

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
Athletic Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 11th, 2019
Administration Conference Room
South Athletic Complex-Colleen J. Maloof Bldg.
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Minutes

Council Members: Jacqueline Hood, Janet Poole, Ryan Swanson, Matthew Borrego, Raj Mahto, Lindsay Smart, Michael Rocca, Gig Brummell, Mark Lasota, Gregory Romero, Ross Sinclair, Eddie Nunez

Absent: Paulita Aguilar, Karl Hinterbichler, Todd Seidler, Ann Gibson, Monica Cyrino, Abigail Lutz, Amy Neel, Janice Ruggiero

Athletic Dept. Staff: Chris Baca, Eric Schultz

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

- 1. Opening and Call to OrderMike Rocca**
Mike opened the meeting at 2:34 pm.
 - **Quorum was met.**

- 2. Approval of Agenda.....Mike Rocca**
 - Agenda was approved unanimously.

- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes.....Mike Rocca**
 - November 13th meeting minutes were approved with one abstention.

- 4. Athletic Chair’s Report..... Mike Rocca**
 - Nothing to report.

- 5. Athletic Director’s Report.....Eddie Nuñez**
 - Eddie shared that the updates on the football coach and how the search for the new coach would be conducted. It was emphasized that he really wanted to find a coach who was of high integrity, who was willing to help shape both the students, and the athletics department, for the better.
 - He also shared how he and the rest of the athletics department were supporting the football team during this time.
 - It was brought to Eddie’s attention that there was potential hazing going on within the women’s sports. He is addressing it by meeting with the team’s coaches, having the teams go through additional training on appropriate conduct, and is having his staff keep an eye on the teams to ensure that it does not continue. He emphasized how important it was to him that the culture of Athletics stays one of positivity and support.
 - As for one of Eddie’s main goals, he is working with other parts of the university to gain support for better mental health for the University, and not just Athletics. He has seen a great deal of support and is hoping that they will soon see funds to help support this mission of mental health.

- Eddie was asked why assistant coaches, or coaches, had a buyout option. He explained that many contracts, especially multiyear contracts, will have stipulations in them, especially protection for the coach such as a buyout. He proceeded to explain that he has been working to adjust these so that they are not paying buyouts of the remainder of the contracts. Instead, it is about half of what would have been paid had it been honored.
 - Mike asked what the market was like for paying coaches, and how was Eddie working to remain competitive, yet stay within the budget restraints. Eddie explained that they do observe market value, but he also knows what he has budgeted for coaches. And so he has already explained to candidates interested in the football coach position that they have to work within the budget restraints.
 - Eddie also shared that he hopes to build into incentives oriented around academic goals that would not only encourage the games success, but also the student's success academically.

6. FAR Report.....Amy Neel

- Amy was not able to attend, but instead sent a letter to the council that she asked Mike to share. She thanked that the council for their dedication to continuing the growth of our student athletes. She thanks President Stokes for allowing her to act as the FAR representative for the past year and a half, as she has learned so much. She gave special thanks to Eddie Nunez for his positive attitude and tenaciousness in the difficult times athletics has experienced and for Eric Schultz and Chris Baca for their unquestionable integrity.
- Mike let the council know that they have not yet heard from the President's office on who would be the next FAR representative. But Eddie said that he would be meeting with Stokes and would hopefully find out more information.

7. SAAC Report.....Ross Sinclair for Natasha Dark

- Nothing to report.

8. Athletic Council Charge..... Mike Rocca

- The council continued to work on their charge, focusing specifically on three areas that they have had the most difficulty with. After some delineation, the council held a vote to finalize and accept the changes to the charge. The vote was passed unanimously.

9. Liaisons Roles and Responsibilities.....Mike Rocca

- The council voted to approve the finalized document and the vote was passed unanimously.

10. Interim Chair Vote.....Mike Rocca

- As Mike will be on sabbatical for the Spring Semester of 2020, the council will be holding a vote to elect the interim chair. Because Ryan Swanson was the only candidate nominated, the council voted with Ryan recusing

himself. The council voted to accept Ryan as the Spring interim chair and the vote was passed unanimously.

11. Other Business:

- Add a liaison report section to the agenda so that the council can continue to hear about, and stay up to date with, the athletic teams.

12. Proposed Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 12th, 2019

13. Adjourn

3:59 pm.