# Meeting Minutes University Athletics Council Wednesday, February 27, 2019 1:00pm

**PRESENT:** Austin Anderson, Brody Broshears, Mark Creager, Alex Eaton, Katie Ehlman, Caleb Fendrich, Andrea Gentry, Jon Mark Hall, Matt Hanka, Mike Hillyard, Brian McGuire, Ron Rochon, Mat Santoro, Jeff Sickman, Linda Trible, Eileen Weber, Linda Willis, Jessica Wood

CALL TO ORDER: Katie Ehlman calls the meeting to order at 1:00pm

**MINUTES:** Katie Ehlman asks for consideration of the meeting minutes from November 5, 2019. Motion to approve November minutes is made by Brian McGuire and seconded by Jeff Sickman. November minutes are approved.

## ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT-Jon Mark Hall

- Update on new arena, discussed incidents on the completion on the court cause delays in the construction, but hoping for a completion date for the middle of March
- Brought attention to the first events occurring in Screaming Eagle Arena;
  - o April 1<sup>st</sup> Alumni Reception
  - o April 4<sup>th</sup> General Colin Powell
  - o April 5<sup>th</sup> Present Inauguration of Dr. Rochon
- Mentioned the NCAA violation the university was cited for in the Fall, violation has been cleared after
  community service was served by student athlete. No other penalties, loss of eligibility/games, will be
  issued. Thanked Alex Eaton for staying on top of the violation and making sure all penalty assignments
  were completed.
- Katie Ehlman mentioned attention and gave praise to USI Athletics Twitter, excellent source to keep updated on all things USI athletics suggested adding USI Athletic Twitter.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# Fiscal Integrity and Facilities Planning-Jeff Sickman

- Committee did not meet prior to entire Council meeting, will meet on March 13th and April 10th
- In December 2018 the university underwent the Agreed Upon Procedures Review, which reviews NCAA procedures required for athletics, assess if the university is incompliance with those procedures.
- The 74-point compliance review cleared the university of NO FINDINGS. The review is conducted every 3 years
- Phase 2 of construction will begin immediately after completion of Phase 1, in May. Phase 2 will include the academic section of the building, along with the swimming pool.
- Phase 2 is being funded through a public bond offering.
- Discussed planning for the Facilities Study (Fall 2019)
- Committee plans to discuss financial reports, results of the Agreed Upon Procedures Review, basketball ticket pricing, bond issued for Phase 2, Swimming and Diving Study that Jeff Sickman, Jon Mark Hall and Graduate Assistant Drake McNamara have been involved in.

# Student-athlete Welfare and Equity-Austin Anderson

- Met a couple weeks prior to meeting
- Committee working towards reformulation of the Gender Equity Monitoring Plan to replace the existing plan.
- Committee exploring ideas on revamping the questions to gather more information from the studentathletes' perspective, not specific to gender. Will be working on draft questions, along with a draft instrument to bring to the entire council for consideration next meeting.

 Committee will discuss rollout date/time and mechanism to get the greatest response from studentathletes.

# **Governance and Compliance-Caleb Fendrich**

- Met a couple weeks prior to meeting
- Committee sent out updated messages to athletic academic advisors explaining schedule changes and how they impact financial/athletic aid.
- Committee included eligibility financial aid information in athletic newsletter, along with specific financial aid contact information so athletes are comfortable seeking financial aid advice.
- Spoke on the implementation of the NEW automated book stipend, which provides a distinct code to athletic bookstore charges, so aid pays out directly to the charge to make it more streamline. The automated book stipend was put in place Spring 2019.
- Committee is working on a board check system, much like the automated book stipend to make the board check process more cohesive.

# **Academic Progress and Integrity-Brody Broshears**

- Committee met on 26<sup>th</sup> of November
- Reviewed strategic goals
- Committee discussed ways of gathering information about, what student-athletes are doing immediately after graduation. Utilizing the Career Service Employment Survey as a means for information.
- Committee reviewed Absence Policy and had no changes. Will meet with Linda to evaluate language in the USI Bulletin in how it impacts student-athletes.
- Alex and Brody are working on the Expressway Dodge Career Services Initiative, the program has been in place for 3 years. Later this spring hope to compile a report; what student athletes think about the program, impact it has made, numbers impacted.
- Committee will continue to monitor and look at student-athlete absences, trend 100 full days missed per full year by student-athletes.
- Committee will explore how competition impacts final exams and commencement, and a way to accommodate.
- Committee will continue to review student-athlete registration and monitor teams who are constantly late to register. Find ways to assist those teams to register early/earlier.
- Alex visited with advising center directors to go over eligibility, eligibility certification. Also Fall team practice schedules that had been completed, were shared with advising center staff.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Thanked Dr. Elhman for her years of service on the council and all her hard work.
- Discussed a parent who reached out to him about their daughter not being able to attend
  commencement due to be a student-athlete, arrangements were made so student-athlete could attend a
  different ceremony. President Rochon wants to make sure commencement is a priority and it does not
  negatively impact our student-athletes.
- Acknowledged Basketball Senior Day and how all senior athletes and families need to be celebrated and recognized for their dedication to the university. Exploring ideas on how to make a celebratory occasion happen for all.
- Discussed poor attendance at Homecoming. Would like to setup a committee to evaluate Homecoming and how to make it grow into a celebration of current students and alumnus.
- Monitoring GPA of student-athletes and finding ways to provide additional resources of those athletes our teams.
- Brody Beashears highlighted the Academic Recognition Breakfast for athletes, the event was enjoyed and well attended by student-athletes and faculty.

No old issues were addressed. Katie Ehlman brought up one item for new business –Data Dashboard

#### **Data Dashboard**

• Katie Elhman discussed reviewing; how we use Data Dashboard, enhancements to Data Dashboard, if we should use Data Dashboard

- Jon Mark discussed that the UAC is best practice for sharing information, shared concerns for usage of the Data Dashboard
- Katie discussed the analytics on the Data Dashboard (see attached)
- Committee group brainstorming activity addressing Data Dashboard (see attached)

Meeting is adjourned at 2:06pm.

# Question 1:

In its current format, how can we better use the data dashboard with internal and external stakeholders to share the USI Athletics story?

- You have to look for it to find it
- Let people know its out there USI Today, with Linda 1 time a year
- Rotary group
- Varsity club
- Faculty Senate
- Program Directors/Dept Chairs
- Admin Senate
- Support council
- GLVC conference
- Distribute to wider audiences but target information to the audience
- Enhance retention after undergraduate
- Highlighting gaps & presenting opportunities

## Question 2:

If we do not keep the dashboard in its current state:

a. What items are important on this document to share with internal and external USI community?

Needs to be different year after year Twice the years Use subcommittees especially external folks — Scholarship equivalences Financial GPA

b. How do you recommend sharing these data? (i.e. paper format, website, other fomats?)

Website

**Twitter** 

All fronts – listed – twitter, Instagram, facebook, etc

Hard copies – visitors center

Mail to season ticket holders

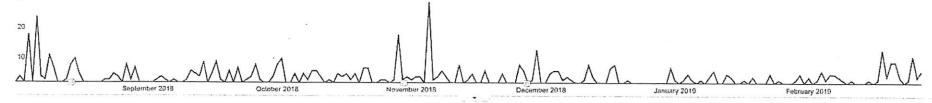
c. How often do you recommend we put this together?

Physical copies with prospective students Annual; advantages; to use from annually?? Road show; two or three year

Other:

Additional data points to supplement annual document Community component General details (success) for the general campus - like current dashboard Video stories Meeting distribution of data Pageviews

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