

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting – December 22, 2006 11:30 a.m.

PRESENT: C. Barr, R. Goodhue, F. Lattuca, T. Nappi, W. Brian O'Connor, M.J. Peterson, G. Richason, S. Upton, E. Ward, R. Warnick
GUESTS: T. Bjorn, C. Carens, J. Grandonico, T. McDonald
ABSENT: J. Brigham, J. Duboff, E. May, J. McCutcheon, P. Vittum, E. Washington, G. Wong

Approval of the Minutes of the November 17, 2006 Meeting

- It was moved, seconded, and Voted to accept the November 17, 2006 minutes.

Opening Remarks

Co-Chair Peterson thanked those council members able to attend despite the last-minute rescheduling to avoid the Division I-AA National Championship Football Game.

Meet the Athletic Department Staff: Todd McDonald, Marketing

- Todd McDonald, a native of Greenfield, reviewed his past work experiences working for the New England Blizzard, University of Hartford College Athletics, the Boston Red Sox and the Connecticut Sun..
- Todd will try to create awareness and visibility of UMass Athletics with area organizations like Big Brothers and Sisters and United Way. Grass root level marketing will be a priority.

Update on the Recreation Center

- Cleve Carens, project manager for the Recreation Center, updated the council on the future \$50 million dollar recreation center building project. His slide presentation reviewed budget statistics, sight locations, and components for the floor plan. Exercise and fitness priorities will include gymnasiums, lockers and shower rooms, multi-purpose rooms, a snack lounge and administrative office space.
- Construction of the 120,000 square foot building including a 22,500 exercise and free weight room will commence in the summer of 2007. Completion is targeted for spring 2009 which will include the furnishing phase in the spring of 2009.

Council's Annual Report to the Faculty Senate

- The review of the Annual Report to the Faculty Senate was well received with only a question regarding APR rates in relation to student-athlete scholarship money.

Report of the Athletic Department: Senior AD Thorr Bjorn

- UMass Football had a spectacular season of 13-2 ending in the NCAA Playoffs in Chattanooga, TN. During the Montana vs. UMass Football playoff game, Montana fans were gracious and hospitable to the UMass Athletic Administration. Game day security and crowd control issues were addressed. Future game day student sections will be separate from the public sections.
- Senior AD Bjorn reviewed game bids, guarantees, playoff revenue and television contracts for games.
- Men's Basketball on the road to Kentucky which will be aired on ESPN Full Court. Women's Basketball off to a great start of 9-3.
- Hockey is doing well at 8-5-2 with a big win at home against Boston College.
- The Field Hockey search is ongoing after three candidates have been interviewed by the committee.
- For the first time ever, Men's Lacrosse season tickets will be sold. Men's lacrosse season ticket holders will earn priority points.

New Business

- The spring Athletic Council meetings will be on February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4 in the Mullins Center Concourse Room.
- Co-Chair Peterson noted that Frank Lattuca is retiring at the end of the month, and the council joined in a round of applause thanking him for his service.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:57 pm.