Committee Members Present:

Co-Chair N. Lacey, Co-Chair R. Spencer

Guests: J. Sarsynski, JC Schnabel

I. Call to Order
Co-Chair Spencer called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. and welcomed members and guests to the May 2012 meeting. She thanked guests and Athletic Council members for attending the last Spring Meeting.

II. Approval of the Minutes of April 2012
Co-Chair Spencer opened the floor to discussion of the Athletic Council minutes from April 2012. There being none, it was so moved by George Richason and seconded by Nelson Lacey to accept the motion. All were in favor of approving the minutes from the April 6th meeting.

III. JC Schnabl (Executive Director, UMass Amherst Alumni Association & Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations)
JC Schnabl briefed the council on his vision for the Alumni Association’s interaction on campus under his leadership. JC believes it is critical that the Alumni Association help Athletics grow in their relationship with Alumni. He stated that UMass Football is the front door to the University linking us to highly successful proponents and the 225,000 alumni in the Boston and East Coast region. JC spoke about his recent visit to Gillette Stadium with AD McCutcheon, Coach Molnar and Rocko DeLuca gearing up for the first Gillette home game on September 8th against Indiana.

IV. Review of Annual Subcommittee Reports:
Academics – Rebecca Spencer reported on the NCAA audit last year. Topics covered were increasing athletic academic staffing and their facilities; increasing bench marking in units and improving tutoring by using Skype.

Compliance – Rod Warnick reported distributed a compliance handout outlining the current APR, NCAA legislation, minor violations, eligibility rules, scholarships and the year’s compliance review.

Equity – Pat Vittum requested to table the equity review for the Fall and Elaine Sortino’s return.
Facilities – Ed Ward reviewed his meeting with Dan Markowski, Associate AD for Facilities and reported on facility projects at various stages of completion:

- New windscreens on the Baseball Outfield – completed.
- New concrete in the front of dugouts - completed.
- The UMass emblem around home plate - completed.
- The Basketball Champions Center basketball practice facility – underway.
- Football Facilities Building – Summer 2014 expected completion.
- Replacement of Football Press Box – design concept underway.
- Boathouse for Crew – lease is close to being signed.
- Planning stages for replacement of astroturf and scoreboards at Garber Field and McGuirk Stadium.
- Staffing issues for home A-10 Championship games were discussed.

Finance – Nelson Lacey said that the new report would be completed over the next few weeks and stated the Athletic Department has been very open with all their financial data. AD McCutcheon complimented Jaime Seguin in her role as Executive Associate AD of Athletic Business.

Vision - Bob Goodhue and Sam Hazen stated that this was a year of execution of their vision plan.

V. Athletic Council Membership – Alumni Association Position:
Rod Warnick motioned that the Athletic Council membership include an Alumni Association position. Ernie May seconded the motion. The council voted to include the official Alumni Association position which will create better communication across campus and amongst alumni. The position will begin next semester for the first meeting in September.

VI. Report on Presentation to Faculty Senate – April 2012 Meeting feedback
Co-Chair Lacey reviewed the presentation of the Report to the Faculty Senate in April. He reported that an undercurrent of negativism towards the Athletic Program remains entrenched within the Faculty Senate and the Senate feels the Athletic Council “rubberstamps” everything related to its budget. During the presentation, a senator said that “we can’t accept this report” because it had something in the report related to the Rules Committee. Council Member George Richason said that “Nothing has changed!” since he was first involved with the Faculty Senate and the Athletic Council’s relationship since 1960.

VII. Athletic Department Report – AD John McCutcheon’s Review

- Conference Realignment with the A-10, Butler, Temple
- Conference Realignments shift with Butler and Charlotte/ FBS – CBS
- Team performances: Men’s Lacrosse is ranked #1, Women’s Lacrosse is in the top 10 and play Canisus at 11:30 a.m. Softball is in first place in the A-10
- John reviewed Football Transitions, Scheduling Guarantees, and Facilities update on Football Facility and the Champions Center.

VIII. Appoint Nominating Committee for Officers for 2012 – 13
Co-Chair Spencer asked for volunteers to be appointed for the nominating committee. George Richason volunteered to chair the committee along with Bob Goodhue and Tracy Schoenadel.
IX. New and Old Business

Tentative Fall Meeting Dates:

- September 14
- October 12
- November 16
- December 14

Ed Ward moved to close the meeting. Rod Warnick seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.