



University Athletics Council

**Annual Report
June 30, 2012**

The University Athletics Council was established in April of 2010 to provide oversight for USI intercollegiate athletics, support the development of excellence in USI intercollegiate athletics, and serve as an advisory council to the President. During its initial year of meetings, the UAC members established by-laws, organized into four distinct subcommittees, and began the process of reviewing intercollegiate athletics programs and policies.

Appointed by USI President Linda M. Bennett, the spring 2012 UAC Council members representing University faculty, administration, student-athletes, and alumni are presented below.

Voting Members		Term	Expires
President	Karen Bonnell, Chair	3 years	2012
Faculty-B	Kevin Celuch	3 years	2012
Faculty-LA	Christy Baker	3 years	2014
Faculty-NHP	Katie Ehlman	3 years	2012
Faculty -SEE	Jeff Seyler	3 years	2014
Student Athlete-Spring Sports	Brad Wannemuehler	1 year	2012
Student Athlete-Fall Sports	Krista Coccaro	1 year	2012
Alumnus	John Key	3 years	2014
Faculty Senate	Marco Lara Gracia	Appointee	
NCAA Faculty Athletics Rep	Brody Broshears	Appointee	
Admission	Eric Otto	Appointee	
Business Affairs	Steve Bridges	Appointee	
Registrar	Linda Tribble	Appointee	
Student Fin. Assistance	Mary Jo Harper	Appointee	
Varsity Club	Sandra Hatfield	Appointee	
Non-voting Members			
Athletics Director	Jon Mark Hall	Ex officio	
University Development	Paula Nurrenbern	Ex officio	
NCAA Compliance	Jay Newton	Ex officio	
Sr. Women's Admin.	Randa Dallas	Ex officio	
Former FAR	Scott Gordon	Ex officio	

The UAC developed an informational website for the university community and public at <http://www.usi.edu/athleticscouncil>, and details of its activities including meeting agendas, minutes, and other documents are posted there. Additionally, the group established an internal electronic collaboration space on the University's course management system, Blackboard.

Each of the four UAC subcommittees is charged with monitoring and reviewing distinct areas of the athletics program. The Academic Progress and Integrity subcommittee monitors the academic progress of student-athletes and the academic integrity of the intercollegiate athletics program. The Governance and Compliance subcommittee ensures that the mission and goals of intercollegiate athletics support the mission and goals of the University, the GLVC, and the NCAA. The Student-Athlete Welfare and Equity subcommittee monitors the fair and equitable treatment of student athletes, protects the physical educational, and emotional welfare of student athletes, and monitors the university's commitment to the fundamental values of sportsmanship and ethical conduct. The Facility Planning and Fiscal Integrity Subcommittee is responsible for developing a shared vision for the University's intercollegiate athletics facilities and programs. This subcommittee monitors financial practices and fiscal and facility management.

In 2011, the Student-Athlete Welfare and Equity subcommittee recommended a new University athletics program gender equity plan. The policy was approved in November 2011 and stipulates the University's commitment to gender equity as outlined below.

- Fair and equitable treatment of all athletes: USI is fully committed to the advancement of a gender neutral environment with the fair and equitable treatment of male and female student athletes.
- Equal opportunities to men and women athletes: Gender equity requires an acknowledgement that there is no difference in potential interest and level of participation in sports between males and females.
- Equitable levels of support: USI is fully committed to provide equitable levels of support including but not limited to financial, academic, emotional support.
- Environment in athletics: USI is fully committed to provide equitable levels of support including but not limited to the following areas: equipment, scheduling, travel allowances, academic support, coaching, locker rooms & other facilities, medical & psychological services, housing & dining, publicity, and support services, and recruitment.
- Ongoing assessment and evaluation of gender equity plan and progress: To continue to make significant progress toward gender equity goals, USI will reassess on an annual basis, its plan and progress toward gender equity. In addition, USI will continue to position itself to accommodate evolving gender equity standards as well as institutional demographics.

In April 2012, the UAC approved a pregnancy policy for student-athletes. The purpose of this policy is to develop guidelines to protect the health, confidentiality, scholarship and ability of the pregnant student-athlete to participate, while also assisting medical providers, coaches and administrators with uniform guidelines that address this issue. The University of Southern Indiana supports the continued academic success of all female students who become pregnant.

Throughout 2011-12, the Governance and Compliance subcommittee monitored the University's compliance with NCAA regulations and the development of a new Compliance Manual to guide University athletics. Members also monitored the implementation of the NCAA Blueprint Compliance Review recommendations and monitored the revision of practices for student-athlete grant-in-aid notification, the tracking of grant-in-aid awards, and the classification of aid as either countable or noncountable.

In March, 2011, the Facility Planning and Fiscal Integrity subcommittee shared details of a facilities assessment related to softball, cross country, soccer, baseball, golf, tennis, and the Physical Activities Center. Among suggested needs were improving the home team scoreboard view for the softball fields as well as adding a flag pole and infield tarp, providing permanent restrooms and a public address system for the soccer field, the need for an indoor baseball batting space, locating golf and tennis practice locations, and the need to improve and expand the weight room in the PAC.

Throughout 2011-12, the Academic Progress and Integrity subcommittee reviewed

practices on academic advising for student-athletes, peer tutoring services, academic degree progress tracking including mid-year grade checks, and student-athlete absences due to sport participation. The subcommittee also worked with the Office of Planning, Research and Assessment to obtain academic progress statistics for first annual data summary report for the university and public.

In 2012, the UAC approved its first annual data summary that may be used as a model for subsequent years. It includes the number of student-athletes participating by sport and highlights from the 2010 through 2012 seasons, the grade point averages of student-athletes, their academic success rate and federal graduation rate, scholarships and equivalencies by sport and by gender, coaches' salaries by gender, and athletics revenues, expenses, and facilities usage. The data summary is scheduled to be published annually on the UAC's website.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen H. Bonnell, Ph.D.
Chair, University Athletics Council