

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Board on Athletics
October 26, 2022
500 Main Building—12:30pm-2:00pm

Members Present: Corey Angst, Patricia Bellia (Chair), Alex Blachly, Brian Coughlin (on behalf of Rev. Gerard Olinger), Darren Davis, Jeff Kantor, Randy Kozel, Mary Ann McDowell, Cara Ocobock, Adam Sargent (on behalf of Patrick Holmes), Jack Swarbrick, Kevin Vaughn

Members Excused: Malcolm Chaka, Ann Firth, Tracy Kijewski-Correa

Athletics Liaisons: Jess Kerr, Heidi Uebelhor

1. Opening Prayer

Professor Patricia Bellia called the meeting to order at 12:34 pm and Professor Randy Kozel offered the opening prayer.

2. Introduction of New Head Coaches

Professor Bellia invited recently hired head coaches, Shawn Stiffler (*John P. and Catherine Murphy Head Baseball Coach*) and Caroline Powers Ellis (*Head Women's Golf Coach*), to introduce themselves to the Board, and to share their thoughts with and answer questions from the Board about their recent transitions into their new roles and their coaching philosophies.

3. Men's and Women's Golf – 2023 Competition Schedules

Professor Bellia asked the Board to discuss the competition schedules submitted by the men's and women's golf teams, which included details about their proposed participation in a tournament to be held in St. Andrews, Scotland. The proposed schedule and foreign trip would result in 7 M/W/F and 4 T/TH aggregate regular season misses for the men's team and 6/5, respectively, for the women's team. The Board reviewed the teams' written request and invited head women's coach Caroline Powers Ellis to share her thoughts and answer questions. After inquiries related to the significance of participation in the foreign tournament for student-athletes and the availability and relevance of alternative competitive events, the Board excused Coach Ellis and discussed the request. The Board approved the proposed schedule in the form submitted by a vote of 7 to 3. Professor Bellia indicated that she would convey the nature of the questions and discussion to Director of Golf John Handrigan and share that, although the Board approved the request as submitted, it would be beneficial for the golf programs to examine the remainder of the teams' scheduled events with an eye toward reducing missed class.

4. Minutes of Meeting of September 23, 2022

With no changes, Professor Corey Angst moved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of September 23, 2022. Professor Mary Ann McDowell seconded the motion. All present and voting members voted to approve.

5. Chair's Announcements

Initial Schedule Approvals. Professor Bellia informed the Board of the schedules she approved on its behalf: spring schedules for rowing, women's lacrosse, and baseball; full season schedules for swimming/diving and men's basketball.

Schedule Changes. Professor Bellia informed the Board that she had reviewed and approved updates to the previously approved full season men's basketball schedule. Additionally, the announcement of a noon kickoff for the football game against Syracuse had resulted in a last-minute adjustment to team travel and the need to excuse students from one additional class slot. Professor Bellia reviewed and discussed the adjustment with Academic Services for Student-Athletes and approved the change on the Board's behalf.

6. Annual Compliance Report

Professor Bellia circulated annual report information to Board members as part of the meeting materials. However, due to time constraints, the Board deferred formal presentation of the annual report information and related Board discussion until the November meeting.

7. Subcommittee Reports

Academic Integrity Subcommittee. Professor Bellia reported that Professor Angst had been nominated and had agreed to chair the subcommittee. She summarized recent subcommittee meeting discussions, which had included discussion of the foreign trip proposed by men's and women's golf. The subcommittee also reviewed and approved fall 2023 foreign competition proposed by men's tennis. Class misses were within the permitted range. Finally, the subcommittee reviewed and discussed how the Board may facilitate more consistency in the process through which student-athletes and faculty approach class misses that are expected to result from competition events that are outside the scope of University authorized activities.

Student Welfare Subcommittee. Professor Bellia shared that Professor Darren Davis had been nominated and had agreed to chair the subcommittee. She summarized recent subcommittee meeting discussions, which centered around the results of the most recent Student Athlete Experience Survey. Professor Bellia reported that the subcommittee had reviewed and discussed a summary of the survey responses most closely related to student athlete academic experience and performance, and also spent significant time exploring the process through which the survey content was developed and administered. The subcommittee will continue to work with others in Athletics and on campus to identify ways in which overall response rates and data usability can be improved.

8. Adjournment

Professor Bellia adjourned the meeting at 2:02 pm.