

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
Athletic Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 9th, 2019
Administration Conference Room
South Athletic Complex-Colleen J. Maloof Bldg.
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Minutes

Council Members: Janet Poole, Paulita Aguilar, Ryan Swanson, Matthew Borrego, Todd Seidler, Ann Gibson, Lindsay Smart, Mike Rocca, Gig Brummell, Abigail Lutz, Gregory Romero, Ross Sinclair, Mark Lasota, Amy Neel

Absent: Jacqueline Hood, Karl Hinterbichler, Raj Mahto, Monica Cyrino, Eddie Nuñez, Janice Ruggiero

Athletic Dept. Staff: Chris Baca, Eric Schultz

Minutes & Guests: Natasha Dark – SAAC President, Mary Dorado – University Secretary’s Office

- 1. Opening and Call to OrderMike Rocca**

Mike opened the meeting at 2:30 pm.

 - **Quorum was met.**

- 2. Approval of Agenda.....Mike Rocca**
 - The Agenda was approved as amended without opposition.

- 3. Approval of the September 18th, 2019 Meeting Minutes.....Mike Rocca**
 - The minutes were approved as amended without opposition.

- 4. Athletic Chair’s Report..... Mike Rocca**
 - Mike began his report by welcoming the two new ASUNM members: Ross Sinclair and Abigail Lutz.
 - The President asked the Athletics Council to take on a more formal role in the FAR representative selection. This introduced two items to be addressed by the committee.
 - The first is creating the FAR call to include language and process that the Athletics Council wished to use both in this FAR call, and in future calls.
 - In addition to this, the President asked the Athletics Council to sort through all the applicants for the FAR call and present her with the Council’s top two to three candidates. From there, the President will make the final decision.
 - The council began discussions on qualifications and language for the FAR Call:
 - Minimum requirement of associate and full-time professor, preferred tenured faculty.
 - The applicant must be able to travel frequently, i.e. 2-3 conference per year, with monthly conference call, among other time requirements.

- Change language to Summer salary, or equivalent stipend (for HSC faculty).
- Have applications sent to Office of the University Secretary.
- Preference of previous experience in, or knowledge of, Faculty Governance.
- Knowledge and or experience in intercollegiate athletics.
- Demonstrated interest in student success, mentoring, and advocacy.
- Contact information for two relevant references.
- The Athletic Council recommended that the finalists in the application process meet with Amy Neel to gain a more comprehensive understanding of what the position entails.
- It was agreed that a subcommittee of five would review all applicants and bring the top candidates the Council that will then give the finalists to the President.

5. FAR Report.....Amy Neel

- Amy reported that the D170 policy was revised, but not favorably. She encouraged the Council to comment on the policy that was again out for faculty comment.
 - Mike suggested that the Athletic Council submit a statement on the policy. The subcommittee for student welfare would craft the statement, and the Council would have to approve the statement unanimously over email before it could be submitted as feedback to D170.
- Amy offered to provide information to anyone who was interested that had to deal with the law that was recently passed in California that would allow student athletes to be paid. She also offered information on student athlete wagering and the impacts it has had on other universities.
 - Mike felt it was appropriate to have athletic wagering as a future agenda item as it could greatly impact student athletes.

6. Associate Athletic Director of Compliance Report.....Eric Shultz

- Eric notified the Council that heightened gambling education had been done with the basketball and football team that covered insider information. Certification and compliance forms for staff and students have also been updated and will be sent around to be resigned by staff and students.
- Mike asked if other sports were also being bet on, aside from basketball and baseball.
 - Eric responded that there was, and that the monitor the betting lines at Isleta because of it. Eric's main concern is that the sporting community here is very close and that it wouldn't take much for interactions between athletes and people who would like to compromise bets to happen. Because of this, he has taken major steps to be available to student athletes, and to jump on any concerns that the students bring to him.
- The APR for 2019 have been submitted and the numbers will go public in May of 2020. The GSR will be available as of Tuesday, October 15 2019.

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

- Chris reported that a speaker came to an event to discuss PEDs. The talk was mandatory for student athletes and really helped to continue support the life skills goal of the department.

8. SAAC Report..... Natasha Dark

- Natasha provided updates on the community services projects such as the children's hospital and the ASUNM Fall event.
- In addition to this, Natasha provided information from the Mountain West Conference that supported life skills. The program she referenced was called the "Four Corners Game Plan" that was implemented on a semester by semester schedule that taught life skills, such as what comes after athletics, or interviewing skills.
 - Natasha felt that this was a fantastic model that could be integrated into Eddie's Lobos for Life initiative. She mentioned that it could be implemented as courses that could be offered for credit for student athletes to help prep them for what life is like after athletics.
- At the Mountain West Conference, mental health was also discussed and how other colleges are handling the need for mental health.
 - One of the programs that was implemented elsewhere was training key students on different teams to be what is called a "Gatekeeper". This person would be trained on what to look out for in their fellow athletes and when to provide aid to students showing signs of need.
 - In addition to this, other colleges provided mental health workshops that provided athletes with tools to foster their own mental wellbeing, which could be a great program to implement at the college.
 - Mike feels that the Athletic Council could help SAAC implement these last two programs, especially though mentoring.
- Gregory Romero took the opportunity to mention to the Council that the Student Activities Center gives out a Leadership and Involvement award that spotlights outstanding students. The Activities Center is currently looking for applicants and would like more student athletes to apply for the award.

9. 2018-2019 Academic Report Follow Up.....Mike Rocca & Ryan Swanson

- Ryan updated the Council on the Athletics Report that had to be turned in to the president. While there was some rewording that was reworked, he felt that the report just needed a little more educational background to explain some of the discrepancies between male and female sports.
- The Athletics Report was updated with the most recent information to give the President as clear of a view as possible.
- They also discussed giving background information on the GPA so that they could show the growth of the teams, but also explain how the information is effected both by the number of team members in the different sports, but also emphasis on the progress that is made over time.

- The interest in comparing peer institution was raised so that another layer of context could be conveyed so that goals could be made.
- In addition to this, the point was made that it would make more sense to observe the growth of GPA within a single sport, rather than comparing all sports against each other. This way they could also show the programs that have been implemented to help improve the GPA scores within these sports and how it could translate to the rest of the campus to help academic growth.

10. 2018-2019 Student Athlete Exit Interview Report..... Mike Rocca

- Please continue looking through the reports as they will be covered in upcoming meetings.

11. Other Business:

- *Ann Gibson agreed to take on the Swimming Liaison appointment.*

12. Proposed Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 13th, 2019

13. Adjourn

4:10 pm.