



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 5, 2013
8:30 am
Florida International University
Modesto A. Maidique Campus
Graham Center Ballrooms

Committee Membership:

Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Chair*; Marcelo Claure, *Vice Chair*; Sukrit Agrawal; Robert T. Barlick, Jr.; Mayi de la Vega; C. Delano Gray; Liane M. Sippin

Liaisons:

Michael R. Mendez, *Foundation Board of Directors*; Mitchell R. Less, *President's Council*; Manny Miranda, *President's Council*

AGENDA

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| 1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks | Jorge L. Arrizurieta |
| 2. Approval of Minutes | Jorge L. Arrizurieta |
| 3. Discussion / Information Items (<i>No Action Required</i>) | |
| 3.1 Athletics | Pete Garcia |
| 3.1.1 Overview | |
| 3.1.2 Introduction of Head Coaches | |
| 3.2 Athletics Initiative – Physical Therapy Services Update | Julie Berg |
| 3.3 Student-Athlete Academic Center Update | |
| 4. New Business (<i>If Any</i>) | Jorge L. Arrizurieta |
| 5. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment | Jorge L. Arrizurieta |

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Athletics Committee**

June 5, 2013

Subject: Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on November 29, 2012

Proposed Committee Action:

Approval of Minutes of the Athletics Committee meeting held on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

Background Information:

Committee members will review and approve the Minutes of the Athletics Committee Meeting held on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

Supporting Documentation: Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes: November 29, 2012

Facilitator/Presenter: Committee Chair Jorge L. Arrizurieta

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**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ATHLETICS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 29, 2012**

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Athletics Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Jorge L. Arrizurieta at 12:12 pm on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present

Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Chair*
Marcelo Claure, *Vice Chair*
Robert T. Barlick, Jr.
Mayi de la Vega
Laura Fariñas
C. Delano Gray
Michael R. Mendez, *FIU Foundation Board of Directors*
Mitchell R. Less, *President's Council*

Excused

Sukrit Agrawal

Trustee Jose J. Armas and University President Mark B. Rosenberg were also in attendance.

Committee Chair Jorge L. Arrizurieta welcomed all Trustees, faculty, staff and students to the meeting. Committee Chair Arrizurieta also recognized FIU Foundation Board of Directors member Michael R. Mendez and President's Council member Mitchell R. Less, and thanked them for their continued service as liaisons to the Committee.

2. Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Arrizurieta asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 6, 2012, Athletics Committee meeting. Hearing none, a motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the Athletics Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, June 6, 2012.

3. Discussion Items

3.1.1 Athletics Overview

Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia presented the Athletics Overview, reporting on recent news about the NCAA and within the Athletics Department. Mr. Garcia provided an update on the conference realignment, noting that many conferences will be affected by realignment in 2013 and added that he believes that eventually the BCS conferences will expand to 16 team leagues. He stated that the newly-added National Collegiate Athletic Association sport Women's Sand Volleyball will begin competition in the spring of 2013.

3.1.2 Introduction of Head Coach and Student Athlete

Mr. Garcia introduced Men's Soccer Head Coach Kenny Arena, noting that in March 2012 he became the fifth head coach in the history of the FIU men's soccer program. Coach Arena provided brief remarks, stating his continued efforts to recruit talented student-athletes poised to excel in the sport and academically. He stated that FIU is the only Division I men's soccer program in Miami, adding that all efforts will be dedicated to producing a team that the University community will be proud of and that will also restore the Men's Soccer program to national prominence.

Mr. Garcia introduced Jerica Coley, a student-athlete on the Women's Basketball team. Currently in her Junior year, he noted that Ms. Coley, who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in dietetics and nutrition, has enjoyed success on the basketball court as well as in the classroom. Ms. Coley addressed the Committee, noting that the achievements of the Women's Basketball team were due to the support of the coaching and athletics staff, professors, and the Student-Athlete Academic Center. Ms. Coley stated that, having had such a positive experience at FIU, she hoped to make a lasting mark for future generations of students through her hard work as an athlete, a student, and through her community service efforts.

3.2 Athletics Initiative – Physical Therapy Services

Senior Associate Athletic Director Julie Berg led a discussion on the start-up of a Physical Therapy Services initiative, in the Department's athletic training (sports medicine) facility. She noted that currently all student-athletes that become injured while training and competing in their respective sports are treated and undergo rehabilitation services conducted exclusively through a staff of certified athletic trainers. Ms. Berg stated that an opportunity has been identified by the Athletics Department to hire a physical therapist to work in collaboration with the certified athletic trainers in the rehabilitation of student-athletes, and bill for these physical therapy services through the University's Health Care Network. She noted that this opportunity would allow for enhanced care for the student-athletes and both athletic trainers and physical therapists will gain a valuable collaborative experience in the rehabilitation of student-athletes, in addition to the opportunity for additional sources of revenue for the Athletics Department.

Trustee Jose J. Armas noted that the proposed collaboration presented an opportunity for additional treatment options for University student-athletes. He further noted that the program, if expanded, could be beneficial to student-athletes of all ages within the community, as well as having the potential to generate revenue for the University.

3.3 Student-Athlete Academic Center Update

Director for the Student-Athlete Academic Center (SAAC) Phillip A. Moses reported on staffing changes and the upgrades to the SAAC building. He provided an update on student-athlete academic performance entering the fall 2012 semester, noting that four students were not academically eligible out of 300

returning students. He added that 22 student-athletes were on schedule to graduate during the December 2012 commencement ceremonies. He stated that the SAAC tutoring program positively serves the student-athlete community by utilizing methods that build confidence and maximize learning potential and success. He further noted that there are approximately 400 tutoring sessions per week during the fall semester. He concluded by noting that there are areas under continual improvement in order to maintain standards of academic excellence in addition to contributing to student-athlete success. A discussion regarding student-athletic academic eligibility among board members and university administrators then occurred.

Trustee Robert T. Barlick, Jr. stressed the importance of student-athlete academic success and requested quantitative metrics on student-athlete progress in order to identify areas that require specialized attention.

4. New Business

No new business was raised.

5. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no other business, Committee Chair Jorge L. Arrizurieta adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees' Athletics Committee on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at 1:13 p.m.

<i>Trustee Request</i>	<i>Follow-up</i>	<i>Completion Date</i>
<i>As a follow-up to the Student-Athlete Academic Center Update, Trustee Robert T. Barlick, Jr. requested quantitative metrics on student-athlete progress in order to identify areas that require specialized attention.</i>	<i>Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia</i>	<i>June 2013</i>

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Athletics Committee**

June 5, 2013

Subject: Discussion/Information Items

Proposed Committee Action:

None. For discussion and information purposes only.

Background Information:

Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia will provide an Athletics Overview and introduce two Head Coaches. Senior Associate Athletic Director Julie Berg will lead the discussion on the Physical Therapy Services initiative. Director of the Student-Athlete Academic Center Philip A. Moses will provide an update.

Supporting Documentation:

Letter from the College Swimming Coaches Association of America, *February 27, 2013*

Miami Herald article – FIU’s swimmer’s career no longer on ice, *December 10, 2012*

Image of new Basketball Court

Facilitator/Presenter:

Pete Garcia
Julie Berg
Philip A. Moses

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College Swimming Coaches Association of America
THE OLDEST ORGANIZATION OF COLLEGE COACHES IN AMERICA

SCHOLAR ALL-AMERICA PROGRAM

February 27, 2013

Mr. Peter Garcia
FIU
FIU Athletics
11200 Southwest 8th Street
Miami, FL 33199

Dear Mr. Garcia

On behalf of the College Swimming Coaches Association of America, I'm proud to announce FIU Women's Swimming and Diving Team has achieved Scholar All American status, for the Fall 2012 semester.

The College Swimming Coaches Association of America presents the Team Scholar All American award to college and university swimming and diving teams who have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

Based on your team's cumulative grade point average for the fall semester, FIU Women's Swimming and Diving Team has earned CSCAA Team Scholar All American Honors. A complete listing of all institutions who have achieved this honor can be found on the CSCAA website (www.cscAA.org).

Congratulations to your student-athletes for their academic achievements during the Fall 2012 semester.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Sanocki", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kirk Sanocki, President
College Swimming Coaches Association of America

Joel Shinofield
Executive Director
5224 Club Head Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
(540) 460-6563 | joel@cscAA.org
www.cscAA.org

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FIU swimmer's career no longer on ice

David J. Neal
dneal@MiamiHerald.com



PATRICK FARRELL / MIAMI HERALD

Johanna Gustafsdottir, an FIU sophomore swimmer, photographed on Wednesday December 5, 2012, owns nearly half of FIU's swimming records.

Just 16 months from being a bloated swimming burnout victim, sophomore Johanna Gustafsdottir owns almost half FIU's swimming record book. That figures.

After all, Gustafsdottir's favorite stroke, breaststroke, is her worst stroke and she never swims her favorite race, the 200 breast. It's her favorite because there's no pressure, but she swims best in the big meets. She feels Miami is "typical me," although not much resembles her hometown, Reykjavik, Iceland.

"A lot of times, she's not someone you can just figure out and know exactly where she is at all points," FIU swimming coach Randy Horner said. "As a coach, you want her to perform on a daily basis like her results prove she's capable of. She's an odd character sometimes. But swimmers are odd. Not too many are normal. You've got to be a little bit crazy to stare at a black line 20 hours a week year-round."

She might not be the best swimmer in her family — her younger sister, Eyglo, swam for Iceland in the 2012 Summer Olympics.

But, by the book, she's well on her way to being the best swimmer in FIU history. After the Mizzou Invitational last month, Gustafsdottir owns individual records in the 100 freestyle, 200 free, 100 backstroke, 200 back, 200 individual medley and swam on the teams that set the records in the 200-free relay, 400-free relay, 800-free relay and 200 medley relay.

Six of those records were set at last winter's Sun Belt Conference Championships when she became the first FIU swimmer to be named conference Swimmer of the Year.

"The girls kept telling me all season, 'You'll be so surprised when you come to conference, you're going to do so well,'" Gustafsdottir said. "I was saying: 'I'm not like that. I usually swim the same times all year.' Then I come to conference and I beat my best time by 14 seconds.

"I don't know if I was more shocked or my coaches."

That's the kind of raw talent she displayed during her teenage years on Iceland's National Team and that Horner gambled remained there when she wanted to return to the pool.

Gustafsdottir loved swimming so much that when a hand injury kept her out of the pool, she went to practice anyway, just to watch. Then, at 18, after 11 years of swimming, four on the national team and several national records, she quit.

"I was just sick of it," Gustafsdottir said. "At home, you swim with the same people all the time, and I was just tired of it. Tired of the group I was swimming with. The only thing I could find was quitting. I wasn't getting any better because I was tired of it."

Also, she admitted, "It was kind of tough when [her sister] beat me the first time and took my record" in the 200 backstroke.

In another piece of irony, it was going to her sister's meets that sparked a desire to get back in the pool. The daughter of a former team handball national team member said for two years she "did nothing; gained weight."

In 2010, she contacted Inga Bateman, mother of University of Florida swimmer Sarah Bateman, about coming to the United States to swim for a school.

Inga Bateman got in touch with Horner. Horner told Gustafsdottir while her old times showed her ability, he needed to see more of that in her current times.

She got back in the pool and, from August 2010 to February 2011, showed enough improvement that Horner thought something special could still be there.

"Sometimes, you recruit talent based on potential," he said. "It was a little bit of a gamble. She still hadn't done the lifetime levels she'd done. We'd seen progress in a time frame that we were pretty impressed by.

"It really was a gamble," he continued. "But us being our first year, first recruiting class, we were more apt to take a gamble on a kid like that."

Gustafsdottir recalls her earliest practices, in August 2011: "I was dying at practice. It was really hard for me. By the end of last year, I'd lost 35 pounds."

Without having to spend the year getting into her best shape and knowing her high end, she said there has been more focus on peaking to make NCAA cut times during the year, then peaking for the NCAAAs.

"Last year it came as a surprise to qualify," she said.

Aid Horner: "She's an athlete that frustrates you midseason because you're like, 'Where the hell is my NCAA swimmer who should be going within three or four seconds of her end of the season time in season?' She can't. Either physically she can't or mentally she hasn't flipped that switch yet. Who knows? She's one of those when rested, when the mind switches, when you get engaged in championship mentality, she grows to a level that I have not seen out of her at that point."

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PANTHERS

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