

**North Coast Athletic Conference
Student Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Sunday, September 27, 2009
Ohio Wesleyan University Hamilton Williams Student Center
Meeting (12:00-4:00) Benes Room**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions/Roster Review: Lynn Schweizer, NCAC AD Liaison**
- 2. Recognition of Dennis Collins: Keri Alexander Luchowski**
 - Only Director the NCAC has ever had who served as Director for 25 years
- 3. Review of Minutes from 08-09 meetings - Brandon Jacobs, NCAC SAAC President, Wooster**
 - SAAC policies and procedures
 - Leadership conference that took place in Chicago (Jan. '09)
 - Amy Kocka, SAAC Representative for the NCAC and Heartland Conferences
 - N.E.S.T
 - NCAC SAAC page/blog
 - Eligibility for Swimming concerning Tournaments
 - Elizabeth (Wooster) motion to accept the minutes; Antoine (Wabash)-second
 - Motion approved
- 4. Review of SAAC Committee Policies and Procedures: Pablo Hernandez-Romero, NCAC SAAC Vice President, Earlham**
 - NCAC SAAC-Membership
 - Officers: Currently a President, Vice President, and Secretary and at least 1 must be a junior.
 - Proposed changes for policies?
 - Caucus to determine whether a re-vote should occur in the event of a tie or whether the upperclassman should receive the position.
 - Motion by Derrick Dennis (Oberlin), Kenny Harris (Wabash)-second
 - In the event of a tie the nominees would have another chance to speak on their behalf before a re-vote would occur
 - All in favor: Motion approved
 - Additional Policy Proposals?
 - Current policy states that the VP succeeds the President. What happens if the President is only a junior?
 - Sean Patrick (OWU) if the President is a junior then they should be able to continue being President instead of the VP just taking over
 - Olivia (Denison) Would the VP then be the same or would a re-vote occur?
 - Sean- Automatic succession would not occur-keep continuity with getting a new VP
 - Derrick (Oberlin) Re-vote for every position every year
 - Olivia-President should at least serve as VP for one term
 - Pablo (Earlham) what occurs if a position is not being fulfilled?
 - Lynn-Discussion of dismissal of an officer
 - Motion that liaison has final recommendation for the dismissal of an officer
 - Ali motioned, Morgan (Kenyon)-second - All in favor: Motion passed
 - Brandon (Wooster) what should occur with the issue of VP succession of President?
 - Elizabeth (Wooster) loses consistency if vote every year, should keep consistency if an underclassman is already holding a position. There is no time limit stated in the procedures so we should not push a junior out of their position.

- Julie (OWU) we lose athletes every year-what happens if returning VP or President does not come back? Re-voting doesn't mean they can't run again it just ensures that people continue to do a good job
- Olivia (Denison) Knowledge that a position could be taken away is enough to keep them working hard
- Sean (OWU) agrees with Olivia. A person will be re-elected if things are done properly. Promotes continuity-not a shoo-in
- Motion that officers are re-elected each year and in order to run for a position you have to have at least attended a meeting prior to running for a position
 - Stephanie (Kenyon) motion, Sean (OWU)-second
 - 8 in favor; 1 opposed; 1 abstained-Motion passed

Organization of NCAC & NCAA & SAAC Agendas

A. SAAC Blog & NCAC Fan Page: Keri Alexander Luchowski

- Would like participation on the blog as well as the fan page. Links can be found on the conference website. This would be a great way to tell stories of personal experiences
 - Jill (Earlham)-if we have videos, etc. what would be the best way to get those to Keri?
 - Keri-email or the videos can also be taken directly from youtube or a school website
 - Currently only 84 people are fans of the NCAC on facebook
 - Garnet-if we are a conference of 4-5,000 athletes, wonders how much pride the athletes have in the conference if only 84 are fans

B. SAAC Facebook: Brandon Jacobs (Wooster)

- Currently an NCAC SAAC group on facebook. This allows the schools to connect. We can share questions or notes about what is occurring in each school's SAAC, etc.
 - Garnet-There are 10 institutions in the conference, it's not too much to ask for each SAAC to put up a blog entry.
 - Hannah (Allegheny) - Facebook is the best way to communicate-every captain should be in charge of being in SAAC meetings then tell their players.
 - OWU-should each school post a blog every month?
 - Julie-If each school posted a blog every month it would allow for all sports to be covered
 - Ali (Witt.) Set a goal for the number of members we want to have by next meeting
 - Goal is set for 2,000 people for the NCAC fan page

C. NCAA SAAC Proposals: Garnet Purnell (Wittenberg)

(1) Deregulation of Rules concerning Recruiting/Tryouts

- Idea is to deregulate this rule so that a tryout for a perspective athlete to show their skills is allowed
- Things that were not okay to do before (private lessons) are now allowed if they are open to the public
- Perspective students can also now participate in open gyms or play with the current team
- Olivia (Denison) this is a good way for kids to see if they would mesh well skill wise
- Jackie (Wooster) agrees it would also give them a chance to see if they would bond with the team
- Garnet-If private lessons are given then they have to be private lessons open to everyone, can't just focus on one player
- Julie (OWU) can't be a practice that a coach has set up

(2) Monitoring

- Currently coaches are not allowed to monitor practices, etc. when their sport is not in a non-traditional or traditional season. It is a violation for coaches to walk through a gym, etc. if their team is playing with a prospective student
- New Legislation→ promote coaches to observe recreational activities of recruits and current student-athletes but only if they are monitoring for safety and security.
- Elizabeth (Wooster) all of a sudden each coach has a new duty when their athletes are playing

- Garnet-each institution is responsible for monitoring their coaches
- Jill (Earlham)-any thought on captains reporting to coaches on player's skill level?
- Garnet-this occurs now, part of the legislation will allow coaches to monitor which will hopefully keep violations from occurring
- Derrick (Oberlin) this policy will get abused
- Brandon (Wooster) takes away the voluntary aspect if coach can be there whenever they feel like it
- Morgan (Kenyon) likes it from a safety standpoint. If at open gym and someone gets hurt can they help right now?
- Garnet-no but the new policy will allow them to be able to

(3) Alumni Contests

- If you compete is an exempted contest, but if used in a non-traditional season can lose season of eligibility
- Currently-if you participate in one contest in the non-traditional season it does not affect eligibility. If you have 1 day of play and alumni game then this is considered a season of eligibility.
- Concerning injuries. The new legislation would allow someone sustaining an injury during the alumni game or the day of play to not lose a season of eligibility.

(4) Medical Hardships

- Currently: An injury must occur in the 1st half of the season and can only be a certain percentage of the season in order to apply for a medical hardship; looking to lengthen to the extended season (i.e. tournaments) as well to give the athlete a greater opportunity to play if they get hurt.
- Keri-Different schools schedule different contests thus the athletes shouldn't be penalized if the school doesn't schedule a ton of games.

(5) Residence Requirements

- Currently if you are at an institution for 2 years and transfer you are eligible right away if you previously were not participating in an athletic activity. Also, if you get kicked out for a violation you are not eligible for immediate play.
- New Legislation-Would allow for the individual to be eligible even if they were kicked out of the institution. The reasoning for this is because you already serve a penalty at your institution so instead of being penalized 3 years you would only be penalized for 2.

(6) Non-traditional Season

- All practices conducted in the non-traditional season should be completed no later than 5 weekdays prior to final exam period. The coaches are responsible for planning their practice schedules according to this legislation.

(7) Alumni Game Contests

- New legislation would permit institutions to conduct Alumni games during the season prior to the first match.

(8) Football ONLY: Walk Through/First 5 days of Practice

- Currently for the first five days of practice coaches are only allotted 1 practice that can last no more than 3 hours.
- New legislation would allow for an additional 1 hour time slot to be used for educational purposes as long as no football equipment is used and no conditioning occurs. The current rule was issued due to the amount of heat related illnesses suffered with football but the new legislation would not affect any heat related illnesses.

5. NCAC Governance Action Report: Keri Alexander Luchowski

- President's approved Leadership workshop in January
- Women's Lacrosse-New Tournament format which will take affect in 2011. The format will be semifinal games played on Thursday with the conference championship on Saturday

- Double headers for team travel out of NEST. 50% of weekends will be doubleheaders. Will be taken into affect with next years schedules
- Track will be adding pentathlon which will occur a week before the typical meet date

6. Overview of NCAC & NCAA & SAAC Agendas: Brandon Jacobs (Wooster)

a. Modeled after the NCAA conference

- Different speakers will come to address issues such as leadership, time management, life after athletics, communication, sportsmanship, internet use/facebooking, DIII & marketing, as well as Tips Training.
- Issues will be addressed in the workshops and then discussed at the SAAC meeting following the workshop
- Scheduled for Friday, Sat., and Sun. January 29th-January 31st.
 - Lynn-If you are unable to attend due to any conflict could possibly send another member of your SAAC and then be present Sunday for the NCAC SAAC meeting

b. Women's Golf: Keri

- 4 Golf teams are currently in the NCAC
- Wooster is planning to add a team next year which means a Championship can be obtained next season

c. Men's Golf Championship Format: Keri

- Currently 4 championship events are being held
- Wish to reduce to only having 2 events
- As of now athletes have to participate in both traditional seasons but new rule would allow for more athletes to participate, great flexibility
 - Lynn-Also Oberlin does not have a fall golf traditional season so they were being left out of the conference championships ever year
 - Elizabeth (Wooster)-Proposed by Wooster because this would then allow for outside competition to also take place

d. Naming of the All-Sports Award: Keri

- A lot of our culture in the conference is based on the work Dennis performed
- Biggest trophy in the conference so the award will be in honor of Dennis
 - Pablo (Earlham)-The NCAC SAAC is very strongly behind this decision based on our relationship with him and what he has done

e. N.E.S.T: Keri

- Idea of the double headers to share bus space
- Proposal for Student-Athlete recycling program for old shoes
- Green practices-best practices information to share on website anything that could be done better, etc. can be adapted from this website and individualized to your institution
- Lifestraw Project: Brandon (Wooster) and Stephanie (Kenyon)
- Selling H2O bottles to send \$ overseas to the Democratic Republic of Congo
- Currently money is going to a 450 bed hospital that has no running water.
- Contact information for IMA World Health for Donations: Douglas Bright: 410-635-8746

7. Athlete Open Forum: Brandon Jacobs (Wooster)

a. Review of School Involvement

Wooster: Great Scots-designate events to be promoted

- Make a Wish program-each team gets a child and their donations give them Christmas
- Blood battle-Wooster vs. Witt-Losing AD has to wear the other teams colors during the game
- Re-use a shoe program-Also at churches and YMCA
- Athlete Banquet-Seniors only-awards given, slideshow, and speakers

- Field-day-Students from local schools gather to tour and do events to raise awareness: Fun day for kids
- Cookbook-collected recipes from each team and compiled them into a cookbook to be sold at Bookstore. Proceeds went to the MS walk in Columbus

Wittenberg: Goal was to network and reach the community

- Field day for Kids
- Canned food drive
- Toys 4 Tots: Sponsor a family for Christmas
- Partnering w/ Student Senate to tailgate before games
- Otherside Talent Show-each team submits an act so the student body can see another side of the athletes
- Blood Battle
- Girls and Women in Sport's Day
- Tiger Awards: Newcomer of the Year-Best Athlete, etc.

Wabash: Cut down on buses-smaller to save money

- WiFi on buses for away games
- Community projects
- Academic Top 25: based on GPA above Dean's List
- Picture, Name, Major, and Hometown will be put on a board for display

OWU: Hands on w/ Special Needs Community

- Bishop Champion Games: Special needs track and field events. 96 participants, took pictures with Bishop, had medals and t-shirts as well as water bottles.
- Dollar Night Basketball - Starting 5 players played against Championship Special Olympics team
- Special Friends Walk-Carnival
- Red-alert games-pick big games to gather support: 22 teams, 1 team, team OWU
- Donation themes for all games
- Top 50 dinner: choose faculty member to come w/ them
- Buckeye reading program-go to elementary schools in jerseys and read to the kids
- Girl's and Women in Sports Day
- Student-Athlete Olympics-created squads amongst teams and played dodge ball, etc. with team themes
- Donated 7 boxes of clothing overseas to the Armed Services in Baghdad

Oberlin: Franks for coming-Hotdogs handed out at Women's Soccer game

- Tutoring program w/ high school student-athletes
- Sponsoring two cross country races where proceeds go to Oberlin schools
- Kid Field Day-face painting, etc.
- Ice Cream Social with athletes
- Lifestraw Project-team competition, team with highest % sold receives \$100 into their budget

Kenyon: Clean Water Campaign

- Earth Day Clean-Up-help out during the race as well as the clean up portion post race
- Purple Pride games-each team selects a game and athletes come wearing purple
- Girl's and Women in Sports Day
- Canned Food Drive-canned food donated to Knox County Community
- Student-Athlete, Coach, Faculty Social
- Rummage Sale-sell old sports gear
- John A. Rinka Sportsmanship Award

- Athlete of the Month

Hiram: Ice Cream Social

- Terrier of the Week
- Trying to incorporate SAAC and Senate to get a voice in the Senate
- M/W Soccer throwback Jerseys. Jerseys auctioned off after the game
- M Basketball-works with disabled members of the community reading to them and spending 2-3 hours doing activities
- Terriers Clinic-teach skills to members of the community

Earlham: Breast Cancer Awareness Games

- Lifestraw Donations
- United Way Foundation
- Athletes can exchange meal plans for water and powerade options
- NSO→kickoff event for Athletic Quakers Army, march into battle
- National Girl's and Women in Sports Day
- Athlete featured in People's Magazine
- Student Enrollment 1180, 500 at pep rally

Denison: Adopt a family-sponsored children at Christmas with presents

- Collected \$3000 for the Adopt a Child Salvation project and provided presents for 60 children
- Collected clothes for New Beginning's Women's Domestic Violence shelter
- Collected canned food for Licking County food pantry
- Lifestraw project-have collected \$1000
- Halloween Service Project-Licking County Park District
- Athlete Awards Reception
- Clinics for Special Olympics
- Red Zone-spirit fan base
- Columbus Marathon-volunteers needed October 18th
- Coaches speak at SAAC meetings
- Lunch with professors
- National Student/Athlete Day – 70 local children attended a sports clinic

Allegheny: Revamped SAAC

- Elected an Executive Board
- Televised FB games
- Gold Rush-got money for T-shirts. Every sport picks a game and if you wear your shirt to the game you get a ticket for a raffle
- Luncheon for freshman athletes: Introduces SAAC, etc.
- Two Presidents and Board (community service/public relations/special events/NCAC representative)
- Make a difference day in October
- Soup for shirts

b. Open Discussion Forum

- Elizabeth (Wooster)-National Workshop?
- Garnet-Regional Workshop to take place in May-leadership conference. Nominate 4 people on campus where they write an essay and 1 is selected to go to Disney World-all expenses paid. Link is on NCAA webpage
- Sean (OWU)-track and field proposes weight throw as an indoor event. We have already added an event thus have more time available since this means an extra day was also added
- Pablo (Earlham)-wants to proposed that the soccer championship moves from 4 to 6 teams

- Ali (Witt.)-NCAA; has 60 available grants for institutions. If you have a valid reason for needing a grant and support that idea you can earn money towards an event or speaker
- Brandon (Wooster)-In honor of Dennis
 - Proposed that during the Wooster/Wittenberg Basketball Game-bring a jersey that has Collins on the back and the number 1 to be dedicated in his honor and presented to his wife. Game is on February 13th.

4:00 pm-Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted by,

Stephanie Caton
NCAC SAAC Secretary
'09-'10