

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Board on Athletics

March 29, 2023

500 Main Building—2:30pm-4:00pm

Members Present: Corey Angst, Patricia Bellia (Chair), Alex Blachly, Malcolm Chaka, Brian Coughlin (*on behalf of Rev. Gerard Olinger*), Darren Davis, Ann Firth, Patrick Holmes, Jeff Kantor, Randy Kozel, Cara Ocobock, Jack Swarbrick, Kevin Vaughan

Members Excused: Tracy Kijewski-Correa, Mary Ann McDowell

Athletics Liaisons: Missy Conboy, Heidi Uebelhor

Guests: Jess Kerr (recorder), Heather Ryan (Office of Community Standards), Yulander Wells, Jr. (Athletics)

1. Opening Prayer

Professor Patricia Bellia called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm and offered the opening prayer.

2. Minutes of Meeting of February 15, 2022

With no changes, Professor Corey Angst moved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of February 15, 2023. Professor Cara Ocobock seconded the motion. All present and voting members voted to approve.

3. Chair's Announcements

Professor Bellia informed the Board of the following schedule requests that she had approved on its behalf:

Fall Sports, Non-Traditional Segment Schedule Approvals

- Volleyball: Initial schedule

Winter Sports, Traditional Segment Schedule Approvals

- Hockey: Revision due to away event practice time change
- Swimming & Diving: Revision due to change in departure time for away event

Winter Sports, Post-Season Competition Schedule Approvals

- Indoor Track & Field: ACC Championships, NCAA Championships
- Women's Basketball: ACC Championships, NCAA Championships
- Cheer: NCAA Championships (accompanying women's basketball)
- Hockey: Big Ten Tournament
- Swimming & Diving: NCAA Championships

Spring Sports, Traditional Segment Schedule Approvals

- Men's Tennis: Revisions due to event rescheduling and flight changes
- Women's Golf: Revision related to change in departure time for away event

- Baseball: Revisions due to weather-related schedule change
- Softball: Revisions due to weather-related schedule change
- Rowing: Revision due to away event practice time changes and flight changes
- Outdoor Track & Field: Initial schedule

4. Annual Disciplinary Report

Professor Bellia invited Mr. Brian Coughlin, Associate Vice President–Student Affairs, and Ms. Heather Ryan, Director–Office of Community Standards, to present the annual Student-Athlete Disciplinary Report. They provided context and information related to the institutional disciplinary model and process, explained various features the report, and shared insights around different aspects of the report statistics. Mr. Coughlin reiterated that the types and volume of incidents reflected in the current disciplinary report are generally consistent with those seen historically. In response to questions about changing disciplinary trends across campus, Mr. Coughlin shared that, with regard to the broader student body and many campuses across the country, social media continues to present a growing and evolving area of disciplinary activity and focus. He also pointed out that the volume of reports received through the Speak Up campus reporting line has increased, but it is unknown whether that indicates an increase in underlying incidents or, rather, a cultural shift reflecting an increased willingness and/or motivation to report. Finally, Mr. Coughlin identified trending concerns related to Delta-8, Delta-9, and Adderall use on our and other campuses and, more specifically, certain unintended adverse events stemming from improper dosing and combined use with alcohol.

5. Byron V. Kanaley Awards

Professor Bellia asked Professor Angst, Chair of the Academic Integrity Subcommittee, to introduce the slate of recommended recipients of the Byron V. Kanaley Award for the 2022-23 academic year. Professor Angst reminded the Board of the Award criteria and described the subcommittee’s evaluation process. He shared that there were fourteen nominees, that the subcommittee recommended eight candidates to receive the award, and it would like to invite additional input from the Board around whether to include a ninth individual. Professor Angst stated that he could not remember a year where the candidates were more qualified or the subcommittee decisions more difficult. He discussed in more detail the qualifications of the eight individuals whom the subcommittee recommended and he identified some of the challenges the subcommittee encountered around evaluating candidates who have completed both undergraduate and graduate coursework. Professor Bellia then introduced the ninth candidate and solicited Board input on whether to include the individual as an award recipient. Following input from the Board, Professor Angst moved that the entire slate of eight original nominees recommended by the subcommittee, and the ninth nominee whose inclusion was supported by the Board, be approved for receipt of the 2022-23 Byron V. Kanaley Award. All present and voting members of the Board voted in favor of the motion.

6. Introduction of Yulander Wells, Jr.

Professor Bellia invited Mr. Yulander Wells, Jr., recently hired Deputy Athletics Director-Business Strategy, to introduce himself to the Board, and to share his thoughts and answer questions from the Board about his recent transition into the role and his vision and philosophy.

7. Annual Student-Athlete Grade Report

Professor Bellia invited Mr. Pat Holmes, Rees and Carol LaBar Director of Academic Services for Student-Athletes (ASSA), to share the GPA Summary Report for Spring 2022 and Fall 2022. A copy of the report was included as a supplement to the meeting agenda. Mr. Holmes explained that this report captures semester and cumulative grade point academic performance information for three categories of University students: all student-athletes, all student-athletes receiving grant-in-aid, and all students. Mr. Holmes highlighted several points including, among others, the fact that overall GPA statistics for both semesters were exceedingly high for student-athletes, but spring 2022 numbers were a bit lower than the cumulative numbers. Fall 2022 semester numbers were slightly higher than the cumulative numbers. These and other student-athlete data trends were consistent with those of the broader student body. Finally, in response to questions from the Board, Mr. Holmes shared that the University's decision to adopt optional standardized test score reporting practices, and the resulting decrease in ASSA access to test score information for many student-athletes, has created some new challenges with respect to how ASSA assesses and addresses academic risk through academic programming and plans. He also spoke to the retention and academic progress benefits that have resulted from certain recent changes to the Undergraduate Academic Code.

8. Adjournment

Professor Bellia adjourned the meeting at 3:56 pm.