

Meeting Minutes
University Athletics Council
Wednesday, January 30, 2013
11:00am UC2206

PRESENT: Karen Bonnell, Steve Bridges, Brody Broshears, Alex Eaton, Katie Ehlman, Mary Jo Harper, Sandy Hatfield, John Key, Julia Kohnen, Paula Nurrenbern, Kim Reddington, Sean Riley, Laci Rogers, Jeff Seyler, Linda Tribble, Brad Wannemuehler

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Karen Bonnell calls the meeting to order at 11:00am. Dr. Bonnell precludes the agenda which calls for sub-committee reports, and establishing a date for a two hour meeting to work on strategic planning, goals. She announces that Jon Mark Hall is ill and will not be able to attend the meeting today. She reminds that the Council has accomplished one of its primary charges in completion of the Dashboard project. Dr. Bonnell asks for introductions from all in attendance today.

OCTOBER 4, 2012 MINUTES

Minutes were previously distributed electronically. Dr. Bonnell asks for any recommendations/changes to minutes and receives none. Ms. Linda Tribble moves to approve the minutes; Dr. Katie Ehlman seconds the motion. Minutes are approved.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Karen Bonnell opens discussion regarding 2013 Data Dashboard timeline and reminds of original hopes of February, 2013 deadline for this update. She asks for feedback from Sub-Committee Chairs who would be in the best position to speculate whether or not their sub-committees might be ready and able to meet this goal.

Facility Planning and Fiscal Integrity

Mr. Steve Bridges reports that they just received an email on January 22, 2013 that the Division II Financial Report that they rely on to update data, has been released. However, they have not yet received this report, he will follow up with Mr. Jon Mark Hall. Once this data is received, they will push to complete.

Academic Progress and Integrity

Mr. Brody Broshears reports that while his sub-committee has met, the Data Dashboard update was not the focus of their meeting. Mr. Broshears states that since most of their Dashboard information primarily comes from the Registrar's office, he assumes that through a request to Ms. Linda Tribble and/or Mr. Joe Wingo, most of this data would be readily available. Dr. Bonnell reiterates that if these sub-committee members agree to keep their entry items the same; this data should be easily obtained by contacting Mr. Wingo. Mr. Broshears adds that there could be some conference and/or national information needed but feels confident that between Mr. Hall, Ms. Alex Eaton and himself, they should be able to get what they need.

Mr. Broshears explains that this sub-committee met mainly to discuss the Division II Path to Graduation national taskforce that has been looking at new academic regulations for Division II athletes. He explains that the two main issues that this group is researching are initial eligibility and progress to

degree. Mr. Broshears passes out handouts containing key concepts, requirements of this taskforce including Division II Path to Graduation Feedback form from 2013 NCAA Convention Educational Session. Mr. Broshears explains that, very basically, Division II is closely looking at how we make initial eligibility decisions based on academic requirements of the high school. Any legislative changes resulting from taskforce work would be brought for vote at national meetings next January, 2014. Mr. Broshears states that he feels that the ultimate goal of this examination is to increase the number of student athletes that would be initially eligible to participate at the Division II level. After exact verbiage/data is received from the NCAA, Mr. Broshears plans to attend a SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Committee) meeting to discuss some of these proposed changes with our USI student athletes and Ms. Alex Eaton adds that this information will be presented to our Coaches. Mr. Broshears and Ms. Eaton describe different possible scenarios and situations which would impact student requirements should some of this different legislation come to pass.

Student Athlete Welfare and Equity

Dr. Katie Ehlman reports that this sub-committee met in November to discuss the Data Dashboard update and other items. Dr. Ehlman reports that her committee is proposing a third Dashboard item, whereas their portion of last year's publication contained two. Last year's Dashboard included Head Coaches Average Salary by Sport Gender and Scholarship Equivalencies. This year they are proposing to add numbers of men and women enrolled in the University (in the general population) compared to the number of student athletes by gender and how closely they align or possibly how they don't align.

Dr. Ehlman shows the Council slides depicting the proposed Dashboard updates from this sub-committee. She states that if the Athletic Council agrees to allow sub-committee to add this third item, she would also suggest that they add the raw data to their third chart.

Dr. Ehlman also reports that this committee looked into tutoring and found that some different institutions handle tutoring differently for athletes. However, this committee reports that USI student athletes can receive tutoring just like any other student on campus, no matter of gender or athlete/non-athlete status. This committee is developing an email questionnaire for Coaches to provide their feedback. Dr. Ehlman adds that Council member representing the Student Athlete for Fall Sports, Ms. Julia Kohnen has some good ideas regarding scheduling. Mr. Broshears adds that some athletic programs have systematically used the Peer-Tutoring program established by Academic Skills and some teams "piecemeal" where needed. Mr. Broshears reminds that they try to get the word out to all Coaches early on that all student athletes are invited and eligible to utilize these services.

Governance and Compliance

Ms. Mary Jo Harper reports that this entire sub-committee as a whole has not met to update the Dashboard but will plan a meeting later next week. Ms. Harper states that she, Mr. Hall, Ms. Eaton and Mr. Sean Riley have met and discussed the Blue Print recommendations and she reports that tremendous progress has been made on these recommendations. Ms. Harper adds that there are only fourteen more points remaining and she predicts that those remaining should be finished out by fall 2013, with the majority completed by this March, 2013. Ms. Harper reports that Athletics, Mr. Hall, and Ms. Eaton have made great strides with the Policies and Procedures Manual. Ms. Harper has received a copy of this manual and reviewed it and calls it comprehensive. Ms. Harper, Mr. Riley, Ms. Eaton and Mr. Hall have been meeting to refine some of the processes and language, and to add some addendums, and reports that she is very pleased with the progress. Ms. Harper asks Ms. Eaton to elaborate on the

Policies and Procedures Manual. Ms. Eaton reports that she redid the manual that Ms. Mandi Fulton put together this summer to streamline and make it easier for our Coaches and staff to be able to look at certain areas. Committee members have looked at it as well as the internal auditors, who have it and are refining it. As soon as we get both parties to the final version we will email it out to this group and then finally we will install on all the Coaches desktops and on the Compliance website (which is being worked on for the summer) so that anyone can access it.

DATA DASHBOARD UPDATE

Dr. Bonnell thanks all sub-committees for their work and recommends that the Council continue to try to obtain the February, 2013 goal for completion of the updated Data-Dashboard if needed data is available. She reminds that if data is not available, deadline can be pushed back. Mr. Bridges adds that the project should be much easier this time; plugging in new data, Dr. Bonnell agrees. Dr. Bonnell shows Power Point slides of last years' Data Dashboard. She makes a recommendation that in the updated Dashboard all individual sources of data contain a footnote. Dr. Bonnell volunteers to collect all sub-committee Dashboard items again and to work to get this project into a good format. She asks that all sub-committee's updates come to her in Excel format. She asks Council members for any ideas for improving the overall format of the Data Dashboard. Mrs. Harper remarks that she thinks that the format looks nice; Mr. Broshears agrees and adds that it is easy to read. Dr. Laci Rogers suggests possible use of pie chart(s) to illustrate some percentages. Ms. Sandy Hatfield suggests some new pictures of student athletes. Dr. Bonnell asks about use of highlights in the Dashboard? Dr. Jeff Seyler suggests that since this project is to be updated annually, why not use the current years' highlights and then list the other years as links to lead to the other (older) information. Dr. Bonnell asks about continuing to compare older data, does the Council wish to keep comparing, and how far back, 2 years, 3 years, etc? Ms. Linda Tribble suggests that unless you are attempting to show a trend, only a couple of years past data would be sufficient.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Dr. Bonnell searched through Council members Outlook calendars looking for a common available time slot to schedule a two hour meeting to work on Strategic Planning. The result was between two dates Feb. 25 and Feb. 28, 2013 from 12:00-2:00pm. Dr. Bonnell will send out an email to all Council members to get a consensus of the best of these two choices and will schedule this planning meeting accordingly.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Bonnell announces that the University Athletics Council website has been resigned by the University Web Services team. She has been trained to make some changes to the website so she welcomes any suggested changes. She adds that if the Council would like to have a meeting with the design team she would be happy to set it up.

Ms. Eaton reminds that one of the recommendations on the Blueprint was to let this Council know when we have violations. Ms. Eaton reports that there was a secondary violation this past fall. She explains that secondary violations are considered minor violations and that the NCAA expects that your institution will have secondary violations and when you don't report any, that's when they get a little concerned. She adds that the major violations are the ones you hear about in the news, etc. Ms. Eaton explains the secondary violation involved a student athlete who was not on the squad list that was submitted to the Conference. They are not supposed to compete if they are not on the submitted squad list and this athlete did compete. We reported violation. Ms. Eaton adds that the athlete was eligible so

we did not have to forfeit any of the competitions. Ms. Eaton now holds monthly compliance meetings with our coaches to help educate, and has also impressed the importance that they need to carefully examine squad lists. Also, the particular sport with the violation is now required to submit all names before they travel so that Ms. Eaton can check it against their official squad list. Dr. Bonnell brings up discussion as to whether or not we should report total number of violations on the Data Dashboard and remembers that earlier discussion with President Linda Bennett seemed as though she was in favor of it. Discussion continues about whether Council would be able to obtain this type comparable data in time for publication. Ms. Sandy Hatfield wonders how reliable this data would be if trying to gather it from the other institutions. Mr. Broshears agrees. Ms. Eaton points out that some violation reporting is done quarterly and would not be up to date for a February Dashboard update. Mr. Broshears says there is a report that comes out once a year but reminds that there are some institutions that never report a violation, year after year. Mr. Broshears tries to explain that if you have good compliance, you'll have violations. Mr. Bridges suggests that perhaps we could involve in our Strategic Planning session, where number of violations could be documented in minutes in case we have any reason to track Institution control. Dr. Bonnell agrees that is a good idea.

Dr. Bonnell will send out an email to Sub-Committee Chairs for strategic planning agenda items and for the two hour meeting format suggestions. She will ask President Bennett for funding for light lunch at this 12:00-2:00pm meeting.

Mr. Broshears suggests as a future agenda item: exploring the University absence policy as related to student athletes. Dr. Bonnell states that she would be happy to help to work on this policy.

Dr. Bonnell will send email announcing the strategic planning meeting date and reminds sub-committee chairs to send agenda items and meeting format suggestions. She thanks the Council for attending and adjourns meeting at 11:58am.