

Athletics Council's Report for Faculty Senate
January - March 2016

Summary

- Gender Equity met monthly and are finalizing the new Five Year Plan. No inequities were found on the tour of the athletics facilities. We are looking at how promotion and publicity can be improved for all athletic events.
- Financial Oversight: evolved a plan to review finances beginning in 2016 when EADA report and audit information is available. This data will be reviewed and reported on in Fall 2017.
- Academic Affairs: Cumulative GPA for Student Athletes – 3.133. Athletics has now hired a full time Learning Specialist/ Academic Advisor – This person has hired tutors who are assisting student athletes with their academic studies. Those students who require extra support are receiving regular monitoring, free tutoring, and mandatory study table times. Athlete Majors are distributed across all colleges.
 - 54 athletes pursuing degrees in Raj Soin College of Business
 - 44 athletes pursuing degrees in College of Liberal Arts
 - 73 athletes pursuing degrees in College of Education and Human Services
 - 34 athletes pursuing degrees in College of Science and Math
 - 6 athletes pursuing degrees in College of Nursing and Health
 - 7 athletes pursuing Graduate degreesAcademic recognition was held on January 24, 2016 where 164 Student Athletes, 10 Spirit Unit, 2 Sports Information Students, and 67 Athletic Training Students were recognized for cumulative GPA's of 3.0 or higher. Fifth year scholarships were awarded to 13 students who had completed their athletic eligibility but still needed to complete a semester to obtain their academic degree.
- Constitution and Bylaws has been updated reinserting two faculty senate representatives as well as updating the language for alternating council terms. Additionally the process to replace a vacated immediate past Chair position was defined.
- Diverse Student Athlete Advocacy had a reception with President Hopkins thanking them for their service and academic achievement.
- Student Welfare are participating in year-end interviews. No major concerns have been identified at this time.
- Steering committee met monthly to create the agendas for Council meetings. From the steering committee Drs. Bashaw, Fortson, and Prochaska were asked to serve on the Search committee for the new Men's Basketball coach. Their input was given to Dr. Abrahamowicz and forwarded on to the athletic director. Scot Nagy was hired as the Men's Basketball Coach. The women's basketball coach has accepted a position in New Mexico as their head coach so a search is underway for this position at this time.

- SAAC Student athletes put in over 6000 hours of volunteer activities. Their main focuses this year were collectively raising awareness of domestic violence (One Love). And supporting Alex's Lemonade Stand that combats childhood cancer. Each team chooses additional volunteer activities.
- Jason Bradford (Strength and Conditioning) provided overview of strength training programs that are tailored and provided to all teams and student athletes. Started a new training nutrition recovery program, Raider Recovery, which all athletes are taking advantage of. This program is helping to reduce injuries and improving performance.
- Rick Williamson (Track and Field, Cross Country) provided overview of track season. Our women finished third in the championships which was our best finish in years. He stated that an outdoor track would greatly enhance our recruiting ability as well as the ability to rent out the track to high schools for meets etc.
- Kyle Oaks (Swimming and Diving) provided overview of swimming season. One of our swimmers has made it to the Olympic trial cuts. Both teams are setting records in swim meets. He stated an Olympic 50 Meter pool would improve our ability to compete and hold meets at WSU.
- Dr. Hopkins met with the athletic council. He was asked about the possibility of a track at WSU. He stated that there is a potential external donor. Dr. Hopkins spoke of the pride he has of all of our athletic teams and their academic achievements as well as achievements in their sport.