

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting – February 15, 2008 11:30 a.m.

PRESENT: C. Barr, S. Dressor, J. Gladden, S. Koch, Brian O'Connor, G. Richason, T. Schoenadel,
P. Vittum, E. Ward, R. Warnick, G. Wong
GUESTS J. Hopkins, T. Kenney, E. Sortino, J. Sarsynski, T. Turley
ABSENT: J. Brigham, S. Upton, R. Goodhue, E. May, J. McCutcheon, E. Washington

Welcome and Announcements

- Co-Chair Warnick welcomed council members as introductions were made to the new student representatives.

Approval of the Minutes of the December 14, 2007 Meeting

- Two corrections to the minutes were made in spelling: Richson changed to Richason and McCutcheon changed to McCutcheon. The duplicate on LaSalle was deleted in the Academic Support Services item. It was moved by E. Ward, seconded by G. Richason, and all members voted to accept the December 14, 2007 minutes.

Meet the Coach Series – Sam Koch, Men's Soccer Coach

- Coach Koch shared his rewarding experience of coaching the Men's Soccer team as they made their way to playing in the Semi-game of the Final Four, despite their limited scholarship aid. The positive exposure from the team's success has helped in recruiting. Sam expressed thanks for the great support from academics, the athletic department, and the campus community.

Faculty Senate Report

- Co-Chair Barr reported that she presented the annual report of the Athletic Council to the Faculty Senate on February 14.
- During the Faculty Senate presentation, Co-Chair Barr reviewed the following topics: the Recreation Center Project, the NCAA Certification of the Athletic Department, Gender and Equity and Opportunity within the Athletic Department, crowd accommodations and safety issues at football games. The efforts of all the teams were praised. Highlighted was the success of Men's Lacrosse and Football playing in the National Finals, the Men's Hockey team competing in the NCAA quarterfinals, the Softball Team playing in the NCAA regional competitions. A-10 Championships included Women's rowing, softball, football, men's basketball and men's swimming and diving.
- Co-Chair Barr distributed copies of the final version of the 2006-07 Annual Report of the Athletic Council to Council members.

Priority Registration Letter Review – Joan Hopkins and Rod Warnick

- Joan Hopkins, Associate AD for Academic Support Services distributed to the council members the draft of the priority registration letter addressed to the Academic Priorities Committee at the Faculty Senate Office. Joan reviewed the draft and requested feedback from council members. Glenn Wong will meet with John Cunningham to discuss the priority

registration issue. Lengthy discussion followed on the need for additional data and statistics on this issue and possibly enlisting trustee help with priority registration.

- Carol Barr and Joan Hopkins will edit the draft letter that was circulated and email the attachment to council members in order to vote on the letter prior to the April council meeting.

Academic Progress Reports for Athletes – Joan Hopkins and Tricia Turley

- Joan Hopkins distributed copies of the APR Improvement plan and discussed academic eligibility of student-athletes, retention in student-athlete scholarships and determining graduate success rates of student-athletes.
- The Academic Service area has been greatly enhanced with the addition of learning specialists, and intensive monitoring of class attendance. Joan Hopkins and Tricia Turley, Associate AD for Compliance are in constant communication in regards to student-athletes who have learning disabilities and are at risk.

Report of Athletic Department: Tim Kenney, Associate AD for Athletic Advancement

- Men's Basketball is 15 and 9; Women's Basketball is 11 and 13. Both teams will make the A-10 playoffs.
- Hockey is 10-10-6 will resume play with games tonight and tomorrow night.
- Swimming will be in the A-10 Championship.
- The Recreation Center is about three months behind in the construction schedule due to the historical society protesting the historical value of the silo.
- The Softball bleacher project is underway with the delivery of steel and bleachers.
- Stadium lighting will be installed right after commencement. The sources for the lighting are from both private and public funding.
- The Governor will be attending the UMass Men's Basketball game this Sunday.
- The proposed Champion Center project has received an anonymous \$1 million gift.

New Business

- March 14 may be rescheduled to March 28th (subject to room availability).
- Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.