

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

October 19, 2007

Those in attendance:

Boston College –Joe Maloy, Angela Pandolfo  
Clemson University – Corey Brown, Abbey Fernandez  
Duke University –Addison Nuding, Allison Stankavage  
Florida State University – Javi Garcia-Tunon  
Georgia Institute of Technology –Chris Ewald, Amanda Gannon, Theresa Wenzel (SWA)  
University of Maryland – Toni Aluko, Allison Houseal, *Chair*  
University of North Carolina – Brock Baker, Eugenia Delbono  
North Carolina State University –Dexter Adams, Ronnie Bouemboe, Michelle Lee (Compliance)  
University of Virginia – Billie-Jo Grant  
Virginia Tech– Steve Bumbry, Beth Walker  
Wake Forest University – Alex Gove, Molly Kennedy  
Atlantic Coast Conference – Eric A. Wood

Those not attending: Hagen Weintraub (Miami) and Dr. Bob Taggart (FAR)

Attending portions of the meeting: Commissioner John Swofford, Associate Commissioner Michael Kelly, Associate Commissioner Shane Lyons, Assistant Commissioner Scott McBurney, Assistant Commissioner Davis Whitfield, Assistant Commissioner Amy Yakola, Director of Compliance & Governance Lindsey Babcock, Website Coordinator Heather Hirschman, Website Intern Michelle Martin, Championships Intern Jessica Solesbee

[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. Allison Houseal, University of Maryland, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Ms. Houseal welcomed everyone and led the group through introductions. Mr. Wood thanked everyone for their participation and enthusiasm during the evening bowling activity and encouraged the same energy for the business session.
2. Commissioner’s Welcome. Commissioner Swofford joined the meeting to welcome everyone and to express his gratitude for the group’s dedication and service to the Atlantic Coast Conference. Mr. Swofford thanked Allison Houseal for her leadership of the conference SAAC as well as her leadership in representing the student-athletes in the Fall meetings of the Faculty Athletics Representatives, Athletic Directors and Senior Woman Administrators. He gave a brief history of his experiences in the league since his days as a football student-athlete and athletic director at the University of North Carolina, through his current position as commissioner of the conference. Mr. Swofford acknowledged the growth of the SAAC and his charge was to continue to be the voice in our governance structure for the student-athletes back on campus

3. Review of September 12, 2007 Conference Call Minutes. Allison asked the group to review the minutes for approval. The minutes were approved as written.
4. Purpose of the Conference SAAC. Allison Houseal discussed the role of the conference SAAC and the relationship between the campus, conference and national SAAC. Ms. Houseal stressed the importance of communication and representing the voice of all of the student-athletes at your respective institutions. She also stressed the importance of participating in surveys and other requests for student-athlete feedback from both NCAA and ACC administrators.
5. ACC Scholar-Athlete Award. Amy Yakola, Assistant Commissioner, shared that the ACC Awards Committee voted unanimously to establish the equivalent of the Jim Tatum Award (ACC Scholar Athlete Award) for each sport on an annual basis beginning with the 2007-08 academic year. Mrs. Yakola also shared that the men's basketball scholar-athlete of the year award will be named in honor of the late Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser. There is also a recommendation pending that the men's golf scholar-athlete of the year award be named in honor of the late Duke University coach Rod Myers.
6. 2007 Proposed Legislation. Lindsey Babcock, Director of Compliance and Governance, reviewed the process of how a legislative proposal from the membership becomes a bylaw. The membership is currently in the initial consideration stage and will be submitting support or opposition for each proposal to the NCAA Management Council (MANCO). Mrs. Babcock shared that some proposals will be approved as emergency legislation January 2008 and some may go through a 60-day comment period to be considered again in April 2008. Each institution was sent a voting chart to take a position on the proposals related to student-athlete well-being. The voting chart is due back by the end of the business day on November 7, 2007.
7. Championship Experience. At the request of Dr. Charles Wellford, FAR (Maryland) and President of the ACC, Davis Whitfield and the championships staff addressed the SAAC regarding their experience while participating in ACC championships. With no football or basketball student-athletes in attendance, the focus remained on the olympic sports. Mr. Whitfield discussed the sport committee structure, participant gifts, hospitality and banquets, complimentary admissions policy, awards and travel. He also shared the fact that each head coach has the opportunity to give post-championship feedback by completing a survey to determine the successes and areas where improvement is needed for each championship. This issue was a segue to a discussion regarding student-athlete feedback as an agenda item submitted by Ms. Bernadette McGlade, Associate Commissioner, on behalf of the ACC Equity Committee. The Equity Committee would like to receive annual feedback from student-athletes participating in olympic sports on their championship experience.

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It was MOVED to:

“Recommend that the ACC Equity Committee consider:

Including a one page survey in a welcome packet created by the championships staff and given to each student-athlete upon check-in to the hotels. There should be a secure designated drop off area for the surveys to be collected by ACC staff at the conclusion of the championship.”

The SAAC believes this suggestion can assist in securing feedback from student-athletes participating in olympic sport championships and establish consistent communication with the Equity Committee when discussing survey results. Mr. Whitfield then distributed a survey to each SAAC student-athlete in attendance who has participated in an ACC championship and requested that they submit completed surveys to Eric Wood upon conclusion of the business session. The championships staff will provide a summary of the results to be shared with the Conference SAAC, DR. Wellford and the Equity Committee.

8. ACC Associate/Assistant Commissioners. ACC Associate, Assistant Commissioners and department supervisor’s joined the SAAC for introductions and to discuss the areas they oversee in the conference office. Those areas included football, public relations, marketing, compliance, governance, championships, website and video services. Supervisor’s joined the SAAC for lunch and informal discussion.
9. National SAAC Update. Allison Houseal discussed two supplements from the NCAA SAAC as a follow up from the September conference call, addressing the document titled *the statement of expectations for institutions that choose to use male practice players and a top 10 list of ways to remain eligible.* Ms. Houseal also directed the group to the NCAA SAAC newsletter which can be found on the ACC SAAC site. The group was informed that she will be sending out a survey for female student-athletes on *Perceived Barriers.* Please fill it out and return electronically as this is another way to participate and have your voice heard on the national level.
10. Breakout Session. The group was separated into four groups of 5 to address the following topics.
  - a. Best Practices for Campus SAAC. Eric Wood will put together a one page document of practices that you, as a conference SAAC, found in common to be contributing factors in the success of your campus committees. This document will be a supplement for our January conference call and April in-person meeting.
  - b. Online Social Networks. This group discussed policies to address the growing concern of online social networks on campus. This will also be a separate document for our January conference call and March in-person meeting to share different practices from each institution in regulating the use of these networks.

- c. ACC SAAC Website. Heather Hirschman and Michelle Martin lead the group through the resources on the web site. She encouraged everyone to e-mail Eric Wood or to respond on the ACC feedback link if you have ideas of ways to improve the site. Mrs. Hirschman will also be looking to replace her intern next year, so if you have some experience and are interested in working at the ACC headquarters with the website staff please let her know as soon as possible.
- d. Sportsmanship Award. This group reviewed the sportsmanship award policy, currently in its fifth year, and identified increased responsibility from SAAC representatives as the main priority for this year. Eric Wood presented an alternative option to change the process to where each campus SAAC is nominating a male and female student-athlete to be recognized with a sportsmanship award for that institution. That would give the sportsmanship committee a pool of 12 sportsmanship award winners to consider when deciding on which male and female student-athlete will represent the ACC in the running for the NCAA sportsmanship of the year award. It was the sense of the group to keep the award process the same.

11. ACC Futures Internship Program. Eric Wood shared the job descriptions for the partners involved with the Futures Internship Program. Application materials will be sent out via e-mail on November 1, 2007 to the conference SAAC, each Director of Academic Services, SWA's and CHAMPS/Life Skills Directors. The program is currently for females and ethnic minority males. If you are graduating this spring 2008 and are interested in working at the ACC office in championships or with one of our partners, please let one of the campus staff members listed above know as soon as possible. Each institution may only nominate 3 candidates with applications due by February 1, 2008.

11. Upcoming Meeting/Conference Call. Next conference call is scheduled for January 30, 2008 at noon. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for April 11-12, 2008.

13. Other Business. SAAC reps used this opportunity to get feedback on hot topics related to student-athlete parking (VT), student-athlete ticket policies (VT) and training table (UVA). Please contact the SAAC reps listed in the attendance section of these minutes for notes on the agenda items they put forward. We will discuss a breakdown of the Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund and Special Assistance Fund in the spring meeting.

14. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.