# Minutes of the Presidential Committee on Athletics

#### **Zoom Meeting**

#### *November 5, 2020*

*Members Present:* Cavey Lang, Colin, Courter, Foley Nicpon, Friestad, Gerke, Grosland,

Hollingworth, Kehoe, Kelly, Matheson, Mueller (represented by Conroy),

Nonnenmann, Sayon, Torner, Vogan, Voss, Weinstein, and Zaharis.

*Member Absent:* Berg.

Also Present: Barta (Henry B. and Patricia B. Tippie Director of Athletics Chair), Binns

(Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion); Burke (Deputy Director of Athletics), Clerry (Associate Athletics Director), Davies (Assistant Athletics Director/Chief Financial Officer), Grooms (Assistant Professor, College of Education), Hansen (Vice President for Student Life), Henderson (Senior Associate Athletics Director), Hilleman

(Associate Athletics Director), Lehnertz (Senior Vice President, Finance & Operations), Modestou (Director of Equal Opportunity & Diversity and

Deputy Title IX Coordinator), Roe (Director of Athletics

Communications), Tovar (Associate Athletics Director and Interim

Associate VP of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion), Wilson (Senior Associate

Athletics Director), and Wright (Associate Professor, Molecular

Physiology & Biophysics).

**Guests Present:** Lisa Bluder (Head Women's Basketball Coach) and Damian Simcox

(Assistant Athletics Director for Facilities).

Chair Zaharis called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

# I. Approval of Minutes - October 1, 2020

Weinstein moved to approve the October 1, 2020, minutes; Toner seconded. PCA members granted unanimous approval.

#### II. <u>Head Coach Introduction - Lisa Bluder, Head Women's Basketball Coach</u>

Coach Bluder thanked PCA members for the vital work they do throughout the year to assist student-athletes. She commended Athletics Senior Staff members for their leadership navigating through Covid-19 and appreciates their transparency and ongoing communication.

The women's basketball team is on their 17<sup>th</sup> day of practice and is waiting for the Big Ten Conference staff to finalize competition schedules. Coach spoke about the 2020-21 team, which consists of several returning players and four newcomers. She added Big Ten competition will be as strong as ever.

Wednesday, November 11, 2020, is National Letter of Intent signing day. Coach Bluder expects commitments from three players. She is somewhat surprised the pandemic has not impacted recruiting top-notch players.

A question and answer period covered topics such as recruiting during COVID-19, online classes, meals for student-athletes, team unity/culture, team meetings focusing on diversity, equity, & inclusion, mental health, etc.

Chair Zaharis thanked Bluder. Coach thanked Committee members again for their efforts.

### III. Chair Report - Zaharis

Chair Zaharis reported the student-athletes received their PCA medallions. Athletics staff took photos of the student-athletes receiving their honors.

# IV. Athletics Department Facilities - Damian Simcox

Enclosed is a PowerPoint presentation given by Simcox encompassing Athletics' facilities. Athletics Facilities staff members have been working through the pandemic and are currently focusing on getting ready for sport competitions.

Simcox reported on facilities projects completed this past year. Offices were created in the Jacobson Athletic Building to allow sport psychologists to meet with student-athletes in a private environment. The newly constructed Finkbine Clubhouse is complete and includes a restaurant. A ball containment fence was built at the Christine Grant Field. The outdoor tennis courts at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center were resurfaced, and scoreboards were installed. A new chipping area was added to the James M. Hoak Family Golf Complex. An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant family restroom was added to the soccer facility.

The Board of Regents, State of Iowa, approved planning for a new wrestling facility. Simcox is working with UI Facilities Management staff to coordinate the project; fundraising efforts are ongoing. A new soccer facility will be built due to a generous donor who is funding the project. The facility will be ready for competition in fall 2021. Several other projects are on hold due to budget issues created by the pandemic; exceptions are those projects that could pose a safety issue.

After a brief question/answer period, Chair Zaharis thanked Simcox. Barta added Simcox and his staff do a fantastic job managing Athletics' facilities and coordinating with Recreational Services staff on shared facilities.

# V. <u>Subcommittee Updates</u>

#### A. <u>Academic Achievement - Gerke</u>

Gerke reported Tovar attended last week's meeting and spoke about studentathlete awards, scholarships, and degree completion. Subcommittee members will meet November 19, 2020, to discuss graduation rates and support services available to student-athletes with Tovar and several of her staff.

#### B. Equity - Nonnenmann

Equity Subcommittee members met October 9, 2020. Nonnenmann reported subcommittee members discussed changing the Equity Subcommittee's name to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee. They will continue to work on language for modifying associated documentation.

The next meeting takes place Monday, November 19, 2020. Agenda items include Title IX and coaches interviews.

# C. <u>Student-Athlete Well-Being - Torner</u>

Assistant Athletics Director-Sports Medicine & Sports Performance Terry Noonan and UI Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) Dr. Andy Peterson attended the October 15, 2020, subcommittee meeting to address COVID testing and related cardiac concerns. Burke presented changes to the Drug Testing Policy, which streamline the random testing process.

Toner stated the next meeting takes place November 12, 2020. UI Associate Registrar Gail Meade will address eligibility and certification.

#### VI. ISAAC Report - Conroy

The ISAAC report will be given this semester by Conroy, who represents Mueller.

- A. ISAAC President Marissa Mueller is one of two national finalists for the Rhodes Scholarship offered by Oxford University.
- **B.** Several sport teams are participating in community service activities while abiding by COVID restrictions. The UI Dance Marathon will occur this year in a format designed to ensure safety for participants.
- C. ISAAC has two meetings remaining this semester. The next meeting will focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; the second meeting will emphasize mental health.
- **D.** Student-athletes were excited to receive their PCA medallions and be recognized with pictures on social media.

**E.** Post-election resources are available to student-athletes through the Athletics Sports Psychology staff.

# VII. NCAA Report - Barta, Burke, Grosland, Hollingworth

Barta reported the following:

- **A.** The NCAA Division I Council is meeting monthly to create legislation and rules necessitated due to the pandemic. Barta stated the key topics are eligibility, financial aid, and recruiting.
- **B.** The Supreme Court has ruled on the Alston Case, which addresses Name, Image, and Likeness).
- *C.* Proposed legislation on Name, Image, and Likeness will be formulated and voted upon at the January 2021 NCAA Convention.
- **D.** Big Ten meetings have been constant for athletic directors, senior women administrators, faculty athletic representatives, etc., to address issues/concerns during this unique period. COVID testing procedures, protocols for nonconference opponents, and scheduling are a few topics being discussed.

# VIII. Athletics Director's Report

- A. The only sport in season is football, with a current record of no wins and two losses. Coaches and student-athletes are focusing on areas that need improvement. The Athletics game management staff did an excellent job of managing the first home event.
- **B.** Women's and men's basketball team members have been practicing since October 14, 2020. Big Ten Conference officials are finalizing the schedules with competition to start in December. The nonconference medical protocol should be completed in the next few days.
- C. Two types of COVID testing are ongoing daily and weekly within the Athletics Department. The cost will be in the millions of dollars; it's warranted to safeguard student-athletes and staff.
- **D.** As stated at the last PCA meeting, the Athletics budget was expected to range from a \$40 to 60 million dollar deficit. With the cost of testing realized to date and the amount of television income to be determined, it looks like the budget is inching toward the higher deficit projection.
- **E.** Barta stated student-athletes have been extraordinary throughout the pandemic. Their ability to adapt has been outstanding.

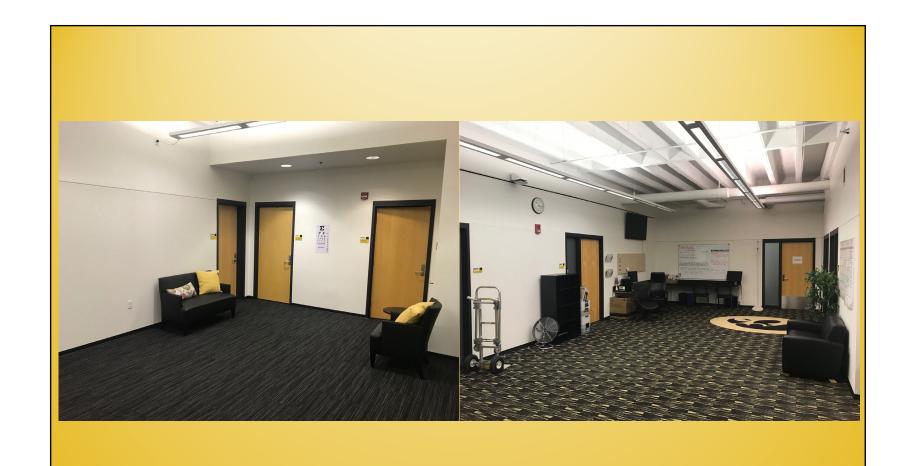
# IX. Adjourn

At 5:10 p.m, the meeting was ended by Chair Zaharis.

Rae Parker

Recording Secretary





Jacobson- Training Room/Student Wellness Office Renovation

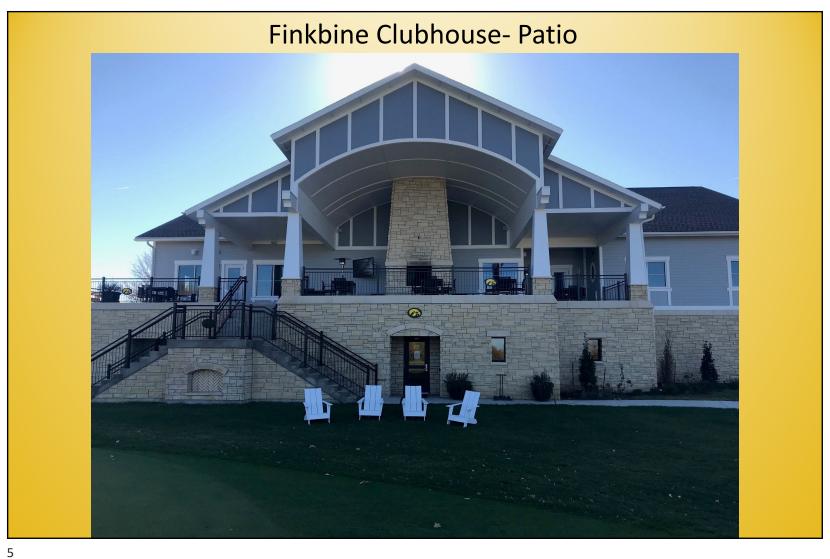
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Finkbine Clubhouse – Front Entrance





# Grant Field – Ball Containment Fence





# Hoak Practice Facility- Chipping Area





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