McNeese State University Athletics Advisory Committee
http://www.mcneese.edu/aac
Minutes for 11/11/09

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

Committee members present: Martin (Chair), Awagain, Blakeley, Bradley (for Dye), Clark, Daboval, Duhon, Fischer, Griffith, Northam, Pickering, Watts

Committee members absent: Burckel, Chretien, Hebert, Patterson, Pitre, Rutherford

Presenters: McClelland, Kingrey, Fischer, Pickering, M. Martin

2. **Approval of Agenda**
*Agenda* for 11/11/09 approved.

3. **Approval of Prior Minutes**
Minutes from 9/23/08 previously approved by e-mail.

4. **Materials Distributed at Today's Meeting**
*Agenda* (11/11/09)
*Report to MSU Athletics Advisory Committee* (B. Martin)
*Academic Report* (D. Kingrey)
*Fall 2009 Mentoring Program* (T. Pickering)
*Report* (Academic Integrity Subcommittee)

5. **New Committee Member**

Mr. Sid Bradley, from the Department of Math, Computer Science, and Statistics, has been appointed by the Faculty Senate to serve on the Athletics Advisory Committee, replacing Dr. Anne Dye (retirement).

6. **Mr. Tommy McClelland, Assistant Athletics Director/Internal Affairs**

Update on Field House renovation and expansion project provided. Bid received under budget, and contract awarded (Bessette Development). Projected completion date is Spring/Summer, 2011. Athletics will use former married student housing units to serve as temporary offices and facilities.
Soccer, volleyball, football and cross country athletic squads are having successful competitive seasons.

6. **Ms. Bridget Martin**, Senior Woman Administrator/Compliance Officer

Bridget Martin was ill and unable to attend today’s meeting. Her prepared *Report to MSU Athletics Advisory Committee* was distributed.

McNeese has reported three level II secondary violations.

One initial eligibility waiver was partially approved. Student-athlete may practice, but not participate in competition.

On-going NCAA rules education activities were summarized.

7. **Ms. Deb Kingrey**, Academic Counselor for Student-Athletes

*Academic Report* distributed.

2008-09 APR (Academic Progress Rate) scores were discussed. Overall, the numbers show considerable improvement. APR includes both retention and academic progress of student-athletes.

Team scores of 925 or higher are free from both contemporaneous and historical penalties. Eight of the university’s athletic squads are at or above the 925 target score. These squads are volleyball (975), women’s soccer (972), women’s tennis (950), women’s golf (932), women’s outdoor track (931), softball (928), men’s cross country (926) and men’s basketball (925).

Other team scores include football (923), women’s indoor track (922), baseball (914), men’s golf (913), women’s basketball (902), women’s cross country (900), men’s outdoor track (893), and men’s indoor track (891).

APP (Academic Performance Program) data review has been approved by the NCAA. McNeese is in conformity with policies and procedures in data collection and reporting (2005-2008 APR reports).

313 student-athletes are registered for Spring, 2010. Deb believes this is a near record number.

Tommy McClelland and the committee congratulated Deb for the improvements regarding student-athletes’ academic performance.
8. **Ms. Randi Fisher, Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)**

Members of McNeese State's SAAC (Student-Athlete Advisory Committee) took part in the Lake Charles Prien Lake Mall-O-Ween activities.

Several SAAC members spoke to F.K. White students regarding drug awareness and the importance of staying in school.

SAAC will be working with Fox 29-TV in the “Toys for Tots” holiday community project.

9. **Travis Pickering, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Mentoring**

*Fall 2009 Mentoring Program* handout distributed.

Mentoring program introduced on campus during 2008. Currently, 16 faculty/staff volunteers are participating in the program. More are needed. Committee chair recommended publicizing program at the February, 2010, meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Most student-athletes in the mentoring program are freshmen or academically at-risk. Their participation is at the request of their respective head coaches. Mentors are encouraged to meet once a week with their assigned student-athlete(s).

10. **Michele Martin – Chair’s Report**

APR composite scores for the Southland Conference continue to rank among the lowest in Division I.

Conference-wide consensus is difficult due to differing available resources among SLC institutions.

Ms. Allison Blevins, Director of General and Basic Studies and Director of Advising and Retention, has reviewed the university’s entire NCAA self-study and its plans for improvement. Her recommendations should be ready to be presented at the Athletics Advisory Committee’s next meeting.

Exit surveys show that McNeese student-athletes have adequate input through SAAC.

Follow-up cycle for university’s self-study plans for improvement is underway.
11. Subcommittee Reports

Academic Integrity - Report distributed. Subcommittee met on 10/13/09 and reviewed competitive schedules for basketball (men’s and women’s), football, soccer, and volleyball. Overall, no major issues were noted with the schedules. However, the subcommittee recommended for basketball (men’s and women’s) and volleyball that coaches’ trip plans and travel arrangements should be examined to determine how many classes student-athletes will miss while on road trips.

Rules and Governance - Subcommittee met on 10/22/09 and reviewed revisions made for the 2009-10 Athletics Department Policy Manual. Recommendations and page numbering errors were noted, and corrections submitted to Ms. Bridget Martin.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. (President’s Conference Room).