

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Board on Athletics
February 15, 2023
500 Main Building—2:30pm-4:00pm

Members Present: Corey Angst, Patricia Bellia (Chair), Brian Coughlin (*on behalf of Rev. Gerard Olinger*), Darren Davis, Ann Firth, Jeff Kantor, Tracy Kijewski-Correa, Mary Ann McDowell, Adam Sargent (*on behalf of Patrick Holmes*), Kevin Vaughan

Members Excused: Alex Blachly, Malcolm Chaka, Randy Kozel, Cara Ocobock

Athletics Liaisons: Missy Conboy

Guests: Jess Kerr (recorder), Nick Mainieri (ASSA)

1. Opening Prayer

Professor Patricia Bellia called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm and Professor Corey Angst offered the opening prayer.

2. Minutes of Meeting of November 14, 2022

With no changes, Professor Mary Ann McDowell moved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of November 14, 2022. Professor Angst seconded the motion. All present and voting members voted to approve.

3. Chair's Announcements

Regular Spring Season Schedule Approvals. Professor Bellia informed the Board of the regular spring schedules and revisions she approved on its behalf:

- Softball: Revision related to individual class miss by student manager
- Women's Lacrosse: Revision due to rescheduled event
- Men's Lacrosse: Initial schedule and subsequent revision due to change in game time
- Indoor Track: Initial schedule and subsequent revisions
- Women's Soccer: Initial schedule and subsequent revision due to rescheduled event
- Swimming & Diving: Revisions due to schedule changes and a verification related to an elite event
- Men's Tennis: Revisions resulting in schedule changes and a verification relating to an elite event
- Baseball: Revisions due to game time changes

Post Season Competition Schedules. Professor Bellia informed the Board that she had reviewed and approved post-season schedules related to ACC post-season competitions for swimming and diving, fencing, men's basketball and two cheer squads that will accompany basketball. She also approved schedules related to NCAA championship competition for diving and fencing.

Men's Tennis Foreign Competition Update. Professor Bellia shared with the Board that the University had submitted a waiver request to the NCAA in connection with the previously approved international men's tennis competition. The waiver was required because the timing of the foreign travel and competition will result in a pause in the team's fall calendar that would normally be prohibited by NCAA regulations. The waiver request was approved by the NCAA contingent upon its requirement that the student-athletes approach their professors to request permission to miss applicable classes. Professor Bellia proposed, and those present agreed, that the condition was arguably intended to facilitate the same academic considerations (e.g., student-athlete accountability and faculty visibility) that the University's Faculty Board policies and processes already address, such that by following established institutional policies and processes as they relate to the Board's review and approval of class misses, the University has satisfied the condition.

4. Summer Bridge Program Annual Report

Professor Bellia invited Mr. Nick Mainieri, Student-Athlete Transition Program Director, to present an overview of the 2022 Summer Bridge Program. Mr. Mainieri distributed a written summary of the program overview and shared information and responded to questions from Board members about program objectives, participation, and class offerings. He noted a number of changes to class offerings for summer 2023 that stem largely from faculty and participant feedback and invited continued discussion and input from Board members on how to maximize program impact going forward.

5. Academic Reports

Professor Bellia invited Mr. Adam Sargent, Associate Director of Academic Services for Student-Athletes (ASSA), to review the annual Fifth Year Report with Board members. A copy of the report was included as a supplement to the meeting agenda. Mr. Sargent shared information, and responded to questions from Board members on a number of topics including, among others, pandemic impact on the number of graduate level participants, fifth year curriculum choices, recent changes to graduate path completion deadlines, and the successful collaboration between the Mendoza College of Business and ASSA.

Mr. Sargent also provided a summary and circulated copies of the annual Graduation Rate Report to members of the Board, emphasizing that, while there is still work to be done with respect to student-athlete populations that face opportunity gaps, the Athletics Department has once again repeated its long-standing achievement as a top three FBS institution in both Federal Graduation Rate (FGR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR) categories.

6. The Intercollegiate Athletics Landscape

Professor Bellia reminded Board Members that a Transformation Committee Update was included as a supplement to the meeting agenda. She then invited Mr. Jack Swarbrick to update the Board about recent activity within the intercollegiate athletics landscape. Mr. Swarbrick spoke to four specific industry influences: state legislation, potential federal legislation, civil litigation, and administrative action. He shared his thoughts on the proposed California College Athlete Protection Act, how outcomes in the *Johnson* matter will shape student-athlete employment status, and how legislative intervention at the federal level will be critical to resolving many of

the material issues facing the industry. While it will likely be some time before we see the impact at the campus level, Mr. Swarbrick emphasized that the University and other institutions will undoubtedly be faced with challenges in terms of the successful navigation of these impending changes at the institutional level.

7. Adjournment

Professor Bellia adjourned the meeting at 3:59 pm.