Athletic Board
Wednesday, September 18, 2013
Holmes Student Center Illinois Room, 1:00pm

**Present:** Terry Bishop (Chair), David Changnon, TJ Lusher, Paul Bauer, Randi Napientek, Don Tidrick, Matt Streb, Sean Frazier, Joe Bittorf, Gretchen Schlabach, Hamid Bateni, Yolanda King, John Moulton, Jerry Blakemore, Peggy Simonds, Bill Cassidy, Connor Schomig, Nelle Youel, Paul Julion

**Guests:** Debra Boughton, Sr Assoc AD/Finance and Facilities; Lindsey Hicks, Assoc AD/Compliance and Student Services; Mark Muhlhauser, Assoc AD/Major Gifts; Ryan Sedevie, Assoc AD/Collegiate Advancement and External Affairs; Christian Spears, Deputy Director of Athletics

I. **Call to Order – T. Bishop (1:09pm)**

II. **Approval of May 1, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

P. Bauer made a motion to approve the May 1, 2013, meeting minutes. G. Schlabach seconded the motion.

Having no additions or corrections, the motion was carried unanimously.

III. **Introduction of New Athletics Department Staff Members**

A. **Sean Frazier, Associate Vice President/Director of Athletics**
   C. Spears began by stating the University has hired the best candidate out there for the Director of Athletics position. Sean Frazier comes to us from Wisconsin where he was the Deputy Director of Athletics for six years. His experience there aligns perfectly with President Baker’s new initiatives and ideas.

S. Frazier stated he is happy to be here and has already been involved in many meetings on campus. This has been a labor of love for many reasons but mostly because of the people. It is a good fit here for him and his family. He is capitalizing on the momentum in Athletics and on campus.

B. **Ryan Sedevie, Associate AD/Collegiate Advancement and External Affairs**
   S. Frazier introduced Ryan who joins NIU after 18 years at Wisconsin and knew he would be a great addition to his staff here.

S. Frazier went on to say that he would like to give a report at the Athletic Board meetings relative to things happening in Athletics. He is very comfortable with the level of talent apparent in our student-athletes, the coaches, and administration. Relative to the President’s mandates, Athletics is working to enhance the fan experience at Athletics events. There will be a lot of e-mail blasts and social media presence to get the word out. He is beginning to meet with the college deans in order to establish collaborative relationships.

Currently in the process of hiring a SAASS director as well as beginning the process to fill the position formerly held by Carl Armato (Associate AD/Facilities and Events). Will look for lots of input from this group and he is available to meet with you individually if you would like.
Athletic Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 18, 2013
Page Two

IV. Faculty Athletics Representative – M. Streb
No report.

V. Committees
No committee reports as we are still in the process of putting committee membership together.

VI. New Business

A. Missed Class Report informational only – D. Boughton
The data on this report is data which Athletics has been collecting for the last several years. It is consistently applied each year and shows how all our teams are doing. They do miss quite a few classes but have been back to the 3.0 GPA again. T. Bishop explained that the NCAA certification process requires the Athletic Board to be kept aware of this information. There are no serious patterns or academic issues but the Board must continue to monitor the information.

B. FY14 Athletics Budget – D. Boughton
D. Boughton provided an overview of the proposed FY14 budget. A large portion of Athletics’ budget is based on tuition. The information being presented today is a bit less than half the operating funds Athletics controls.

She then walked through the budget highlights and reminded the Board that they do not see all the student fee revenue information. General revenue money is also not in this report. T. Bishop said in the past, information has been shared about where the funds come from. If you have questions about that, please touch base with D. Boughton. She will forward information to the Board which had been presented to the Faculty Senate and University Council with regard to the budget. She added that the guarantee funds and development dollars are also not included in this report.

M. Streb said stories are starting to show up in the national media with regard to athletics department budgets so be aware they are out there.

TJ Lusher made a motion to approve the FY14 Athletics budget as presented. G. Schlabach seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. FY14 M/WBB Ticket Prices – D. Boughton
Ticket prices, as presented, have not increased, nor have single game ticket prices.

R. Sedevie explained that Athletics did not want to change the ticket prices because the intent is to populate the lower bowl at the Convocation Center to engage in building the atmosphere there, thus providing a home court advantage. Athletics is also working on making it easier to get the students to the game. C. Spears added that this is Coach Montgomery’s third year and with three 7’ players on the team, it should be much more appealing to the fans.

D. Boughton said Kathi Bennett is working hard to bring in student-athletes who are committed to
their sport and she has done a great job in that regard. Her team seems to be excited about working together. The future is bright for both programs.

TJ Lusher said the issue of the lockerrooms was discussed last year and she wondered if the issues have been addressed. There were also some cracks in the track surface that need to be fixed. C. Spears said the track has not been repaired nor has the basketball floor. Athletics is working on getting those areas corrected. The Men’s Basketball lockerroom is in good shape and the shower heads in the Women’s Basketball lockerroom have been addressed.

J. Bittorf made a motion to approve the FY14 M/WBB ticket prices. D. Changnon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. FY14 M/WBB Comp Policy

No significant changes to the prior year. Remember that this policy is subject to audit so we have to review and approve it each year.

TJ Lusher made a motion to approve the FY14 M/WBB Comp Policy. G. Schlabach seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

TJ Lusher then asked about closed captioning on the new scoreboard. It was explained that Athletics was not initially included in the discussion of the new board. S. Frazier would like to have someone from Finance and Facilities on the Athletic Board so they could answer these types of questions as Athletics doesn’t control the facilities. T. Bishop added that the information showing downs, yardage, etc., was in font that is quite small and difficult to read. C. Spears said he would ask Media Services to make some adjustments to that piece.

VII. Announcements/Adjournment

A. In preparation for the Football game versus Eastern Illinois on Saturday, the Student Association is hosting a pep rally on Friday from 5-7pm at Central Park. Cheer and band will be there. Papa John’s and Rosy’s Roadhouse are providing food. Everyone is welcome. Tailgating for students is on the east side. The Student Association is sponsoring three buses to the game at Purdue. Please be sure to share that information with your students.

D. Changnon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Bittorf seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm

The next meeting of the Athletic Board is Wednesday, October 16, 2013, at 1pm in Holmes Student Center room #306. The executive committee will meet on Wednesday, October 2, 2013, at 1:30pm in the Athletics Administration Conference Room in Convocation Center #200.