



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ATHLETICS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 3, 2017**

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 10:13 a.m. on Friday, March 3, 2017 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Room 243.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present

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

Excused

Leonard Boord

Board Chair Claudia Puig, Trustee Cesar L. Alvarez, Trustee 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 September 1, 2016. A motion was made and passed to approve the Minutes of the Athletics Committee Meeting held on Thursday, September 1, 2016.

3. Discussion / Information Items

3.1 Athletics Update

Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia presented the Athletics update. He noted that student athlete Naomi Ruele participated in the Olympics last summer and was named 2016's swimmer of the year. He added that Ms. Ruele was part of the school's record setting teams in the four hundred free/four hundred medley and in the two hundred free/two hundred medley.

He stated that Naomi Ruele led the four hundred free relay team to the school's first ever appearance in the upcoming (NCAA) Championships.

Mr. Garcia presented an overview of the accomplishments of various teams. He reported that FIU's swimming and diving team won its third straight conference title and that the team won by a record of 922.5 points, which he noted is the fourth highest score in the Conference USA history. He acknowledged FIU's Women's Swimming and Diving Coach Randy C. Horner on being named coach of the year for the third year in a row.

VP Jessell commended Coach Horner and the swimmers and divers.

3.2 Facilities Report

Mr. Garcia noted that the University completed the construction of a new indoor batting facility for the baseball team. He mentioned that high-tech LED lighting technology has also been added and that the University is the fourth school in the Nation using this energy efficient light source. He noted that the outdoor batting practice facility was renovated and the restoration of the bullpen area is currently in progress. Mr. Garcia indicated that the soccer renovation of the existing north field is in progress and will be completed in the next two months.

Mr. Garcia introduced FIU Football Coach Butch Davis. Coach Davis discussed his vision and goals for the upcoming football season, noting that he looked forward to beginning the season and propelling FIU Football forward.

3.3 Fundraising Report

Sr. Associate AD/Development Mercy Dorta reported on two fundraising initiatives relating to football and baseball. She discussed the Football Leadership Fund, noting that it represents a gift giving society that provides operational unrestricted dollars for coaches' priorities. She stated that the Football Leadership Fund has received four commitments to date. Ms. Dorta added that with the involvement of FIU's Baseball Coach Mervyl Melendez, a Baseball Leadership Fund will also be established to assist in these fundraising efforts.

3.4 Academic Report

Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Education Wesley D. Maas provided an update on student athlete academic achievements. He noted that a total of 25 student athletes earned a 4.0 GPA, 122 student athletes achieved Dean's List honors, and 270 student athlete's earned a 3.0 GPA or higher. AVP Maas mentioned that the Learning Enhancement Team is made up of reading and writing specialists, math specialists, and eight academic coordinators. He added that the academic coordinators are grouped into teams that work to ensure and their main goal is to have equity amongst the student athletes in addition to maintaining manageable caseloads for the SAAC staff members.

3.5 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 APR is a representation of the commitment and dedicated efforts that student athletes devote to their academic careers put in the classroom. He added that the National Collegiate Athletic Association will release the APR report within one to two months.

Mr. Shukie reported that the FIU Men's Basketball team continues to post improved scores. He added that in the last two years, the team has only lost one APR point, which he added is an achievement that has placed the team in the top 10% nationally. He also noted that the FIU football team achieved its best APR score in the last four years. He indicated that there are four University teams in the last year that have achieved perfect APR scores, accounting for full eligibility and retention.

4. Reports

Committee Chair Arrizurieta requested that the Van Wagner Report 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 Friday, March 3, 2017 at 10:50 a.m.

K.S. 3.16.2017