

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO**  
**Athletic Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 28, 2019**  
**Administration Conference Room**  
**South Athletic Complex-Colleen J. Maloof Bldg.**  
**2:30 PM – 4:00 PM**

---

## **Minutes**

**Council Members:** Mike Rocca, Eddie Nunez, Jackie Hood, Lindsay Smart, Gig Brummell, Monica Cyrino, Ann Gibson, Amy Neel, Matthew Borrego, Karl Hinterbichler, Rachel Montoya, Janice Ruggiero, Paulita Aguilar, Gregory Romero  
**Absent:** Ryan Swanson, Janet Poole, Brayden Merritt, Raj Mahto, Mark Lasota, Todd Seidler  
**Athletic Dept. Staff:** Antonette Martinez, Eric Schulz, Chris Baca  
**Minutes & Guests:** Amy Cordoba, and Rick Holmes, University Secretary's Office

- 1. Opening and Call to Order .....Mike Rocca**  
Mike opened the meeting at 2:30 pm.
  - **Quorum was met.**
  
- 2. Approval of Agenda.....Mike Rocca**
  - The Agenda was approved.
  
- 3. Approval of the January 24, 2019 Meeting Minutes.....Mike Rocca**
  - The minutes were approved from November 30, 2018.
  
- 4. Athletic Chair's Report..... Mike Rocca**
  - Mike began the meeting by introducing Gregory Romero, who is now a member of the Athletic Council. Gregory is a freshman at UNM and an ASUNM senator.
  - Mike reported on presenting at the February 26, 2019 Faculty Senate meeting. He presented on:
    - The basic make up of the Athletic Council.
    - The Council's Charge.
    - Council goals for this year.
    - The Council's liaisons and subcommittees.
    - The Athletic Department's budget.
    - Building relationships across campus and developing a campus wide conversation about Athletics. This would also involve reaching out to the local community.
  - At the Faculty Senate meeting Provost Richard Wood asked Mike about congeniality and transparency between the Athletic Council and the Athletic Department. Mike answered that it is quite well and pointed out the strong relationship between the Council and Athletic Director Eddie Nuñez, and his staff.
  - Mike reported on progress being made in budget talks in the state legislature and the issues surrounding the reinstating of the UNM sports

that were eliminated last year. These talks are on going until the end of the legislative session in mid-March.

**5. Athletic Director's Report..... Eddie Nuñez**

- Janice Ruggiero presented until Eddie returned from the Board of Regents meeting. Issues covered:
  - Eddie is still fielding question on the reinstating of the sports that were eliminated last year and issues surrounding Title IX.
  - Eddie is asking the legislature for the \$2 million they are offering, if he reinstates the eliminated sports, but without reinstating those sports. He told the legislature that the \$2 million would not cover the reinstating but is necessary for the department.
  - By the time of the next Athletic Council meeting, on March 28, 2019, the current legislative session will be over, and Eddie will report to the Council on the budget decisions made by the legislature.
  - The NCAA has issued a ruling concerning the efforts schools must make to watch, and access, the overall mental health of Student-Athletes. UNM in compliance but does not offer pre-screening to Student-Athletes prior to their joining a sport. This ruling will also have an impact on the Athletic Department's budget.
  - New Regent Orientation – The President's Office will be holding an orientation for UNM's new Regents in late March 2019, in which Athletics will be discussed. These will be One on One sessions.

**6. FAR Report.....Amy Neel**

- Amy reported that she has been researching Title IX on the NCAA website (<https://www.ncaa.com/>), specifically the Gender Equity Planning Best Practices.
- She then gave an overview of the many conferences that universities can become a part of. UNM is in the Mountain West Conference, Division 1. She feels the legislature, faculty, and general public, need to be more informed of these conferences.
- Amy will be meeting with President Stokes next week and asked the council to contact her with any questions, or concerns, she could share with the president.
- Amy is also part of the accreditation steering committee and will be writing part of the report that deals with governance.
- A discussion followed on Title IX, and the conferences, and ways to educate the public on these issues through the print media and radio call-in sports talk shows. Mike also continued the discussion on the mental health of Student-Athletes, especially those teams that are having a rough year. Mike would like to continue the discussion on mental health at the April 25, 2019 Athletic Council meeting.

**7. Associate Athletic Director of Compliance Report.....Eric Schultz**

- Eric will be sending out a report on compliance in March 2019.

**8. Director of Lobo Center for Student-Athlete Success Report.....Chris Baca**

- Chris reported that the Scholar-Athlete Banquet is coming up and that invitations will be going out to all the members of the Athletic Council.
- The Mountain West announced their numbers yesterday and UNM came in second with 72 honorees. Boise State came in at 93 honorees.

**9. Student Attendance Policy.....Committee**

- Mike announced that the Public Comment Period for the Student Attendance Policy will be ending on March 1, 2019 and asked if the Council would like to add a comment. Mike read the changes in the policy to the Council.
- This policy affects not only Student-Athletes, but also interns and club members on campus.
- Discussion followed.
- Mike told the Council that the attendance policy is currently in front of the Faculty Senate Policy Committee and that an email from the Council could be sent to the Chair of the Policy Committee.
- A motion was made, and passed, to send the Policy Committee a one sentence suggestion for the new policy D170 Student Attendance. The Athletic Council supports the proposed changes to the new policy.

**10. Exit Interview Process:**

- Mike reported meeting with the full Equity Committee Subcommittee. He presented the Council with two documents. The first document is The Interview Process. This document shows how the Exit Interview process has worked in the past, with suggestions for improvement.
- A change has been suggested in which the interviewee would change from a “graduating Student-Athlete” to “those Student-Athletes who have exhausted eligibility”. This would pull more students into the interview process.
- Another change would be to send invitations out to transfer students. This has not been done in the past. This was presented to the Equity Committee Subcommittee.
- A final option is for the Student-Athlete to meet with members of the Athletic Council individually.
- The next Exit Interviews will begin the third week of April 2019, so as not to interfere with final exams. In the fourth week in April the findings of the Exit Interview process will be sent to the Chair of the Athletic Council who will then deliver these findings. The findings will then be discussed at the final Athletic Council meeting of the semester. The Chair would then draft an executive summary of the interviews for the end of the year report. This will be presented to the Faculty Senate President. Legal council has stated that all of this documentation, and notes, are public. This documentation, and notes, must be kept on file for two years.
- Athletic Director Eddie Nuñez, suggested that this documentation be presented to UNM’s President before being presented to the Faculty Senate President. Since the Athletic Council reports directly to the

Faculty Senate President, and not the university president, will continue as status quo.

- Mark Emmons, Zimmerman Library, is looking for a copy of a survey that used to be sent out to graduating Student-Athletes to supplement the actual Exit Interview.
- The Council then began the review process of the wording of the Exit Interview questions. Mike will make the suggested changes to the questions, and write an introduction, and present them to the Council at the April 25, 2019 meeting. Discussion on the changes followed.

#### **11. Athletic Council Charge:**

- *Discussion of the Council's Charge was tabled until the next meeting in order to address the Subcommittee and Liaison reports.*

#### **12. Other Business:**

##### **○ Liaison Reports:**

- Ann has met with Volleyball at Johnson Gym.
- Karl has met with the Softball team and their coach. He has also met with the Baseball coach. Karl then raised the issue of the disparity of funding between Softball and Baseball. Eddie then explained to the Council how the funding works for the two sports.
- Gig, reported that Women's Basketball is doing very well with the academics.
- Mike has met with Men's Tennis and they are also doing well academically. He will meet with Women's Tennis next week.
- Matt – Baseball has been reached out to, in order to set up a meeting.

##### **○ Subcommittee Reports:**

- Monica reported that she, and Chris, have been researching data on the topic of academics and graduation rates. They will produce a report in the fall and spring semesters.

#### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

April 25, 2019.

#### **14. Adjourn**

**3:55 pm.**