I. Athletic Council Membership


II. Athletic Council Meetings

Guests: University Administration: President Lou Anna Simon; DIA Staff: Jennifer Smith, Jim Pignataro, Peggy Brown, Shelley Appelbaum, Mark Hollis, Greg Ianni, and invited coaching staff members and student-athletes. Council Meeting Dates: September 8, October 13, November 17, 2005; January 12, February 16, April 6, and May 11, 2006.

III. Intercollegiate Athletics - Operational Matters

- Varsity Team Schedule Review
  - Missed Class Time Guidelines (sports schedules)
  - Length of Season Constraints
  - Avoidance of Final Exam Conflicts
- MSU Athletic Department Budget Review
  - Reorganization and Changes in Development
  - Review of Scholarship and Operations Funding
  - Gender Equity and Facilities Annual Report
- Student-Athlete Academic Support Services
  - Student-Athlete Surveys/Exit Interviews
  - Smith Academic Center Program Review
  - Life Skills/MSUnity [www.sass.msu.edu]

IV. Intercollegiate Athletics - Academic Matters

a. NCAA: Academic and Related Matters
  - Satisfactory Progress/Degree Requirement Monitoring
  - Athletic Certification Interim Report Review
  - Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse Operation/Amateurism
  - Gender-Equity in Intercollegiate Athletics (Annual Report)

b. MSU/NCAA: Graduation Rate Disclosure Reports
  - NCAA graduation report for student body and student-athletes
  - Compliant with the Federal Student Right-to-Know Act (1990)
  - Report submitted by Office Planning & Budgets [IPED/GRDF]
  - Report includes athletes receiving athletically related aid
  - Report covers a six-year graduation rate horizon
Cohort: All-Students: Student-Athletes:
1985-86 .67 .65
1986-87 .69 .62
1987-88 .72 .52
1988-89 .70 .74
1989-90 .69 .51
1990-91 .66 .74
1991-92 .66 .67
1992-93 .66 .66
1993-94 .64 .56
1994-95 .66 .62
1995-96 .69 .57
1996-97 .69 .74
1997-98 .69 .70
1998-99 .71 .63

- Average MSU Grad Rate for S-A Exhausting Eligibility = .88

c. Big Ten Conference: Academic and Related Matters
   • Comparative Continuing Eligibility Standards (NCAA/BT/MSU)
   • Student-Athlete Welfare Issues (agents/conduct/gender equity)
   • Conference Rules Deregulation/Sports Agreements (on-going)

d. MSU: Academic and Related Matters
   • Sports Scheduling/Missed Class Time Guideline Implementation
   • MSU/NCAA Graduation Rate and Graduation Success Rate
   • SAAC Committee Meetings: Outcomes and Events
   • ATHLINFO System: automated student-athlete monitoring
   • MSU Athletic Petition Process/Annual Compliance Report
   • NCAA MSU Second Cycle Certification

V. Highlighted Council Deliberations
   a. Student-Athlete Population Survey Results
      Intent: each academic year a portion of the student-athlete population is surveyed (even years all S-A; odd years only seniors) consistent with MSU, Big Ten, and NCAA guidelines.
      Process: Senior Associate Athletic Director administers survey through sport administrators to all 25 sports. Approximately 500 S-As completed the survey. Survey comprised of 68 questions (many crafted by AC). Coverage: student-athlete welfare, gender and minority equity, and adequacy of support services.
      AC Discussion Points: specific findings discussed included equitable treatment of student-athletes, role on team, coach relations, faculty relations, advising services, academic support, sports philosophy, facilities, sports medicine, rules compliance, strength and conditioning, academic conflicts, and drug testing.
      AC Resolution: acknowledged the positive findings from survey.
   b. NCAA Academic Reform: APR and GSR Metrics
**Intent:** Academic Progress Rate measures retention and academic eligibility in real-time; Graduation Success Rate more accurately measures grad rates with adjustments for transfers.

**Process:** AC briefed on NCAA computations for both APR and GSR metrics; AC provided MSU data sets and findings using APR and GSR formula; based on results, MSU not subject to contemporary or historic penalties as prescribed by NCAA.

**AC Discussion Points:** evaluation of factors included in APR and GSR; review of academic scenarios for both calculations; discussion of strategies and practices relative to recruitment, initial and continuing eligibility; importance of transfer statistics.

**AC Resolution:** AC reviewed and supported proposed SASS Academic Improvement Plan to the MSU President.

c. **MSU Student Spirit Group Organization/Operation**

**Intent:** to review the process and procedures used by student spirit groups to enlist members, conduct meetings, participate at sporting events, disciplinary policies, and relationship to SAF.

**Process:** student leaders provided insight into purpose of spirit groups to influence student experiences at football, hockey, and men’s basketball games; also mentioned were other SAF activities including campus tours, and family weekend.

**AC Discussion Points:** concern over recruitment, sleepouts, and road trips, and game attendance requirements were discussed; number of members was also cited as a possible control issue.

**AC Resolution:** upon learning the rationale, the AC better understood with the procedures of the SAF and its spirit groups.

d. **Athletic Council Subcommittee Activities**

**Academic and Compliance Services:** reviews SASS annual academic reports and plans for improved support services; reviews academic accountability programming and NCAA data; reviews Office of Compliance Services’ annual report.

**Planning and Equity:** reviews varsity sport gender equity and roster management data; reviews minority equity planning; recommends elevation of club teams for varsity sport status.

**Communications and Operations:** reviews ticket distribution policies and procedures; recommends DIA individual game and season ticket pricing; analyzes re-seating of athletic venues.

**Drug Education and Testing Policies:** reviews policies relative to performance enhancement drugs, street drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products; reviews MSU, Big Ten and NCAA guidelines.

Each Athletic Council member is eligible to receive two season football tickets and either two M Basketball or Ice Hockey season tickets at a discounted price, subject to IRS tax rules. Seat premiums are payable in full.

→ **Athletic Council website:** msuathleticcouncil.org (established: 1/04)