

**North Coast Athletic Conference Student Athlete Advisory Committee meeting 9/26/04
Hosted by Denison University**

- Welcome & Introduction, Roster Review – Lynn Schweizer
 - Student Attendance
 - Allegheny – Sara Kuhn, Ben Rathfon, Kellyn Reilly
 - Denison – Amanda Bowser, Alex Murry
 - Earlham – Jennifer Silver
 - Hiram – Ronald Alcorn, Brenda Yama
 - Kenyon – Ashley Morrison, Katy Zeanah
 - Oberlin – Steven Reid
 - Ohio Wesleyan – Taneen LeGree, Dan Melcher
 - Wabash – Keith Clayton, Ryan Stephens
 - Wittenberg – Brady Hively
 - Wooster – Mary-Kate Fowkes
- Review of Minutes of Sept '03/April '04 meetings – Dennis Collins
 - Minutes approved
- Review of SAAC Policies and Procedures Goals & Organization – Steve Reid
 - Goal for SAAC is to give NCAC student-athletes an active role in the Conference
 - Serve as a liaison between all student-athletes and the Conference
 - Each member reported on the role of the school SAAC on their respective campus, and what they have done to date
 - Each campus SAAC should invite Faculty Representatives to sit in on meetings so they can understand what SAAC is all about
 - Lengthy discussion regarding the wording of section 2.2 of the policies and procedures regarding the election of officers
 - Voted to temporarily allow underclassmen to become officers
 - Invited members to revise section 2.2 to explicitly allow underclassmen to become officers permanently
- Organization/Goals/Governance of the NCAC/SAAC – Dennis Collins
 - Overview of the workings of the conference, and what role the many committees, and positions play within it
- Election of VP & Secretary to complete the SAAC officers for 2004-2005
 - Steve Reid from Oberlin College is the top returning officer and moves to the Presidency for this year
 - Ryan Stephens from Wabash elected as Vice-President
 - Jennifer Silver from Earlham elected as Secretary
- Overview of NCAC Sportsmanship Theme – Dennis Collins
 - Discussed past problems with soccer playoff games
 - Related that there was not a major problem, but just wanted to emphasize sportsmanship with all involved in sporting events
 - Implored student reps to come back to the next meeting with ways each institution promotes sportsmanship, and any new ideas
- Overview of NCAC & NCAA Agendas – Dennis Collins
 - Students had no objection to legislation regarding an exemption for Alumni games
 - “Future of Division III” – Steve Reid
 - What type of school should be in Division III
 - Do all Division III schools have the same goals?
- Athlete Forum/A full load of athletics and academics: “When is it overload” discussion

- Students questioned if voluntary workouts are actually voluntary.
- Shorter seasons, both traditional and non, create longer more intense practices increasing the stress level of competitors
- Felt the need for policy to protect student-athletes, especially two-sport athletes, as more intense programs might go away from the Division III mission
- Some students noticed a “D1 kick” in some of the athletic programs on their campus, which has led to the loss of more than a negligible amount of student-athletes, especially upper classmen with increased academic responsibilities
- It is up to the administration to ensure the policy and vision of Division III by hiring and monitoring coaches, and their programs to the degree possible. Making sure the coaches hired value and buy into what the D3 athlete is supposed to be, and maybe not putting so much emphasis on wins and losses. This would relieve some of the pressure from the coaches that can lead them to engage in actions that can be contrary to the Division III mission