

Athletic Council Minutes

April 25, 2008

Members Present: Jim Anderson, Mike Truscott, Steve Specker , Aaron Burns (ASNMU), Robert Fleming, Ken Godfrey, Amelia (Mimi) Marschall (SAAC), Julie Rochester (Chair), Mike Rotundo, Brandon Sager, Cheryl Teeters, Jon Teichman, Renxin Yang, Dennis Stanek

Members Excused: Dave Faiella, Jim Gadzinski,

Members Absent: Bridget Berube

Permanent Guest: Chris Greer, Dean of Students

Guests: Sten Fjeldheim, Head Coach, Men's and Women's Nordic Skiing

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by chair Rochester.

1. **Approval of Agenda**
2. **Approval of March 28, 2008 Minutes (Teeters/Burns)**
3. **Guest Presentations** – Sten Fjeldheim, Head Coach, Men's and Women's Nordic Skiing – Coach Fjeldheim handed out a statistic sheet showing the academic and athletic achievements that have been made within the program. He said recruiting is more difficult today due to the fact that so many NMU Alumni are out in the coaching ranks. The women's team receives 6.3 scholarships and the men receive 3. He stated the program's training plan, 2 x 6 x 50 = Success. 2 times/day, 6 days/week, 50 weeks/year.
4. **Chair's Report (Rochester)**
 - 4.1 **Committee on Compliance Report** – No Report.
 - 4.2 **Executive Committee Report** – No Report.
 - 4.3 **Committee on Sportsmanship Report** – No Report. Will meet in May.
 - 4.4 **Exit Interviews** – Rochester has spoken with Communications/Marketing and they are too busy at this time to incorporate the Exit Interview form on-line. The survey will be ready on-line for the Fall 2008 Semester. A reminder e-mail will be sent to each exiting athlete letting them know that the form is being sent in the mail to their home address.
 - 4.5 **CCHA Meeting Update** – Rochester attended the Naples, FL meeting this past week.
 - 4.5.1 **Referee Issue** – There was discussion regarding the number of referees for hockey games. The CCHA is the only collegiate conference in the country that operates with 2 linesmen and 1 referee. All other conferences including the NHL operate with 2 linesmen and 2 referees. Michigan, Michigan State and Miami are all in favor of the new method. This method would cost NMU approximately \$8,000.00.
 - 4.5.2 **Playoff Date Flexibility** – NMU and FSU discussed concern regarding this issue being that each school's spring break week falls during the playoffs. This could pose a financial problem to a hosting school. There was also discussion of going to an 8 team playoff in lieu of a 12 team playoff.
 - 4.5.3 **Admission to Conference Policy Approved** – The policy to allow new schools to enter the conference has been approved.
 - 4.5.4 **University level Strategic Plan for CCHA** – The university is going to have to form Strategic Planning Group that will look at specific data and report to the CCHA. The AC Executive Committee will determine the SPG.
5. **Athletic Director's Report (Godfrey)**
 - 5.1 **Budget** – Budgets have been submitted. Travel costs continue to affect the budget.
 - 5.2 **Facilities** – Gathering data for cost of a new swimming pool. A consultant is coming in next week to look at the current pool situation. The soccer field is being re-done with a new irrigation system and grass. It will not be ready for the upcoming soccer

season. The Athletic Department has been having some discussions with the Daktronics company regarding scoreboards in all athletic venues.

- 5.3 **Individual Sports Banquets** – Academic awards Banquet went very well. Godfrey is very proud that the student athletes have an overall GPA over 3.0. Swimming/Diving and Track & Field Banquets are yet to come.
- 5.4 **Pilot Project with NCAA** – Jim Winkler is working on a Pilot Project with the NCAA regarding Alcohol Education.
- 5.5 **Sports Hall of Fame** – Meeting in May.
- 5.6 **Community Engagement Award** – NMU has been selected as the 2008 winner of the Community Engagement Award of Excellence for Division II and will be recognized at the NACMA convention in June. The award is a \$500 grant that can be used for other community engagement efforts.
6. **Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Report** (Marschall) – SAAC will be holding the 2nd annual all-athlete dodge ball tournament this Sunday April 27th at 4:00. SAAC and the Student Athletic Trainer Organization (SATO) have organized the Wildcat Wellness Walk/Run (5k and 10k walk/run) to be held on June 14, 2008. Money raised will go to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.
7. **ASNMU Report** (Burns) – There has been a new board elected. They are also looking to form a committee for External Affairs. The new ASNMU President is Hobie Webster.
8. **Old Business**
 - 8.1 **Courses offering recommendation to Provost/President** (Rochester) – Chair Rochester has received no response from the Provost/President. She will request a meeting with the Provost.

New Business

- 9.1 **Preparation of Year-End Report** (Rochester) – The report is being prepared.
- 9.2 **Athletic Council Openings** (Rochester) –

At-Large	Brandon Sager, 1446, Engineering & Planning, 136 Services Building, brsager@nmu.edu	2005-2008
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Sager stated that he would like to renew his appointment.

At-Large (Admissions)	Jon Teichman, x2650, Senior Admissions Counselor, 2212 Hedcock, jteichma@nmu.edu	2005-2008
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Teichman stated that he would like to renew his appointment.

At-Large (Alumni)	Jim Anderson, (906) 789-0558, 2950 College Ave., Escanaba, janderso@jobforce.org	2005-2008
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Anderson will not renew his appointment. Godfrey and Rochester both extended a thank you to Anderson for all of his hard work and dedication.

Student (ASNMU)	Aaron Burns (906)346-2018 (906)361-0391. aaburns@nmu.edu	2007-2008
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Burns will not be renewing his appointment due to graduation. He will forward the contact information of the new ASNMU President and Vice President to Rochester. Chair Rochester thanked him on behalf of the Athletic Council for all of his efforts.

Student (SAAC)	Mimi Marschall, amarscha@nmu.edu Dan Elmore, daelmore@nmu.edu	2007-2008
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Marschall will not be renewing her appointment due to graduation. Chair Rochester thanked her on behalf of the Athletic Council for all of her efforts and on graduation. Chair Rochester will contact Dan Elmore regarding the SAAC representative for next year.

- 9.3 **Athletic Council Continuing Appointments** (Rochester) – Chair Rochester stated that committee members that do not have to continue on the council until your appointment renewal. If you would no longer like to serve on the committee to please let Chair Rochester know ASAP. Meetings will continue to be on Fridays at 10am next year.
- 9.4 **Review/Approval of Athletic Competition Schedules** – Godfrey handed out a class absence summary sheet for all athletic teams for the 2008-2009 school year. Men’s and Women’s Basketball are both over the allotted 8 missed class days with 11.5 and 12 during the 2nd semester. Godfrey stated that this is caused due to the new round-robin schedule for the GLIAC this upcoming year. NMU is only one of four schools in the conference with an absence policy. Godfrey stated that he did not have a lot of support on the recent conference call between Athletic Directors. Motion made to accept the 2nd semester absences on a one-time basis and that the absence policy be reviewed due to new conference scheduling. The Athletic Director and FAR will attempt to improve the Men’s and Women’s schedule. (Marschall/Fleming) Motion passed.
- 9.5 **Athletics and Recreational Sports Presentation** (Godfrey) – Godfrey is giving a presentation to the Board of Control showing all of the things that Athletics and Recreational Sports does. He thought that it would be very educational for the Athletic Council members to see. Chair Rochester is going to try to have it posted on the AC website. If the file is too large, Godfrey may be able to have a condensed version emailed to AC members.
9. **Open Discussion/Good of the Order**
- 10.1 **Last Meeting of the Academic Year** – Several members gave thanks to Rochester for her efforts and dedication to the council.
- 10.2 **Special Recognition** – Rochester has drafted a congratulatory letter on behalf of the AC to Ken Godfrey for receiving the 2008 Community Engagement Award of Excellence for Division II. Godfrey gave credit to the entire campus community.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Sager
Athletic Council Member