

McNeese State University Athletics Advisory Committee

<http://www.mcneese.edu/aac>

Minutes for 9/23/09

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Michele Martin (Chair) at 4:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Martin (Chair), Awagain, Blakeley, Burckel, Clark, Daboval, Duhon, Dye, Griffith, Fischer, Hebert, Kingrey, Northam, Patterson, Pitre, Rutherford, Watts

Committee members absent: Chretien

Presenters: Tommy McClelland, Bridget Martin, Deb Kingrey, Travis Pickering

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda for 9/23/09 approved.

3. Approval of Prior Minutes

Minutes from 4/22/09 approved (with #10 deferred; pending approval at 11/11/09 meeting).

4. Materials Distributed at Today's Meeting

Agenda (11/12/08)

Minutes (4/22/09)

2009-10 Membership Roster (Chair Martin)

Standing Subcommittee Structure & Responsibilities (Chair Martin)

2009-10 Standing Subcommittee Appointments (Chair Martin)

Compliance Report (Bridget Martin)

Academic Report (Deb Kingrey)

SAAC Events in the Fall (Travis Pickering)

Southland Conference Information Update (Chair Martin)

Reporting and Monitoring Cycles (Chair Martin)

5. Mr. Tommy McClelland, Athletics Director

Athletics Department coping with 13% budget cut. Corporate sponsorship renewals and season ticket sales (all-time high) are helping to compensate for loss of revenue.

Groundbreaking ceremony on Jack Doland Athletic Complex took place on 9/17/09. Construction on expansion phase expected to begin late Fall,

2009, with completion anticipated in about 18-20 months. News release at:
<http://www.mcneese.edu/news/news/doland.asp>

Football (3-0) and volleyball teams (12-2) off to strong starts. Ticket sales for the Cowboys football game against Tulane (in New Orleans) have exceeded expectations.

McNeese and LSU have signed to play a football game in Tiger Stadium on 10/16/10.

During the past year, McNeese has hosted Southland conference championships for soccer, softball, and women's golf, plus the SLC's football media day.

6. Dr. Robert Hebert, University President

Homecoming week begins 10/11/09, culminating with the football game against Northwestern St. (10/17).

7. Ms. Bridget Martin, Senior Woman Administrator/Compliance Officer

Report to MSU Athletics Advisory Committee handout distributed.

McNeese has reported two (level II) secondary violations.

Three of four waivers submitted to the NCAA have been approved (fourth pending).

A recap of on-going NCAA rules education was discussed.

NCAA rules currently allow institutions to print a recruiting brochure or media guide, but not both.

Results of interest surveys do not indicate significant interest in swimming or bowling. Gender Equity Task Force will continue to monitor survey data.

James Isch is NCAA Interim President, after passing of Dr. Myles Brandt.

8. Ms. Deb Kingrey, Academic Counselor for Student-Athletes

Academic Report handout distributed.

APR scores for each McNeese squad will be provided at next meeting.

Study lab for “at-risk” and first-time freshmen student-athletes began 8/23/09.

93 student-athletes (from a total of 341) are required to attend study lab for Fall, 2009. Only 20 of the 93 are academically “at-risk”, while 60 are first-time freshmen, transfer students, or those specifically requested by coaches to attend study lab.

Student-athlete advisor’s workshop sessions (repeat) are scheduled for 10/14 and 10/15/09, from 2-3 p.m.

Priority night advising for student-athletes scheduled for 10/21 and 10/22/09, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Initial grade and class attendance checks (via e-mail) for “at-risk” student-athletes began on 9/23/09.

Mr. Gerald Fisher (UCS) is currently working on a web-based program that will permit faculty to access and update student-athlete’s academic information. The system will provide a means to notify coaches every two weeks regarding attendance and academic performance for their student-athletes. Mid-term grade updates will still be obtained via hard copy to ensure a face-to-face meeting between instructor and student-athlete. Anticipated start date is January, 2010.

9. Travis Pickering, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Mentoring

SAAC Events in the Fall handout distributed.

Based on compiled survey results, SAAC Committee (Student Athlete Advisory Committee) will be meeting twice a month.

Community service projects for Fall 2009, such as the upcoming Mall-O-Ween, were discussed.

Life skills lessons are presented to athletic squads before or after practice sessions.

10. Michele Martin, Faculty Athletics Representative – Chair’s Report

Congratulatory letters sent by Chair Martin to McNeese student-athletes named to the SLC 2009 Spring academic honor roll.

Southland Conference Information Update handout distributed.

APR Southland Conference composite scores rank among the lowest of Division I conferences.

FLAG programs benefit “at risk” student-athletes by matching services to individual needs.

Issue of academic calendar differences between Texas and Louisiana SLC universities was discussed as related to basketball competition and the NCAA Championship calendar.

Corporate Partner’s program enhances the student-athlete experience through sponsorship of academic awards.

Southland Conference compliance review (2-day campus visit) set for September, 2011.

Southland Television Network will televise conference football and basketball games, plus tournament championship matches in a number of other SLC sports (e.g. soccer, volleyball, softball, baseball).

Reporting and Monitoring Cycles handout distributed.

Evaluation of Athletics Department policy, mission, and objectives will be accomplished through review of its *Master Plan/Progress Report*.

Minutes from Athletics Advisory Committee will serve as documentation of evaluative measures being taken.

11. Subcommittee Appointments and Assignments

Chair reviewed *2009-10 Standing Subcommittee Appointments* handout.

Governance and Compliance subcommittee will review changes to the Athletics Department’s *Policies and Procedures Manual* and report at the next meeting (11/11/09).

Academic Integrity subcommittee will review fall/early winter competitive sports schedules for McNeese athletic squads and report at the next meeting (11/11/09).

Equity, Student-Athlete Well-Being, and Sportsmanship subcommittee has no tasks currently assigned.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. Next scheduled meeting is 11/11/09, at 3 p.m. in the President's Conference Room. Check committee web site: <http://www.mcneese.edu/aac> for additional announcements and updates.