

University Athletics Committee

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 3:30 P.M.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER, CHASE

CHAIR	Benny Blaylock
ATTENDEES	Judy Fellows, Bill McConkey, Tasha Fisher, Rhonda Jones, Bobby Staub, James Mock, Lisa Colvin, Bobby Ensminger, Sean Chenoweth, Christian Rubio
ABSENT (EXCUSED)	Brett Bennett (excused), Lance Nicholson (excused), H.P. Jones

Agenda topics

General Announcements Benny Blaylock, Chair, announced that the NCAA Site Visit Team will be on campus September 28Ocotber 1. UAC members are encouraged to attend a reception and dinner with the Team on Monday, September 29 from 6:15-8:30 in the University Conference Center. Dr. Blaylock will submit to Judy Rogers the names of those who will be attending. Information was provided to the Council about the composition of the Site Visit Team.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2008 at 3:30 in the Student Success Center.

DISCUSSION

Report from the Director of Athletics, Bobby Staub

- 1. Mr. Staub discussed the role of the UAC in approving the game schedules for the teams relative to class time missed. The decision was made that Mr. Staub will present the tentative schedule for the spring sports at the next meeting on October 1. He will present the schedule for the fall sports during the last meeting of the spring.
- 2. Mr. Staub explained the decision-making process behind the decision to move Saturday's game to Friday evening due to the predicted bad weather as a result of Hurricane Ike. It was acknowledged that given the information from the National Weather Service, the best decision was made under the circumstances.
- 3. Mr. Staub reported that in August the Department of Athletics held a meeting where they established goals for the department. A third Academic Counselor has been added with the intent to graduate student athletes and to boost the APR. The Department also wants to continue to operate a balanced budget and meet the mandated schedule criteria. All involved in the athletics program want ULM to continue to be competitive in the Sun Belt Conference. A Coaches Forum is held one time per month that Sean Chenoweth, as Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) attends. Mr. Staub said that any other members of the UAC are welcome to attend those meetings.

Design and Implementation of the Mentor Program for Fall semester

- 1. Discussion was held about the objectives of the Mentoring Program. This program is not designed for UAC members to tutor student athletes, but as an opportunity to provide direction related to academic success (e.g., study skills, life skills).
- 2. Tasha Fisher, provided a list of 36 student-athletes that are considered "at risk" for academic success. Members of the UAC selected the students by sport that they would mentor during the fall semester. UAC members will initiate the mentoring program with their specific student athletes before the next meeting.

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Agenda topics

		Old Business
	DISCUSSION	The remaining student athletes were assigned to faculty mentors.
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DISCUSSION New Business

Dr. Benny Blaylock reported that the NCAA Site visit had concluded. At the exit interview the Site Visit Team reported on six findings that will be included in the final report issued later this month. When that report is received, the UAC and the subcommittee chairs will work with the Director of Athletics, Bobby Staub, to address the concerns.

Dr. Fellows asked for the minutes to reflect that the UAC commends Dr. Benny Blaylock and the Administration in the Department of Athletics for their work on this re-accreditation.

The UAC reviewed and approved the schedules for the spring sports with the recommendation that students be advised to schedule their classes so as to minimize the number of absences. Mr. Staub reported that there may be some more changes to the baseball schedule as the number of games is problematic.

All UAC members are encouraged to attend and participate in the festivities accompanying the home football game against ULL on Saturday evening.

CONCLUSIONS The next meeting will be held Wednesday, November 12 at 3:30 in the Student Success Center.					

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