

2016-17 Report, University Athletics Academic Advisory Committee
Submitted by Mary E. Adams, Chair

This committee is comprised of faculty, staff, community and student members. We work in three subcommittees:

Equity and Student Well-being:

Carl Thameling (subcmte chair), Tommie Church, Myra Lovett, Lisa Varytimidis, Anthony Walker, Vanessa Garcia (softball), Jevaughn Shaw (track and field)

Academic Integrity and Compliance:

Brett Bennett (subcmte chair), Mary Adams, Todd Dooley, Anthony Malta, Barbara Michaelides

Governance and Fiscal Integrity:

Tom DeNardin (subcmte chair), Bob Cage, James Greenlaw, Bruce Walker, Brian Wickstrom

During the 2016-17 academic year, the committee successfully met the following goals:

- A1) Continued Target Events
- A2) Continued Education
- A3) Creation of Student Athlete Questionnaire
- A4) Increased Interaction with Coaches and Student Athletes
- A5) Establishment of New Timeline for Travel Schedules

A1: We continued our effort to encourage faculty/staff attendance at athletic events. With the help of Athletics, we have designated Football Senior Day as an event where faculty and staff can receive complimentary tickets and, for the first takers, prime parking. We hope to continue this tradition. Members of the committee have also committed to attending Athletics functions together, and we had a large contingent at both The Pursuit and The ULeMmys.

A2: Todd Dooley presented an overview of NCAA Compliance rules at our second meeting of the fall semester. Brett Bennett continues to share information learned at the FAR conferences. Our Moodle now holds all pertinent documents, and future members and chairs/subchairs will find it much easier to get up to speed.

A3) ESWB spent most of the academic year creating, testing, and refining an electronic Student Athlete Questionnaire. Members of the cmte participated in a trial and held detailed discussions on the organization and focal points. The questionnaire is now complete and should provide ULM Athletics with helpful information from our student athletes.

A4) Members of AICS observed practices for Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Football, and Volleyball during the academic year. Other sports will be visited next year. We hope this increased visibility will encourage student athletes to reach out to us with any questions or concerns. We also hope this will help us in recruiting student members as we would like to move from 2 student members to 4 student members in the future.

A5) Carl Thameling submitted a letter to Athletics that outlined the importance of timely reception of travel schedules as his subcmte has struggled to receive these early enough to provide input and, when necessary, to effect change. In roundtable, Brian Wickstrom stated that new timelines have been established for fall sports and spring sports, and the subcmte should now receive information early enough to provide feedback.

The following goals have been established for 2017-18:

B1) Re-addressing Student Athlete Participation

B2) Writing a Statement of Purpose for each Subcmte

B1) We would like to pursue our goal of having 4 student members: 2 spring sport athletes and 2 fall sport athletes, with the hope that at least two athletes will always be in attendance at our meetings.

B2) We researched out subcmtes last year and determined that their goals are not clearly defined. For our sake and the sake of future members, we plan to write out statements concerning the key purposes of each subcmte and post these to our Moodle.