MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 31, 2013

TO: Executive Secretary
    University Council

FROM: Terrence R. Bishop
      Chair, Athletic Board

RE: FY 2013 Annual Report of Athletic Board

During the 2012-2013 academic year, the Athletic Board held seven meetings. Minutes detailing the proceedings of the meetings have been forwarded to your office. Also, sub-committee meetings (Executive, Equity/Diversity, Budget, Student-Athlete Wellbeing, and External Relations) were held periodically throughout the year. The following bulleted points summarize the activities of the Athletic Board over FY 2013.

1. The Budget Committee and the Athletic Board monitored revenues and expenditures from the FY13 local fund budget. The Board and the Committee received quarterly reports detailing revenues and expenditures. Due to complications in the budgeting process both at the state and institutional levels, the FY 2014 local fund budget was not reviewed or approved by the end of FY 2013.

2. Ticket prices and policies were reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Athletic Board. Complimentary ticket policies were also reviewed and approved by the board. Special promotions involving ticket prices were also approved.

3. The Board received updates on NCAA policies and issues, and performance of Athletic Department support units. The Faculty Athletic Representative, Matt Streb, provided reports of NIU’s performance on NCAA standard academic performance measures, such as the Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR). As in past years, NIU’s performance on these measures has compared quite favorably to other NCAA institutions. Professor Streb provided frequent updates on developments in policies, guidelines and compliance issues at the NCAA and conference levels, including new and proposed legislation.
4. The Executive Committee reviewed scheduling issues and assured that scheduling policies were followed. The Board examined schedules and provided feedback to the Department about scheduling implications. Missed classed time by student-athletes was examined and evaluated.

5. The External Relations Committee provided input and evaluation of marketing, public relations and alumni relations activities. Surveys of both football and basketball (men and women) season ticket holders were executed and the results shared with the board and discussion followed on how to respond to various issues indicated by the surveys.

6. The Student-Athlete Wellbeing Subcommittee monitored activities and policies instituted for the purpose of achieving success in student-athlete performance, particularly with regards to classroom success and overall health and welfare.

7. The Board was updated on newly hired personnel - coaches and administrative staff. New head coaches introduced were Christina Sutcliffe (Softball), Kim Kester (Women’s Golf), and Rod Carey (Football). Christian Spears was named Acting AD after Jeff Compher’s resignation and departure for East Carolina University. Christian worked with the board for the last few months of FY 2013.

8. The board was provided with updates on facilities management issues, including the construction of the Chessick Practice Center. The board was given a tour of the facility during the construction process.

9. The Athletic Department provided the board with ongoing reports regarding NIU’s invitation to play in the Orange Bowl, including post-bowl summaries.

10. The Equity/Diversity Subcommittee monitored ongoing efforts to manage compliance with Title IX requirements and compliance issues as defined by the Office of Civil Rights.

Please feel free to contact me should you need additional clarification regarding our activities during FY 2013.

cc: D. Baker
    S. Frazier