

**Faculty Board on Athletics
Meeting of April 24, 2020
12:45-2:15 pm—Zoom Meeting**

Members Present: Patricia Bellia (Chair), Corey Angst, Lauren Hanna, Erin Hoffmann Harding, Patrick Holmes, Sean Kelsey, Randy Kozel, Susan Ohmer, Richard Pierce, F. Clark Power, Aaron Striegel, Jack Swarbrick, Kevin Vaughan

Members Excused: Jaimie Bleck and Ann Firth

Athletics Liaisons: Missy Conboy, Jody Sadler, and Angie Torain

Guests: Heidi Uebelhor, Associate Athletics Director; Claire Leatherwood Slebonick, Assistant Athletics Director and Recorder

1. Opening Prayer

Professor Patricia Bellia called meeting to order at 12:03 pm and offered the opening prayer.

2. Minutes of Meeting of March 20, 2020

Professor Susan Ohmer suggested one change to the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2020. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

3. Chair's Announcements

Coaching Transitions. Professor Bellia announced the retirements of Ms. Muffet McGraw, women's basketball head coach, and Mr. Caiming Xie, men's and women's diving head coach, as well as the hiring of Ms. Niele Ivey as the next women's basketball head coach. Professor Bellia noted the success of the announcement regarding the transition from Ms. McGraw's leadership to that of Ms. Ivey's of the women's basketball program and that Athletics has yet to name a successor to Mr. Xie.

Byron V. Kanaley Awards. Professor Bellia recalled to the Board that the announcement of the winners of the Byron V. Kanaley Awards is usually made at the O.S.C.A.R.S. event hosted by Athletics' Student Welfare and Development (SWD) department. SWD is determining how best to honor this year's student-athletes and will share more information as it becomes available.

Petitions for Use of Athletics Eligibility While Enrolled in a Fifth Year of Undergraduate Coursework or as a Graduate Student. Professor Bellia previewed the likelihood of a larger number of student-athletes petitioning to use their eligibility during a fifth year of undergraduate or graduate study due to the COVID-19 NCAA eligibility legislative changes. She noted that Mr. Jack Swarbrick would address those legislative changes in more detail during his comments.

4. Department of Athletics and Industry Updates

Mr. Swarbrick provided various updates relating to both the Notre Dame Department of Athletics as well as the collegiate athletics industry. He noted that the NCAA is moving forward with a number of major initiatives, including the provision of an additional year of eligibility for all spring student-athletes and the advancement of legislation regarding student-athletes' use of their name, image, and likeness. Mr. Swarbrick discussed these initiatives and potential future developments affecting the collegiate athletics landscape.

In reply to questions from Professor Ohmer and Professor Corey Angst, Mr. Swarbrick described processes and parameters surrounding the determination of various COVID-19-related issues. Mr. Swarbrick discussed potential eligibility issues due to COVID-19 and a request from some conferences to adjust sport sponsorship requirements in response to questions from Professor Bellia.

5. Other Updates

Academic Policy / Academic Support. Professor Bellia provided a brief update on relevant academic policy and academic support matters. She discussed the importance of the Summer Bridge program to many student-athletes' successful transition to Notre Dame and detailed a proposal that would allow a version of the program to continue this year. The Provost is currently considering the proposal.

Professor Bellia explained some of the efforts undertaken by the Academic Services for Student-Athletes' (ASSA) staff to aid student-athletes during the remote learning environment and invited Mr. Patrick Holmes to comment. Mr. Holmes shared more details regarding how his staff is adapting to the changed environment, noting the difficulty in providing many of the traditional services through virtual platforms. He also noted similar challenges for and the importance of the Summer Bridge program to the success of many student-athletes.

NCAA Legislative Update. Professor Bellia alerted the Board to the on-going NCAA's DI Council (Council) meeting and highlighted the significant issues before the group, including name, image and likeness and transfer waiver legislation. She explained that the Council tabled pending legislation originally scheduled for a vote in April 2020 due to concerns surrounding the impact of COVID-19, with the exception of four proposals. Professor Bellia discussed the likely moratorium on conference-sponsored legislation for the upcoming academic year cycle.

ACC / Scheduling Updates. Ms. Missy Conboy shared that the Athletics Department has asked coaches to refrain from entering into new financial commitments related to travel. She discussed schedule-related changes under consideration by the ACC, including the principles guiding these discussions, and the possibility that the NCAA may consider some of these principles for national-level implementation. Ms. Conboy shared the ACC's committee structure and provided details on the committee process, noting that the ACC hopes to have recommendations to the ACC Athletics Directors by April 30, 2020. In response to a question

from Professor Ohmer, Ms. Conboy elaborated on the potential ramifications of a modified season.

Student-Athlete Welfare and Support. Professor Bellia highlighted a sampling of the initiatives focused on aiding, connecting, and engaging the student-athletes during this time of remote learning and provided a description of COVID-19-related NCAA rules.

Petitions for Use of Athletics Eligibility While Enrolled in a Fifth Year of Undergraduate Coursework or as a Graduate Student (Petitions). Professor Bellia reminded the Board of the changes in its policy regarding petitions over the course of the last year and discussed the number of petitions received thus far. She described the Board's options for addressing petitions received during the summer months.

Professor Bellia, with additional details from Ms. Heidi Uebelhor, addressed a series of questions from Professor Angst regarding the impact on the petition process should the fall season be either cancelled or curtailed.

[Note: The Academic Integrity Subcommittee approved several applications for a fifth year of eligibility at a meeting on May 13, 2020. The subcommittee delegated to Professor Bellia the task of reviewing and approving additional fifth year petitions as needed during the summer months, on the understanding that Professor Bellia will refer back to the subcommittee any petitions that fall outside of the Board's guidelines and past precedents. Professor Angst volunteered to assist as needed in reviewing petitions.]

6. Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Professor Bellia commented on the uncertainty of the FBA meeting scheduled for May 8, 2020. She adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:20 pm.