

Minutes of the Presidential Committee on Athletics

Zoom Meeting

October 1, 2020

Members Present: Cavey Lang, Colin, Courter, Foley Nicpon, Friestad, Gerke, Grosland, Hollingworth, Kehoe, Kelly, Matheson, Mueller (represented by Conroy), Nonnenmann, Torner, Vogan, Voss, Weinstein, and Zaharis.

Members Absent: Berg and Sayon.

Also Present: Barta (Henry B. and Patricia B. Tippie Director of Athletics Chair), Burke (Deputy Director of Athletics), Clerry (Associate Athletics Director), Davies (Assistant Athletics Director/Chief Financial Officer), Grooms (Assistant Professor, College of Education), Henderson (Senior Associate Athletics Director), Hilleman (Associate Athletics Director), Piro (Assistant Athletics Director & Executive Director-Varsity Club), 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).

Guest Present: Joey Woody (Director of Track & Field/Cross Country).

The meeting was brought to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Zaharis.

I. Approval of Minutes - September 3, 2020

Courter moved to approve minutes of the September 3, 2020, meeting; Colin seconded the motion. Committee members granted full approval.

II. Head Coach Introduction - Joey Woody, Cross Country/Track & Field

Coach Woody said his team was competing at the NCAA Championships in March 2020 when he received a call informing him the team must return to Iowa City immediately due to COVID-19. Although disappointed, he felt fortunate when the Athletics Administrative staff allowed seniors the opportunity to return for another year to compete for Big Ten and NCAA Championships; several chose to take advantage. Coach Woody noted he added several graduate transfers from other institutions where seniors could not return for another competitive season.

Coach Woody and his staff are training now with the student-athletes. The women's team is expected to have a good year of competition, and the men's team is returning about everyone, so he expects another good performance from that group this season. Student-athletes are adapting to Zoom classes, and team members are acclimating to the new academic environment and training requirements.

PCA members posed questions to Coach about virtual recruiting, the impact of the new banked indoor track on recruiting, spring scheduling, Olympic trials, motivation, etc. Chair Zaharis thanked Coach Woody for his presentation.

III. Outgoing Chair Presentation

Chair Zaharis announced certificates of appreciation will be mailed to Bowden, Dillavou, and Osborn, who completed their terms as PCA members. Barta acknowledged former Chair Dan Matheson for his leadership the past two years while showing the plaque that will be given to him. Matheson thanked everyone and stated he felt honored to work with a committed group of colleagues and student-athletes.

IV. PCA Academic Medallion Discussion

PCA academic medallions are awarded to student-athletes who earn a 3.0 grade point average or above and earn a varsity letter in their sport. Due to COVID-19, no student-athletes earned letters this spring; thus, an adjustment to the PCA policy will need to occur this year to drop the letter requirement. Friestad moved that a varsity letter will not be required this year; however, the academic requirement above must be attained to receive a medallion. Colin seconded. Unanimous approval was granted by Committee members.

Student-athletes will be notified in the next couple weeks with details to receive their awards at the Gerdin Athletic Learning Center.

V. Athletics Department Finances - Greg Davies

Davies described the unique challenges to prepare the budget due to COVID-19. He described revenue sources and expenses for 2020 and anticipated amounts for 2021 while highlighting the differences between the two years. It was necessary to use money from the Reserve Fund to balance the FY20 budget.

The FY21 budget reflects a substantial decrease in revenue, a decrease in salary expense, and a reduction of all sports budgets. When the Big Ten Conference announced on August 11, 2020, there would be no fall sports that alone resulted in a \$100 million revenue loss. The Athletics Department FY 21 budget reflects a \$75 million deficit.

Barta presented the UI Athletics Department budget to the Board of Regents last week and received Regents' approval. He explained the Big Ten Conference's recent approval of a 9-game football schedule, which is not reflected in the FY21 budget, will yield some television revenue and increase expenses because of team travel, COVID testing, etc.

Barta estimates the \$75 million deficit could be reduced to \$40-\$60 million. In December 2020, Athletics Department staff will have a clearer idea of the budget after the football season ends.

Questions were posed by PCA members relating to developing a plan to finance the debt, UI Center for Advancement athletic support, football suite/seat revenue, basketball revenue, etc. Chair Zaharis thanked Davis for the report.

VI. Athletics Department Searches - Cavey Lang

Two Athletics Department searches are underway. First is to hire an Assistant Women's Gymnastics Coach. Cavey Lang is on the search committee. The other vacancy is to hire a Director of Softball Operations; Nonnenmann is assisting in filling that position.

VII. Subcommittee Updates

A. Academic Achievement - Gerke

On September 24, 2020, Academic Achievement Subcommittee members met with five student-athletes to discuss the online course changes necessitated by COVID-19. A good discussion took place regarding the positives and negatives of online courses. Gerke noted the student-athletes were very open in expressing thoughts with the Subcommittee.

Concerning their Athletics Department's academic experience, student-athletes stated they had good communication with academic advisors, tutors, and coaches. The Gerdin Athletic Learning Center was cited as an excellent place to study and provides a reliable Internet connection.

The student-athletes asked the Subcommittee to explore if missed-classed days will be counted differently now that synchronous learning occurs (i.e., participating in an online class while traveling on a bus to a competition).

The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 29, 2020.

B. Equity - Nonnenmann

Equity Subcommittee members will meet October 9, 2020. The group will discuss a name change for the Subcommittee, scheduling coach interviews, and review data on the distribution of scholarships. Nonnenmann stated one goal of this cohort is to be responsive to emerging challenges.

C. Student-Athlete Well-Being - Torner

Subcommittee members met September 10, 2020, with Assistant Athletics Director-Sports Medicine & Sports Performance Terry Noonan and UI Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) Dr. Andy Peterson. They

discussed the procedures for COVID-19 testing, quarantine/isolation, enlisted the assistance of the UIHC to process rapid testing results, and coordinated a plan to work with Johnson County Health Department officials on contact tracing. Dr. Peterson recommends the Big Ten Conference establish a Chief Medical Officer position whose primary responsibility would be to communicate directly with the sports physicians at member institutions. Subcommittee members recommended to Noonan and Peterson that the testing protocols be documented and archived for future use.

Athletics Department staff members have provided spaces for isolation and quarantine of affected student-athletes. Athletics Trainers are performing the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests. Nutrition support and sports psychology assistance for student-athletes have been modified to provide additional help during this unique time.

The Iowa Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (ISAAC) Executive Board attended the September 24, 2020, Subcommittee meeting. Board members spoke about ISAAC membership and elections. ISAAC members are using several virtual platforms to disseminate information to student-athletes. ISAAC members are discussing diversity, equity, and inclusion with Multicultural Focus Group members, sports teams, and coaches.

The next meeting will take place in mid-October. Burke will present the Athletics Department's Drug Testing Policy.

Torner announced at the request of Dr. Peterson, and in consultation with President Harreld and Barta, he accepted the position of Chief Infection Officer (CIO) for the University of Iowa. The Big Ten Conference required its member institutions to elect a CIO who will provide a daily report of student-athlete positive COVID tests to Big Ten officials. Torner added he also submits a weekly report of positive tests encompassing the Iowa Athletics Department, UI, Johnson County, and the State of Iowa. Chair Zaharis thanked Torner for accepting this task.

VIII. ISAAC Report - Conroy

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

- A.** NCAA Inclusion Week takes place at the end of October. ISAAC will share information with student-athletes on diversity, equity, and inclusion at that time.
- B.** ISAAC representatives are working with Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Binns and newly formed affinity groups, i.e., the LGBTQ+, Black Student-Athletes (BSA), and iHawks (for international student-athletes). More information to come.

- C.** As part of career development, the graduate and professional school night took place recently by Zoom.
- D.** The Hawks for Hawks is a group that receives training on how to work with mental health issues. With COVID, lessons learned are invaluable. Enrollment applications are at an all-time high.
- E.** ISAAC members have been working with UIHC staff to provide online videos of student-athletes reading books to children.
- F.** The 90% Challenge is underway. ISAAC's goal is to have 90% of all student-athletes registered to vote.

IX. NCAA Report - Barta, Burke, Grosland, Hollingworth

- A.** Barta noted the NCAA is conducting Division I Council meetings monthly to review and pass emergency legislation due to the pandemic.
- B.** The Big Ten Joint Group will meet virtually October 19-20, 2020.

X. Athletics Director's Report

- A.** With the news of President Harreld's retirement, it was good to hear he will not leave until a replacement has been named. Barta stated the UI will attract a terrific new leader, but Bruce Harreld will be missed.
- B.** The Iowa Board of Regents had all three athletic directors present their budgets at the September 23, 2020, meeting.
- C.** Barta reported a newly formed group calling themselves 'Save the Sports' has raised about \$2.5 million in an attempt to save the four sports being dropped after this year. He's been consistent with his messaging that these sports will not be reinstated.

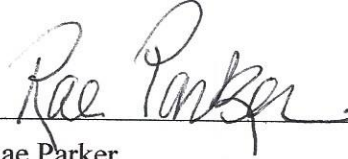
Four women swimming student-athletes filed a lawsuit last week to restore the women's swimming program, claiming Title IX concerns. Barta stated the UI officials agree the Athletics Department complies with Title IX regulations.

- D.** The first UI football game will be at Purdue on October 23 or October 24, 2020. Iowa's first home game will be on Saturday, October 31, 2020, against Northwestern. Kickoff times are to be determined.
- E.** Barta thanked Toner for his willingness to accept the UI's Chief Infection Officer assignment. Barta extended kudos to Dr. Peterson, Noonan, athletic trainers, and all Athletics' building screeners for their dedication to keeping everyone as safe as possible during this unique period in history. As of yesterday, September 30, 2020, football student-athletes started daily testing.

F. Binns has been working with representatives from each sport to develop diversity, equity, and inclusion plans. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Accountability Board will peruse each document and will make recommendations if necessary. Athletics sport administrators will also review the plans.

XI. *Adjourn*

Chair Zaharis ended the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rae Parker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Rae Parker
Recording Secretary