

University Athletics Academic Advisory Committee

November 2, 2011

Present: Brett Bennett, Mary Adams, Barbara Michaelides, Bobby Staub, Tasha Fisher, Anthony Walker, Bob Cage

Absent: Kevin Unter, Nate Brown, Roxanne Cassel, Wilson Campbell, Anthony Malta, Ulas Ograk, Sam Bruscato,

The meeting opened at 4 pm with a visit from Dr. Bruno, who talked with the group until 4:15. We then turned to our reports:

**AD Report:**

Staub discussed the NCAA's proposal to move from 1-year to 4-year scholarships. He then discussed our ULM teams, noting that football needs "to get kids healthy" in order to succeed in the next games. Football is preparing for ULL. Volleyball is moving in the right direction. Our women's soccer coach has submitted her resignation. "We hope to have a coach in place by the end of this semester."

**Appeal:**

Reports were interrupted by the arrival of Coach Rosemary Holloway-Hill, who requested an exemption for a recruited high school softball player. The student has not met the SAT requirement, but her score falls only slightly below the required minimum. Additionally, the student has taken the test only once; she has rescheduled, and Coach Holloway-Hill feels confident that she will improve on the next exam. Holloway-Hill provided documentation of the student's strong academic standing at her high school. Holloway-Hill also discussed her team's historic academic success, saying, "My players are very accountable with their academics."

Michaelides moved to allow the exemption, and Walker seconded the motion.

**Senior Compliance Administrator Report:**

Fisher explained the new penalty structure, which moves from a 2-tier system (900, 925) to a single system requiring the score of 930. She also presented a spreadsheet showing the single year and multi-year APR scores of ULM teams in 2009-10 and 2010-11. Twelve of our sports are already above the 930. "We're not too far off." This system will be phased in over a 3-year period.

**Chair Report:**

Dr. Unter is on leave.

**FAR Report:**

Bennett noted that ULM Athletics will not be affected greatly by these NCAA changes if we continue moving in a positive direction. He noted changes in rules to the 6<sup>th</sup> year for athletes who are still pursuing a degree. He also noted changes to men's basketball recruiting.

Bennett then detailed the Men's Basketball AIP (Academic Improvement Plan). Highlights include:

- setting rules for appeals
- changes to study hall
- if athlete has grade below a C on any grade report, an additional 2 hours of study hall are added
- if two grades are below a C, 4 hours of study hall are added; 2 of these hours will come from practice time
- if grade of F, the student cannot participate in practice, skills, or instruction
- when they are eligible for postseason, the student athletes will be individually required to qualify for postseason play
- minimum requirements for transfers and for recruited freshmen
- athletes must see athletic academic counselors before making any academic changes
- all rules will be monitored by President's Athletic Task Force

**Other Business:**

Travel schedules have been emailed to all members. "We need to be aware of team travel." ULM can control our nonconference scheduling, but conference travel is dictated by the Sunbelt. Bennett explained, "Our job is to ensure wellbeing. We should question when classes must be missed."

Bennett then explained the Academic Exceptions Process, which served as a review of our meeting with Coach Holloway-Hill. Coaches submit their requests to the Senior Compliance Administrator, who will forward them to the AD. The AD makes a determination and informs the SCA. If the AD approves the exception, the Appeal sCmte will hear the case. The Appeals Cmte must be comprised of the FAR and at least one member of the UAAAC.

Our next scheduled meeting conflicts with several members' schedules, so we will not meet again until University Week: Monday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Adams  
Secretary of UAAAC  
November 14, 2011