

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
Minutes of Athletic Council Meeting
Friday, March 6, 2015
Lobo Club Board Room
9:00am

Members Present: Alfred Mathewson, Paul Krebs, Michael Rocca, Daniel Barkley, Aasha Marler, Janice Ruggiero, Karl Hinterbichler, Amy Neel, Gig Brummell, and Tim Goldsmith.

Absent: Jeffrey Long, Todd Seidler, Phillip Felipe Gonzales, Jackie Hood, Mike Thomas, Marie Lobo, Janet Poole, Jessica Marshall, Rita Chavez and Kendall Spencer.

Guests:

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

AGENDA ITEM/DESCRIPTION

MINUTES/ACTION TAKEN

OPENING

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order @ 9:10am by Alfred Mathewson, Chair

MEETING MINUTES:

(February 6, 2014 minutes were approved, by a motion from Daniel Barkley and seconded by Gil Brummell.)

ALFRED MATHEWSON, CHAIR,

Alfred opened the meeting with an announcement that President Frank will be attending the April 2, 2015 Athletic Council meeting.

AMY NEEL,
FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE

Amy began her report by stating that she and Henry Villegas are still working on analysis and they are still waiting for data from the Registrar's Office and hopes to report to the committee in April. Amy will be working with Henry Villegas this semester and they will be conducting data research on classes that have a lot of student-athletes enrolled (25% or more) to compare the grades of the student-athletes to those of the other students. Purpose: To see if the student athletes are getting favorable vs. un-favorable treatment. Henry will also be supplying Amy with data on the majors team players are pursuing to see if the players are choosing majors that will keep them eligible to continue playing. Amy

will be looking at each individual team to see if there is any clustering taking place. She will present her findings to the council at a future meeting. She is also looking at all courses student-athletes are taking and which ones they are having the most trouble passing and offering tutoring and support in these courses.

She has also been working with student-athletes on missed exams due to their games and traveling. She mentioned that she is on the Faculty Senate Admissions and Registration Committee and they are developing a set of guidelines for Topics Courses. They are overseeing the process of these courses becoming regular courses and which ones the student-athletes are registering for watching out that these courses are not like the University of North Carolina classes that got UNC in trouble. They are also considering rules for independent study courses which has been a problem for student-athletes nationally. At this time UNM does not have rules in place for independent study. And finally she announced that she will be attending the Mountain West Conference Faculty Athletic Representatives meeting next week in Las Vegas, Nevada, during the conference basketball tournament. Topics to be discussed include the issue that UNC used graduate school to keep student-athletes eligible and how universities are addressing this issue. The other topic is UNIV 101 courses, Introduction to College courses, at UNM and many other universities. These courses are taught by employees of the athletic departments and they will talk about the advisability of athletic department employees giving grades to students that would contribute to eligibility. Nationally the trend is to move away from staff teaching these courses and switching to tenured faculty.

ALFRED MATHEWSON,
ATHLETIC AWARDS BANQUET

Alfred reported that there has been no changes to the Athletic Awards Banquet, and he has not spoken with any of the coaches. This banquet honors the most improved team GPA. The banquet will be held April 27, 2015. Mike Rocca will present an update on this banquet at the next Athletic Council meeting on April 2, 2015.

PAUL KREBS,
ATHLETICS REPORT

Paul reported that with the exception of men's basketball all UNM teams are doing very well. The big issue with athletics at this time is Full Cost of Attendance. Between the old term of Cost of Attendance and the new term Full Cost of

Attendance there is a \$2,700 difference. According to the NCAA UNM can operate under either terminology. Paul has met at least three times with all the head coaches to discuss this issue. Paul stated that since UNM tuition is so low, compared to the rest of the country, that he doesn't think this will be a very big issue in the Fall. UNM's student-athletes also qualify for lottery scholarships which helps lower UNM's financial responsibility. A number of students also qualify for Pell Grants. Another issue that athletics is dealing with is that of nutrition and the student-athletes. Paul would like to see athletics invest in a nutrition center where the student-athletes could get snacks and other healthy options as they are coming to and from class.

ALFRED MATHEWSON,
THE CHARGE

Alfred and Paul have been looking at the Athletic Department's Charge since last December to make sure the department is in compliance. They have found four ways to carry out these duties. These are:

1. Monthly meetings where issues are discussed and reports given
2. Exit interviews at the end of the year
3. Liaison Reports from faculty members
4. The committee structure

The place where athletics was the weakest was the Annual Report to the university president and to the Faculty Senate. The report to the president has been taken care of but an annual report still needs to be presented to the Faculty Senate. The athletic department also needs to present to the president recommendations on policies. This must be completed by the beginning of the calendar year. Paul suggested that the council members could become more involved in the interviewing process for perspective coaches. It was also suggested that the athletics department give quarterly reports to the faculty senate. Paul also singled out Henry Villegas, and his team, for doing an excellent job of coordinating the student-athletes and their academic progress while at UNM.

ACTION: Alfred will begin drafting a report on both the strengths and weaknesses of the Athletic Department, which will contribute to the annual report to the faculty senate. Mike Rocca will assist Alfred after the initial draft is completed.

HENRY VILLEGAS,
ADVISEMENT REPORT

This past week Henry's office had its first ever student-athlete major fair. Student advisors were invited to come and talk with the student-athletes about what their major will be. This is a trend that is being adopted by many universities around the country to assist student-athletes. There is also the Lobo Scholars program offered through Henry's office, in addition to New Student Orientation (NSO) and Foundations of Excellence (FOE). Mike Rocca pointed out that Henry's program is an excellent example of what needs to go in the annual report and be presented to the Faculty Senate.

DAWN MARTINEZ,
LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dawn reported that at last month's NCAA convention legislation was passed on concussion protocol, among other items, but the biggest item was the cost of attendance. Cost of attendance is set by each school's Financial Aid Office and they decide how to apply these funds for the students. Dawn is in the process of figuring out how UNM's cost of attendance applies to each of UNM's sports. The cost of attendance refers to the financial difference between a student's scholarship and the total actual costs of a semester, which will have to be made up by the student or the student's family. Students may also apply for Pell Grants to make up this difference. At this time the financial gap, between scholarship monies and actual costs, for a UNM student is \$2,675.

Action: Alfred has asked Dawn and Henry to prepare a report listing the scholarship students and showing how they are doing academically, particularly those students who end up owing money not covered by their scholarship.

LIAISON REPORT

The liaison with men's basketball has been working with the team and receiving good questions from the student-athletes. Janet Poole reported that she has met with the new soccer coach and introduced herself as the liaison for soccer. Mike Rocca reported on his involvement with the men's and women's tennis teams and the excellent jobs both teams are doing this year. He stated that he has been approached by members of the tennis teams to discuss academic issues with him at his office.

OTHER BUSINESS

Henry announced that the Scholar Athlete Banquet will be held on April 27, 2015, and that invitations will be sent out in March. Alfred suggested that the award, which is given out at the banquet, be put on the next meeting's agenda for discussion.

Alfred announced that exit interviews will be scheduled next month.

Rita Chavez announced that the All Staff Meeting is held the second Wednesday, of each month, in the Todea Football Classroom, which is on the second floor. The meeting lasts one hour. Wednesday, February 11th, will be the next All Staff Meeting. The monthly Head Coach Meeting is held the last Wednesday of each month at 10:00am.

ADJOURNED:

10:10am

NEXT MEETING:

Friday March 6, 2015
9:00am – 10:30am
Lobo Club Board Room