

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
Athletic Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 10th, 2020
Zoom Conference
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Minutes

Council Members: Ryan Swanson, Brandi Fink, John Benavidez, Tamala Bos, Janet Poole, Karl Hinterbichler, Matthew Borrego, Todd Seidler, Ann Gibson, Lindsay Smart, Michael Rocca, Monica Cyrino, Gig Brummell, Jeongwon Choi, Emma Spotts, Ross Sinclair, Eddie Nunez, Sara Nottingham, Janice Ruggiero

Absent: Gregory Romero

Athletic Dept. Staff: Chris Baca, Eric Schultz

SAAC President: Gwen Maly

Guests & Minutes: Mary Dorado – University Secretary’s Office

- 1. Opening and Call to OrderMike Rocca**

Mike opened the meeting at 2:33 pm.

 - **Quorum was met.**
 - **Approval of Agenda..... Mike Rocca**

Agenda was approved unanimously.
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes..... Mike Rocca**
 - October 20th, 2020 meeting minutes – Approved Unanimously
- 3. Athletic Chair Report..... Mike Rocca**
 - Mike was very excited that the Liaison assignments were done and that everyone’s preferences worked out so that the committee members were able to work with the teams they felt most drawn to.
 - As a refresher for continuing council members and for new council members, the Liaison Responsibilities document will be sent out after the meeting for all the council members to review.
 - Unfortunately, Microsoft Teams has not been working well for the North Campus faculty currently. We will continue to update Teams in hopes that IT will find a way to allow all campuses to use the Microsoft Teams account. However, to make sure that all council members are able to have access to documents, we will continue emailing information out.
 - The discussion of Mental Health will be tabled till the December meeting because Brandi and Lindsay were able to contact Dr. Altschul to come speak with the council on the pressures that student athletes face and how the council could help overcome those challenges.
 - Jeongwon Choi was officially welcomed to the committee as he was unable to join the last meeting due to the birth of his child!

- 4. Athletic Director's Report..... Eddie Nuñez**
- Despite the fact that the COVID-19 virus is still drastically affecting the way sports can be played and practiced, universities are still finding a way forward. Out of 357 institutions, 355 have been able to find ways to move forward with practices and games in a safe manner. However, it still inhibits the way in which sports need to be practiced.
 - Both the Men's and Women's basketball teams were able to go play a game in Moriarty and it was a great opportunity for them.
 - There have been some COVID positive tests among all of the teams however, there have not been outbreaks amongst the teams. If a team member has tested positive, they quarantine and do what they need to do before they are allowed to come back to practices. All of the sports have been hyper vigilant in following safety protocol so that when they are able, they can go out and play their game.
- 5. FAR Report.....Sara Nottingham**
- The Mountain West FARs have not met since the last time the Athletic Council had met, so she did not have anything to report.
 - Sara is expecting a baby and will be on parental leave in the Spring. She will be trying to attend as many of the Athletic Council meeting and FAR meetings as she can, but to help with the load, a former FAR representative has volunteered to help with the more immediate academic issues during the time Sara is out.
- 6. Compliance Report.....Eric Schultz**
- Eric submitted the APR for the academic year 19-20 back in October.
 - There have been some students who have chosen not to come back due to the pandemic, which has changed some of the data and will impact APR later in the year. We are not losing points for eligibility, but we are losing points due to retention.
- 7. LCSAS.....Chris Baca**
- Because the football team is currently stuck in Las Vegas, that has been the main focus for Chris and her team currently. Even though their schedules are a bit unusual, Chris was excited to share that the football team has been doing their part academically (attending tutoring, keeping up on course work, etc.) and their grades have not suffered.
- 8. SAAC Report.....Gwen Maly**
- The SAAC from UNM, Eastern New Mexico, Western New Mexico, and Highlands all came together to write a statement that they sent to the Governor's Office. The letter focused on three main concerns that they had with her mandates. They are asking for changes in test types, increasing practice number, and not linking the team's community bubbles with the community spread numbers in the Albuquerque areas.
 - The Governor would be reviewing the letter tomorrow and they hope to get a response.
 - It was nice to be able to work with the other SAACs from fellow universities and it really brought them all together.

9. Other Business:

- ASUNM had their senate elections and Andria, from Track and Field will representing the student body next year.

10. Adjourn

3:26 pm.