coaches has received a copy of a handbook that is approved by the NCAA and each of the coaches has had a discussion with their teams about hazing, and is using the handbook as a guide. A copy of this handbook will be presented to the Council.
- An email has been sent out to all UNM student-athletes requesting that they notify someone in the department or on campus if they believe, or suspect, that hazing is occurring on the UNM campus, as UNM has a zero tolerance for hazing.

**ATHLETICS REPORT**  
**PAUL KREBS (Cont.)**

The investigation into this incident was not conducted by athletics. Rob Burford and Breda Bova looked into the incident and Athletics' merely facilitated. At this point the Dean of Students has not announced any additional sanctions toward the team or selected individuals. Paul also pointed out that UNM's Handbook does not contain any reference to the issue of hazing, and that hopefully this issue will be addressed in the near future. As for athletics, though, every UNM team that has a manual will now contain a hazing policy. The anti-hazing policy will be part of the handbooks and part of orientation.

The NCAA does not consider this incident a violation of any of their rules and it appears that the Albuquerque Police Department is not looking into the incident. The incident has been turned over to the UNM Dean of Students Office. Here is the link to the NCAA Hazing information.

<http://www.ncaa.org/sites/default/files/hazing%20prevention%20handbook%2057315.pdf>

Additional information:

- Men's soccer opened last weekend, cross country starts this weekend, volleyball had big matches this past week and football had its opening game last weekend. A lot of facilities work has been done over the summer including paving the parking lot, building an Olympic Performance Center, remodeling the football weight room and the tennis facility, and constructing restrooms for tennis, baseball and softball. Since the last meeting of the council the new NCAA governance structure has passed and will be up and running by January 2015. President Frank represented the Mountain West Conference.
- The athletic department is in the process of creating their Strategic Plan for 2014-2018. There are several work groups involved from faculty, staff students and community leaders. A draft should be completed by the end of September.

## LIAISON

### ALFRED MATHEWSON

Alfred announced that all council members will be liaisons for the same teams as last season. He has requested that each council member become more pro-active in their roles as liaison to the various teams. If available this would include attending the monthly Athletic all-staff meetings. The first All Staff Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

The meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of every month from 9:30am to 10:30am in the football classroom in the Tow Diehm Bldg. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. If you can attend you will be introduced as the liaison for your team and you and the coach can meet and talk. Rita will be sending out an email to all members of the council reminding them of these meetings. List of Liaisons: [Athletic Council AC Info 2014-2015 Team Liaisons.xlsx](#)

It was reported that the football team is no longer practicing on Sundays, and that practices are now being held in the mornings, which would give the student-athletes the rest of the day to work on their academics.

Alfred handed out a list of Committee Assignments for the council members. Except for some minor reassignments, the committees will remain the same. Not all spots have been filled if your name is not on a sub-committee notify Rita Chavez at rita@unm.edu.

List of Sub-Committee Members:  
[Athletic Council AC Info 2014-2015 AC Sub-Committees.docx](#)

Alfred reported that the results of the Doodle Poll showed that there is no time in the afternoon when a majority of the council can meet. The next AC meeting will be held on Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am – Noon then on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December, 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am – Noon. These dates and times are tentative until the availability of the Lobo Club Board Room is determined. The Pete McDavid Room (the Pit) could be a backup location for these meetings.

ADJOURNED

3:00pm

**We Develop Lobos for Life!**

**Minutes Approved at the October 6, 2014 AC Meeting**