

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 11, 2017

TO: Executive Secretary
University Council

FROM: Matthew Streb
Chair, Athletic Board (FY 2017)

RE: FY 2017 Annual Report of the Athletic Board

The Athletic Board held four meetings during the 2016-2017 academic year. Minutes detailing the proceedings of the meetings have been forwarded to your office (with the exception of the April 2017 meeting; minutes from that meeting will be approved in September). 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 2017.

1. 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 Associate Vice-President/Director of Athletics also presented the annual report.
2. The Board received updates on the implementation of the athletic department's strategic plan.
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 second highest graduation rate in the Mid-American Conference (MAC), after three straight years of having the highest graduation rate in the conference. 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 fifth 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. As part of this presentation, 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.

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. He also gave a presentation on the NCAA's IPP data portal, which benchmarks NIU's athletics department against other institutions on a wide range of issues, including sports sponsorship, graduation rates, participation, and finances.
6. Ticket prices and policies were presented to the Board for input. The Senior Associate Athletics Director/Collegiate Advancement and External Affairs provided regular updates on ticket sales.
7. The Board implemented a new feature of their meetings, in which it discusses a major national issue related to intercollegiate athletics and how NIU deals with such an issue on campus. Issues for discussion included the Baylor sexual assault case, overtraining, and time demands.
8. The Board received an update on how possible changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act will affect the athletics department.
9. The Board heard from a member of SAAC about the group's initiatives for the academic year.
10. The Board received information on how coaches and staff are evaluated.
11. The Board received multiple updates on revenue generation efforts.
12. The Deputy Director of Athletics/Senior Administrator provided the Board with an overview of Title IX policies and NIU's compliance with the law.
13. The Board monitored revenues and expenditures from the FY 2017 budget. The Board received quarterly reports detailing revenues and expenditures.
14. The Board was updated on newly hired personnel. Ryan Swan (new men's soccer coach) was introduced to the Board.

Please feel free to contact me should you need additional clarification regarding the Athletic Board's activities during FY 2017.

Cc: D. Baker
S. Frazier