

**MINUTES OF THE
STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

April 11-12, 2008

Those in attendance:

Boston College – Abigail Hasebroock, Joe Maloy, Ashley Jefferson, Dr. Taggart (FAR)
Clemson University – Abbey Fernandez
Duke University – Addison Nuding, Allison Stankavage
Florida State University – Javier Cruz, Melanie Cabassol
Georgia Institute of Technology – Amanda Gannon, Theresa Wenzel (SWA)
University of Maryland – Beth Gillming, Jessica Unger
University of Miami – Emerson Davis, Meredith Hatic
University of North Carolina – Brock Baker, Bekah Brinkley
North Carolina State University – Ronnie Bouemboue, Keri DeMar, Michelle Lee
University of Virginia – PJ Sullivan
Virginia Tech – Bryan Collier, Jessica Botzum
Wake Forest University – Ashley Homitz
Atlantic Coast Conference – Eric Wood

Attending portions of the meeting: Dr. David Wyrick (UNC Greensboro Professor), Scott McGowan (CEO Aftersport Group), Davis Whitfield (Associate Commissioner), Kris Pierce (Assistant Director), Jessica Solesbee (Championships Intern), Parker Goyer (Coach for College Program)

[Note: While certain items in the agenda may have been acted on at various times throughout the meeting, all final actions within a given topic are combined in these minutes and listed in order of the agenda for convenience of reference. These minutes reflect only actions (formal votes or “sense of meeting”) that occurred.]

1. Welcome and Introduction. Eric Wood called the meeting to order at 11:15 am and led the group through introductions. Mr. Wood was filling in for current chair, Allison Houseal, as a result of her participation in athletics competition.
2. Drug & Alcohol Intervention Focus Group. Eric Wood introduced Dr. David Wyrick, University of North Carolina-Greensboro professor, to conduct a focus group for a study entitled “Alcohol and other Drug Prevention for College Athletes.” Dr. Wyrick has received funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and will be working closely with the NCAA Education Services, Health and Safety group.
3. Aftersport Group. Scott McGowan, CEO, conducted a brief workshop to provide student-athletes with the tools necessary to make the transition into today’s workforce. Mr. McGowan reviewed the *Corporate Transition Program* which entailed Career Mapping, Networking/Interviewing Fundamentals and a presentation titled From the Locker Room to the Board Room. The Aftersport Group can be contacted at the www.aftersportgroup.com.

4. Approve January 30, 2008 Conference Call Minutes. The minutes were approved with changes to the participation roster.
5. Officer Rotation. Eric Wood shared the officer rotation for the 2008-09 academic year with Wake Forest serving as the chair. Mr. Wood reminded the group that the rotation is subject to change depending on which institution serves as the President of the conference. The conference has the option to allow an institution to skip a year in the event they have a new Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). The Chair is expected to make at least 1 of the 2 in-person meetings.
6. National SAAC Update. Allison Houseal, Chair and National SAAC Representative, submitted an update on the outcome of NCAA proposal 2007-73. The conference SAAC collected feedback on campus regarding 2007-73 A & B at the request of the National SAAC. The Conference SAAC supported option B which would require an institution to include specific non-athletically related conditions that a student-athlete must meet in order for athletics aid to be renewed for the next academic term(s). This proposal was specific to student-athletes who have exhausted eligibility and that are exempt from counting in the institutions financial aid limits, or student-athletes that are exempt from counting due to an injury or illness. Ms. Houseal's update also included a request for each SAAC member to spread the word about the NCAA Sportsmanship Award which can be found on the NCAA's website.
7. Championships Experience. Mr. Davis Whitfield and his staff joined the group to lead a discussion on winter sport championships after previously addressing fall sport championships on the January conference call. Mr. Whitfield surveyed the committee once again to receive recommendations on how The Conference Office can continue to ensure an excellent experience for our student-athletes. Some of the recommendations included better signage identifying the hospitality area, healthier food in the hospitality areas and internet access to complete academic assignments during participation in championships. Volleyball student-athletes were once again adamant about reinstating the ACC championship in their sport. Mr. Whitfield shared the rationale from the volleyball coaches regarding the potential to get more ACC schools selected for the NCAA tournament by playing a double round robin. The student-athletes respectfully requested Mr. Whitfield revisit this issue with the coaches and governance structure in order for them to participate in the championship experience.
8. Coach for College Program. Parker Goyer, former Duke student-athlete, presented a slideshow from her initial trip to Vietnam as part of the Coach for College program. Currently, UNC and Duke Students are participating in the program but it is Parker's hope to extend it to the rest of the ACC and ultimately through the NCAA membership. Ms. Goyer is working with the the Membership Services group to ensure the program is operating in compliance with NCAA rules. She will copy the ACC office on the official response. Ms. Parker can be reached at parker.goyer@duke.edu.

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9. Sportsmanship Award. Eric Wood led a discussion on the current state of the SAAC sponsored Sportsmanship Award. He explained that there was a possibility that the award could be discontinued if we do not figure out a way to amend the criteria to fit all sports and change the negative culture. There was a recommendation to exclude coaches from participating in the voting process and to rely solely on the SAAC reps to submit the ballots. The ACC Sportsmanship Committee and the SWA's are soliciting feedback from coaches and SAAC members from each campus on how to proceed with the award. Further discussion will take place at the ACC Spring meetings in May. Mr. Wood will report out on the September conference call.

 10. Hazing Roundtable. This agenda item was tabled until the 2008-09 academic year.

 11. Waivers-Hardship/Absence/International. This agenda item was tabled until the 2008-09 academic year.

 12. 2008-09 Meeting Dates. Tentative meeting dates were included in each SAAC members folder for review by the campus advisors.

 14. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.