

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 27, 2016

TO: Executive Secretary
University Council

FROM: Matthew Streb
Chair, Athletic Board (FY 2016)

RE: FY 2016 Annual Report of the Athletic Board

The Athletic Board held four meetings during the 2014-2015 academic year. Minutes detailing the proceedings of the meetings have been forwarded to your office. Also, liaisons to four athletic department working groups (Diversity and Integration; External Affairs; Finance and Facilities; Student and Staff Services) met regularly throughout the year. The following points summarize the activities of the Athletic Board during FY 2016.

1. The primary work of the Board was to revise and update the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual as well as the language regarding the Athletic Board in the NIU Bylaws. In the fall, the Board voted to make the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) the chair of the Board. This change was approved by the University Council. The Board made several other proposed changes to the language in the NIU Bylaws regarding the Athletic Board. These changes will be submitted to the University Council in the fall for its consideration.
2. The Board received regular updates from the Associate Vice-President/Director of Athletics on activities and accomplishments, especially related to the academic and athletic success of our sports programs and fundraising initiatives including the Victor E. Ball. The Board also received updates on the athletic department's new strategic plan and the annual report.
3. The Board received regular updates from the FAR regarding proposed NCAA legislation and major national issues affecting intercollegiate athletics. He provided reports of NIU's performance on NCAA standard academic performance measures, such as the Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR). NIU's performance is quite strong on both measures, both as a department and sport by sport. Of note, NIU had the highest graduation rate in the Mid-American Conference (MAC) for the third year in a row. The FAR also reported on happenings at the winter MAC meeting, the NCAA convention, the Faculty Athletics Representative Annual Conference, and the D1 FAR Annual Conference. The Board was also informed about the selection process of the fourth class of LEaD Huskies.
4. The Senior Associate Athletics Director/Director of Student-Athlete Support Services provided an overview of the functions of her office as well as information on the academic success of student-athletes. This will be an annual report given at one of the fall meetings going forward.

5. The Senior Associate Athletics Director/Compliance and Administration provided an overview of the functions of his office as well as information regarding the tracking of APR, compliance educational efforts, and secondary infractions. This will be an annual report given at one of the spring meetings going forward. Starting next year, the Athletic Board will assume the responsibilities of the current Campus Compliance Committee.
6. Ticket prices and policies were reviewed and approved by the Board. The Senior Associate Athletics Director/Collegiate Advancement and External Affairs provided regular updates on ticket sales.
7. The Board reviewed scheduling issues and assured that scheduling policies were followed. Missed class time information by sport was presented to and evaluated by the Board.
8. The Board monitored revenues and expenditures from the FY 2016 local fund budget. The Board received quarterly reports detailing revenues and expenditures. As in past years, due to delays in receiving in-state allocations, the FY 2017 local fund budget was not reviewed or approved by the end of FY 2016.
9. Athletic staff members provided periodic updates on efforts to upgrade existing sports facilities.
10. The Board reviewed and approved the Presidential Statement on Athletics.
11. The Board was updated on newly hired personnel. New staff members introduced were Lisa Carlson (head coach, women's basketball) and Adrian Myers (head coach, cross country).
12. The Board received a report on the department's concussion management protocol.
13. The Board received a report on the implementation of cost of attendance.
14. The Board received a report on the results of a survey of season ticket holders.
15. The Board received a report on the bowl financials for participation in the Poinsettia Bowl.
16. The Board received a report on the financials of hosting the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) football championships on campus.

Please feel free to contact me should you need additional clarification regarding the Athletic Board's activities during FY 2016.

Cc: D. Baker
S. Frazier