

UAAAC Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2014

Members in attendance:

Mary Adams, Brett Bennett, Bob Cage, Tommie Church, Leonard Clark Thomas De Nardin, James Greenlaw, Anthony Malta, Meghan Mazza, Barbara Michaelides, Kevin Price, Carl Thameling, Anthony Walker, Brian Wickstrom

Mary called the meeting to order and suggested that one of our goals for this year might be to encourage more faculty attendance of athletic events by having special events posted for their attendance.

Compliance:

Meghann Mazza gave a summary regarding compliance terms including APR and Eligibility. She also elaborated on the point system used to score APR. Minimum APR is 930.

Leonard Clark asked if students are aware of the impact of their academic performance on team APR. Brett Bennett said that they are aware of the academic performance's effect on eligibility, but not necessarily the team's APR score.

Leonard Clark said that he thought it would be beneficial for each team member to be aware of the impact that individual academic performance had on team APR and possible negative effects.

Carl Thameling asked about the financial penalties related to APR.

Brett Bennett answered that there was no direct loss of funds due to poor performance ratings, but that it could equate to loss of games and this could result in loss of funds.

Brian Wickstrom said that even though the minimum APR is 930, the coaches' target is 940.

Meghann added that there are exceptions made for special considerations like pregnancy, military service, and professional recruitment. She also added information about grad bonus awarded if a student graduates within the 5 year progression.

Brian added that 3 football players that had been drafted by NFL would be coming back to finish undergraduate degrees.

FAR Report:

Brett talked about receiving an email from Texas State asking whether walk-ons are counted in APR. Brett said that they aren't counted in APR but are counted as part of scholarship.

Brett also reported about the Sunbelt Committee meeting in regards to an email from the National Senior Women's Administrator who stated that the changes in the NCAA did not negate Title IX requirements. Brett elaborated that ULM athletics will not have a problem with this issue.

Brett also talked about a position that is open in the Sunbelt Conference for a student to work to provide more media exposure for all athletic events on campus at ULM. It is a paid position.

Barbara Michaelides reported that the grade reports are not official yet for fall semester; therefore, the updated degree sheets documenting eligibility were being worked on pending the official fall grades.

She also reported on First Grade system in which faculty post the student athlete's current grade at different points in the semester and add comments if needed. If students have a D or less on First Grade, 2 study hours are added to regular scheduled study sessions.

Brett reported on the "Special Talent Admission and Procedure Athletic Policy". He reiterated that this is not a University policy and that the Admissions office makes the decisions on students being admitted to the university.

Meghann added that Dr. Bruno has a firm opinion that transfers who do not have a Math should receive no admittance. In current admissions policy, #7 relates to Math. It was also noted that clarification is essential about the no Math no admittance rule.

Brett emphasized that individuals involved in the "Special Talents Admission and Procedure Athletic Policy" include the coach, the compliance officer, and admissions.

Brian added that due to small rosters of most teams, not many admissions by exception occur.

Bob Cage asked who speaks for students in an appeal in the case of being denied admission. Brett said that students who appeal admission are asked to present letters of reference, including letters from coaches, etc.

Brett said that an email is to be sent out regarding our support for the "Special Talent Admission and Athletic Policy".

Mary closed the meeting with telling everyone that she would email about the date of our first Spring semester UAAAC meeting.