



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Friday, March 3, 2017

9:30 a.m. **approximate start time*

Florida International University
Modesto A. Maidique Campus
Graham Center, Room 243

Committee Membership:

Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Chair*; Justo L. Pozo, *Vice Chair*; Leonard Boord; Alian Collazo; Kathleen L. Wilson

Liaisons:

Mitchell R. Less, *President's Council*; Manny Miranda, *President's Council*

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 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 Update | Pete Garcia |
| 3.2 Facilities Report | Pete Garcia |
| 3.3 Fundraising Report | Mercy Dorta |
| 3.4 Academic Report | Wesley D. Maas |
| 3.5 APR Report | John Shukie |
| 4. Report <i>(For Information Only)</i> | |
| 4.1 Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment Update | Pete Garcia |
| 5. New Business <i>(If Any)</i> | Jorge L. Arrizurieta |
| 6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment | Jorge L. Arrizurieta |

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2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes

THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Athletics Committee
March 3, 2017

Subject: Approval of Minutes of Meeting held September 1, 2016

Proposed Committee Action:

Approval of Minutes of the Athletics Committee meeting held on Thursday, September 1, 2016 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, September 1, 2016 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

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| Supporting Documentation: | Minutes: Athletics Committee Meeting, September 1, 2016 |
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| Facilitator/Presenter: | Jorge L. Arrizurieta, <i>Athletics Committee Chair</i> |
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**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ATHLETICS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 1, 2016**

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 10:53 a.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2016 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present

Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Chair*
Justo L. Pozo, *Vice Chair*
Leonard Boord
Alian Collazo
Kathleen L. Wilson

Trustees Cesar L. Alvarez and Marc D. Sarnoff, and University President Mark B. Rosenberg were also in attendance.

Committee Chair Arrizurieta welcomed all Trustees, faculty, staff and students to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Arrizurieta asked that the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting held on March 11, 2016. A motion was made and passed to approve the Minutes of the Athletics Committee Meeting held on Friday, March 11, 2016.

3. Discussion / Information Items

3.1 Athletics Update

Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia presented the Athletics update, noting that Panthers Football will open the new season at home later in the day. He stated that this was the best academic year on record for FIU student-athletes. Mr. Garcia stated that FIU was the Conference USA member school with the most representatives in the Olympics, adding that a total of six either current or former FIU athletes competed.

Mr. Garcia introduced the newly-hired head coach of FIU Baseball, Mervyl Melendez, noting that Coach Melendez is a top ranked recruiter and has an accomplished career where at the age of 42 he became the third youngest head coach in Division I baseball history to reach 500 career wins. Coach Melendez discussed his vision and goals for the program, noting that he looked forward to beginning the season and propelling FIU baseball forward.

Mr. Garcia introduced FIU Baseball outfielder and third baseman Nick Day, noting that in July, Nick acted selflessly in responding to aid a person severely injured in a car accident. Nick relayed his experience and provided an account of his involvement in administering life-saving emergency response.

3.2 Facilities Report

Mr. Garcia noted that the University entered into an agreement with Miami FC last year, adding that FIU is one of a small number of higher education institutions in the country that rent out facilities. He indicated that net revenue derived from Football Stadium and FIU Arena rental totaled \$545,595. He stated that suites in the Football stadium are used for classrooms during the spring and fall semesters. Mr. Garcia also mentioned that the University hosted a practice for the Miami Dolphins, further noting that the event was sold out.

3.3 Eastern Airlines

Mr. Garcia reported that after a competitive solicitation, the University partnered with Eastern Airlines making the Miami-based company the official airline for the FIU Football team. He added that the partnership will result in additional revenue to the Division of Athletics over the next three years. Mr. Garcia introduced Mr. Edward J. Wegel, President and CEO of Eastern Airlines group. Mr. Wegel discussed Eastern Airlines' history, current partnerships, and goals on expanding internship opportunities for FIU students. He added that approximately 25% of Eastern Airlines employees have either enrolled in courses at FIU or are alumni.

3.4 Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment Update

Deputy Athletic Director Robert Staub provided a brief update on the progress of the seven-year partnership between Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment and FIU Athletics. He introduced Van Wagner's Senior Vice President for Collegiate Services Mark Donley. Mr. Donley stated that FIU is the first school Van Wagner partnered with and reported that they will later announce their tenth collegiate partnership. He discussed the expanding video production capabilities and other value-added resources that the partnership provides to FIU Athletics. He also reported that the first four years of the agreement represent a \$550,000 cash guarantee to FIU.

Trustee Leonard Boord made several inquiries regarding the financial benefits to the University in terms of the value added enhancements and also requested Van Wagner's cash flow position as it relates to the partnership with FIU. Mr. Donley responded by noting that, since the partnership's inception, negative cash flow has been experienced.

Trustee Boord requested quarterly updates on the Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment partnership, noting that the reports should be received at regular intervals, not limited to meetings of the Committee.

3.5 Academic Report

Vice President for Academic Affairs Elizabeth M. Bejar provided an update on the Student Athlete Academic Center (SAAC), noting that the focus of the SAAC is to provide academic support services for student-athletes and is devoted to facilitating student athlete success beyond the field. She noted that the coordination of the day-to-day leadership of the SAAC is under the direction of Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Education Wesley D. Maas.

AVP Maas mentioned that the program focuses on recruitment, retention, and the eventual graduation of student-athletes. He stated that the program incorporates weekly academic meetings in which tracking mechanisms help ensure that FIU student-athletes are accountable for their academic success and are partners in the process. AVP Maas added that academic reports are prepared for each student-athlete in order to track progress towards academic requirements. He stated that a key component to the SAAC program is open lines of communication among staff, student-athletes, and coaches to ensure that FIU's student-athletes are succeeding academically.

3.6 APR Report

Consultant Mr. John B. Shukie provided an update on the Academic Progress Rate (APR) report, which he noted measures eligibility and retention for all Division I teams and Division I institutions. He added that the 2015-2016 APR data will be available in approximately six weeks. He reported that in the latest rankings FIU's football team achieved its best APR score in the last four years. Mr. Shukie mentioned that FIU's Baseball team may have earned a perfect APR score and added that FIU Men's basketball experienced their top APR scores in 2014 and 2015. In addition, Mr. Shukie reported that the NCAA national office has expressed an interest in a feature story that narrates the success of the FIU Men's Basketball program.

Trustee Kathleen L. Wilson made reference to Trustee Natasha Lowell's inquiry at the last Athletics Committee meeting where she requested information as to how FIU Athletics teams compared to other universities in Conference USA (C-USA) and peers in the State University System in addition to the projected goal of the overall student athlete GPA. Mr. Garcia noted that FIU is a member of C-USA and, therefore indicated that a sports record comparison was limited to only C-USA teams and was provided as part of the meeting's agenda materials in response to Trustee Lowell's request.

4. Reports

Committee Chair Arrizurieta requested that the Student Athlete Development and Athletics Compliance reports be accepted as written. There were no objections.

5. New Business

No new business was raised.

6. Concluding 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, September 1, 2016 at 12:16 p.m.

| <i>Trustee Request</i> | <i>Follow-up</i> | <i>Completion Date</i> |
|---|---|-------------------------------|
| <i>Trustee Board requested quarterly updates on the Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment partnership, noting that the reports should be received at regular intervals, not limited to meetings of the Committee.</i> | <i>Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia</i> | <i>On-going</i> |

K.S.
09.08.2016



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

March 3, 2017

ATHLETICS FACILITIES REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 21, 2017

Discussion/ Information Items *(No Action Required)*

Projects Status

Baseball

New indoor batting facility (complete)

New stadium lighting (complete)

Renovation of outdoor batting practice facility (complete)

Restoration of bullpen areas (in progress)

Renovation of home team locker room (planning stage)

Creation of field-level donor suite (planning stage)

Football

Installation of new stadium artificial turf surface (in progress)

New HD video board (in progress)

Softball / Golf

Multi-purpose building (in progress)

Soccer

Renovation of existing north practice field (in progress)

Renovation of game field (planning stage)

Intramural Athletic field (in progress)

FIU Arena

Insertion of new chair back seating in upper bowl (planning stage)

Tennis / Beach Volleyball

Renovation of locker room facility (planning stage)

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FIU Athletics

FIU Athletics Development Update





- **Football Leadership Fund**
 - 14 prospects
 - 5 proposals presented
 - 1 accepted at \$50k
 - 1 accepted at \$25k
- **Football Fundraising Committee**
- **18 Football Suites**
 - 10 suites committed
 - 10 prospects
 - 8 proposals presented





- **Baseball Committee formed**
- **Baseball Leadership Fund**
 - 20 prospects
 - 1 proposal presented
- **Baseball Campaign**
 - 20 prospects
 - 4 meetings
 - 1 commitment of \$40k





- **2.16.17 – Baseball Alumni Social at the President’s Home**
- **2.17.17 – Baseball Donor VIP Tent (FIU v. Jacksonville State)**
- **2.22.17 – Baseball Donor VIP Tent (FIU v. UM)**
- **2.28.17 – Chad Moss Event with Coach Davis**
- **3.8.17 – Baseball Donor VIP Tent (FIU v. UM)**
- **6.9.17 – Athletics Golf Tournament**



Student-Athlete Academic Center Evaluation Report Academic Standards and Support Plans

Respectfully Submitted:

March 2017 by Wesley Maas, Asst. VP Undergraduate Education

Overview

During academic year 2014-15, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) withdrew its mandatory review of academic support services provided to student-athletes. However, FIU determined an evaluation process should be continued as it represents best practices and supports our institutional commitment to continuous improvement. The Student-Athlete Academic Center (SAAC) Evaluation Committee (SAAC-EC) was formed at the end of December 2014 and charged with formally reviewing and evaluating the SAAC.

Five challenges were identified and have subsequently been addressed.

1. **Tutoring**

Hiring tutors who have knowledge in specialized courses (courses after sophomore year).

Update:

The recruitment of SAAC tutors has been an emphasis for the Director, Assistant Director, and Tutor Coordinator. Through proper marketing and recruitment efforts, our tutor pool has increased over the past academic year from 35 to 55. The pay scale for our tutors has increased so that we offer competitive rates for top tutors.

2. **Missed Class Policy**

The current attendance policy is still problematic for a few student-athletes and their respective professors. Cases range from faculty members not allowing student-athletes to make up missed course work to having final exams count twice for University sponsored absences.

Update:

University Policy 350.061 was proposed in partnership with Academic Affairs and subsequently has been implemented. Policy 350.061 affords all students a reasonable amount of time to complete course work and/or assignments missed during approved University absences. Furthermore, the approved make-up

assignments must be equivalent in content, type, and grading scale as the work that was missed.

3. **Travel Schedule**

It was concluded during the 2014 review that SAAC advisors followed/practiced different methods when determining how to inform faculty of student-athlete travel schedules. The lack of uniformity was due to the high SAAC advisor turnover rate and the newly implemented rule where SAAC advisors cannot contact the faculty.

Update:

The current process for informing faculty of the student-athlete travel schedule is now uniform. All student-athletes receive a travel letter at the beginning of each semester of competition. Letters outline the dates of competition and therefore excuse student-athletes from class for the indicated dates. Student-athletes are responsible for delivering the travel letter to professors in person and electronically during the first week of the semester. Student-athletes are required to follow up with professors at least one week prior to missing a class due to travel. Student-athletes must schedule any make-up tests and assignments prior to leaving.

4. **GradesFirst Progress Report**

In 2014, obtaining progress reports from professors still posed an issue. The progress reports either didn't arrive or didn't arrive timely enough for the SAAC advisors to effectively prevent a student from falling too far behind.

Update:

After evaluation of the process in which GradesFirst sends out the progress reports to the FIU Faculty, errors were diagnosed and a plan implemented allowing the SAAC staff to address the issues. Support from the PantherSoft support team, specifically Helen Gonzalez and Hugo Jimenez, were integral in this process.

Faculty Progress Report Return rate by term through GradesFirst:

- **Fall, 2015** 68%
- **Spring, 2016** 65%
- **Fall, 2016** 73%

5. **SAAC Advisors/Academic Liaisons**

Athletic Liaisons agreed that SAAC advising had improved given the clearer definition of their roles and enhanced communication. However, the SAAC-EC review determined in 2014 that there still seemed to be inconsistencies as it pertained to the recommendations of majors and careers.

Update:

With staff turnover, new SAAC staff members have been cross trained with Undergraduate Education. This provided the opportunity for SAAC leadership to update and clarify role and responsibilities for all FIU SAAC staff members. Although SAAC Academic Coordinators can provide insight into available degree options, it is our policy that student-athletes meet with a professional advisor within their college for recommendations on majors. We refer students to FIU Career and Talent Development for information regarding potential majors and ensure that all student-athletes attend FIU Career Fairs (when applicable). In addition, the SAAC Leadership team has created an internal program, *SAACares*, that focuses on the professional growth of all SAAC staff members. Part of this growth is the opportunity for SAAC staff members to attend professional trainings both on campus as well as at regional and national conventions.

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THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Athletics Committee

March 3, 2017

2015-16 APR SUMMARY REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 21, 2017

Discussion/ Information Items *(No action required)*

Men's Basketball

- Has a multi-year APR of 968. This is the highest rate for the team in the history of the APR program, dating to its inception in 2003-04.
- Over the past two years, not one member of the FIU men's basketball team has lost an APR eligibility point.
- In the past two years, the team has lost a total of only one APR point, a retention point in 2015-16. This is a remarkable run of academic success under Coach Evans and the SAAC.

Football

- Similar to men's basketball, football has continued an upward trajectory with its APR.
- The single-year APR for football in 2015-16 was 947. This is the highest score within the last four years for the team.
- The team has a 936 multi-year APR, and will be "rolling off" its lowest score from 2012-13 to be replaced with the 2016-17 results. So, the 2016-17 multi-year score is anticipated to be higher.
- 2016 fall semester retention and eligibility were the highest in the past five years, which bodes well for a strong 2016-17 APR.

Baseball

- Baseball posted a 990 single-year APR score in 2015-16 with no lost eligibility points. This is especially impressive during a year with a coaching change.
- Two former student-athletes came back to graduate in 2015-16 under the NCAA's Delayed Graduation point program.
- The team's multi-year score is 961.

Other Notable Accomplishments

- Four teams scored perfect single-year 1000 APR's in 2015-16 (Women's Basketball, Women's Cross Country, Women's Golf and Women's Volleyball).
- Women's Cross Country and Women's Golf have perfect four-year APR scores.
- All teams at FIU, with the exception of two, have four-year APR scores at 960 or higher, with eight teams at 980 or higher.



Van Wagner Sports & Entertainment

SPONSORSHIP REVENUE

| Second Quarter(12/31/16) | | Year-to-Date | |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| Revenue: | \$63,000 | Revenue: | \$780,418 |
| Barter: | \$0 | Barter: | \$116,000 |

PROJECTED REVENUE RESULTS--2016-17 FISCAL YEAR

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Revenue: | \$853,113 |
| Net Commission to FIU: | \$550,000* |

FIU-OPERATED HISTORICAL RESULTS

| Fiscal Year: | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Sponsorship Revenue: | \$383,064 | \$390,450 | \$452,102 |
| Staffing and Expenses: | <u>\$226,922</u> | <u>\$229,191</u> | <u>\$232,400</u> |
| Net Revenue to FIU | \$156,142 | \$161,259 | \$219,702 |

*FIU receives a guaranteed commission of \$550,000. FIU also receives a commission of 50 percent of revenue in excess of \$1,100,000.

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