



## UAAAC Minutes

Date 11/07/2023 Start Time 4:00 PM Adjournment Time 5:08 PM Location SSC Conf. Rm  
 Type of Meeting  Regular  Special

<b>CHAIR</b>	Arturo Rodriguez
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Shannon Banks
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Leigh Hersey, Patti Pate, Ty Harp, Shelly Barton, David Reed, Ann Rodriguez, Valerie Fields, Carmen Wright, Shannon Banks
<b>ABSENT (EXCUSED)</b>	John Hartwell, Anthony Malta, Oliver Jackson, DeRon Talley

### Agenda

<b>GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
The meeting minutes from the October meeting were distributed and approved without change.	
<b>DISCUSSION TOPICS</b>	
<p>The meeting was called to order by Dr. Arturo Rodriguez.</p> <p>It was announced that Mackenzie King (Tennis) will join the committee as the Student Athlete Representative (SAR) for the Spring semester</p> <p>FAR Update: (Leigh Hersey):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leigh and Mackenzie attended the SBC meeting this fall. Two important things that stood out from the meeting were 1) the Timely Care App (a virtual health and well-being app being looked at for student athletes) which Mackenzie thought would be a valuable tool for student athletes, and 2) a focus on sleep for student athletes to aid performance and injury prevention. Other areas discussed included an emphasis on gambling issues and compliance.</li> <li>- Dr. Arant recently sent out a reminder on the policy for university sponsored travel as there have been some issues between faculty and student athletes concerning excused absences for competition. Currently, athletic advisors create the letters and Patti Pate signs them before they are distributed to the faculty. This policy will also be discussed during upcoming Faculty orientation meetings.</li> <li>- There was a lengthy discussion about Athletic counselors needing access to student athletes' moodle courses to review academic performance. Many on the committee thought that this might lead to faculty pushback of having counselors in moodle courses. Ty mentioned that Canvas has a "Dropout Detective" feature that might be beneficial. Carmen will look into seeing if this feature will be available in the upcoming Canvas rollout. It important that counselors only have access to see assigned student athletes' work to avoid FERPA issues.</li> </ul> <p>Athletics/Compliance (David Reed, Carmen Wright):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- David announced that Jacob Adams has been hired as the new Assistant Athletic Director of Compliance and is a trained compliance professional. In addition, they are looking for a GA who wants to do NCAA compliance with the potential for one who is already trained.</li> <li>- It was also announced that an APR extension was requested in order to address some identified APR deficiencies. A consultant (John), who actually created APR before becoming a consultant, has been hired to help address these issues. An update will be given at the February meeting.</li> <li>- Emphasis is being placed on athletic rules education. Mandatory "Rules Education" sessions are being held monthly for all athletic personnel, and a "Sky Suite Rule Education Initiative" has been put in place in which laminated rule material has been posted in all of the sky suites. Training for sports specific administrators (non-coaches) has also been implemented. A booster guide has been emailed to all ticket holders and a parent and local business guide have been created and will be sent out to help educate these areas on the rules of athletics.</li> </ul>	

- An new NIL (Name, Image and Likeness) policy has been created and signed by President Berry and is in the process of becoming a formal policy.
- Carmen and David are working on a creating a "universal athletic hold" which would ensure student athletes are safeguarded in various areas to prevent violations. This hold would allow for better institutional control when students want to make changes to things such as meal plans or room occupancy which can have major impacts on financial aid available. More information will come on this as it develops.

Academics (Carmen Wright, Patti Pate):

- Carmen informed the committee that paper degree sheets will still be required for all student athletes at various intervals throughout a semester. These include major changes, end of semester and other circumstances that might require a paper degree sheet. All paper degree sheets must come from the academic department for that respective student.
- A question was asked about ULM online only courses. Arturo reemphasized that these courses give preference to online students to ensure that they have spots available for students seeking online degrees. Inquiries can be made in the week prior to the start of the semester if spots remain available.
- A change was made to some of the upper level Psychology courses in which they went from online to face to face. Many student athletes that are in season take these courses to fill their schedule. More of these need to be made online to allow student athletes to take them.
- David inquired about the potential for a Masters of General Studies or Masters of Liberal Arts for student athletes with the thought that Athletics could fund the majors in these programs. Some positions withing Athletics require the personnel to be in school and this would help out tremendously. It was noted that this was a question for Sushma Krishnamurthy and Dr. Arant.
- Carmen voiced concern about the changing admission standards and how we can support student athletes who don't meet the minimum admission requirements. How do we get them here and how do we keep them here? More discussion in future meetings.
- Patti announced that there were no major issues with student athlete registration with the exception of a few courses being full. For advising, athletes will continue to see their academic advisor first and then their athletic counselor.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in the SSC conference room.

CONCLUSIONS			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Approved by committee/council chair  Yes on