

Athletic Council Minutes

September 5, 2008

Members Present: Bridget Beerman, Jim Gadzinski, Mike Truscott, Ingrid Fjeldheim (SAAC), Robert Fleming, Ken Godfrey, Kelly Reed, Julie Rochester (Chair), Mike Rotundo, Brandon Sager, Cheryl Teeters, Jon Teichman

Members Excused: Jessica Butina (ASNMU), Dennis Stanek, **Steve Specker**

Members Absent:

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by chair Rochester.

1. **Approval of Agenda**
2. **Approval of March 28, 2008 Minutes (Rotundo/Teeters)**
3. **Guest Presentation** – None.
4. **Chair's Report** (Rochester)
 - 4.1 **Athletic Council Vacancies/New Members**
 - 4.1.1 **Faculty** – vacant (AAUP is in process of identifying new member)
 - 4.1.2 **Alumnus** – Kelly Reed
 - 4.1.3 **ASNMU** – Jessica Butina
 - 4.1.4 **SAAC** – Ingrid Fjeldheim
 - 4.2 **Committee on Compliance Report** – No report.
 - 4.3 **Executive Committee Report** – Committee met to set agenda on August 22, 2008.
 - 4.4 **Committee on Sportsmanship Report** – Godfrey reported that they are working with event staff, band members, etc., to reinforce an appropriate fan environment.
 - 4.4.1 **Game Environment and Sportsmanship** – A handout was distributed describing the **NMU's endorsement of the NCAAII** pledge to be read before all home contests. Representatives at SAAC determined that a member of the team will read the pledge before their own contests. Dr. Wong has endorsed the plan.
 - 4.5 **Student-Athlete Exit Survey** – Rochester is still working with Communications to make this an on-line form.
 - 4.5.1 **Exit Survey Returns** – Thirteen (13) athletes completed the form last semester (last year only two responded) and the results are being compiled.
 - 4.6 **FAR Fellows Institute** – Rochester was selected as the GLIAC FAR to travel to Indianapolis in October.
 - 4.7 **FARA Annual Meeting** – Rochester will be attending in San Diego in November.
 - 4.8 **CCHA/GLIAC Meetings** – Rochester attended in the 2008 summer.
 - 4.9 **NCAA Division II Infractions Committee** – Rochester was nominated by the GLIAC Commissioner and was recently appointed and will be attending her first meeting in December.
 - 4.10 **Academic Senate Presentation** – September 23, 2008.
 - 4.11 **FAR Meetings with Athletic Teams** – Has attended meetings with football, soccer, basketball (both teams), volleyball, cross-country (running), hockey and swimming and diving.
5. **Athletic Director's Report** (Godfrey)
 - 5.1 **Upcoming Athletic Department Events**
 - 5.1.1 **Soccer** – Friday and Sunday at home.
 - 5.1.2 **Fall Sports Kickoff** – 1:30-3:30 on Saturday.
 - 5.1.3 **Football** – At home 4:00 p.m. on Saturday
 - 5.1.4 **Golf** – GLIAC Meet this weekend at Greywalls.
 - 5.1.5 **Cross-Country** – At LSSU this weekend.

- 5.1.6 **Volleyball** – At Winona State.
- 5.1.7 **Football versus Michigan Tech** – Nationally televised on September 18th, so intent is to pack the dome. Athletes (sports other than football) will distribute 3,000 “Go Cats” towels at the door. Tailgate plans, dining services closing the MarketPlace, etc.
- 5.2 **Ticket Price “Deals”** – Handout provided.
- 5.3 **Tailgating Policy** – Held over for second reading at the President’s Council.
- 5.4 **NCAA Signage in Dome** – Newly installed NMU and NCAA signage.
- 5.5 **NCAA DII Travel Stipend** – The NCAA DII provided a travel stipend in the amount of \$1,025 for NMU athletic travel.
- 5.6 **Radio Coverage** – A new radio station, “The Point” (100.3 FM), will be carrying athletic events this year including basketball, football, hockey and some volleyball, but are interested in doing more events.
- 5.7 **NMU Green and Gold Day** – Mayor Tourville is working on final language, but the Marquette City Council will be issuing a proclamation designating Thursday, September 18th, as “NMU Green and Gold Day” in Marquette.
- 6. **Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Report** (Fjeldheim)
 - 6.1 **Breast Cancer Awareness** – Working on T-shirts for October.
 - 6.2 **Sportsmanship Pledge** – Athletes decided to have a member of their team read the pledge before each of their own home games.
 - 6.3 **Athlete Social** – Planning an athlete social in the near future.
- 7. **ASNMU Report** (Butina) – No report.
- 8. **Old Business**
 - 8.1 **Course Offering Recommendation to Provost/President** (Rochester) – No response has yet been received. Rochester will be inviting Dr. Koch to attend future AC meeting to respond.
 - 8.1.1 **Coffee with the Provost** (Rochester) – Invitations went over via e-mail for faculty/staff to meet informally with Dr. Koch
 - 8.2 **Missed Class Policy** (Rochester) – A handout was provided; GLIAC does not have a standing policy and other schools have yet to be contacted. Tabled for a future meeting.
- 9. **New Business**
 - 9.1 **Faculty Sport Sponsorship Program** (Rochester) – A handout was provided as an attachment to email sent by Rochester. An ad-hoc committee was formed (Beerman, Fjeldheim, Rochester, Sager-Chair, and Teeters) to look into the feasibility of a similar program at NMU.
 - 9.2 **Improving Faculty Attendance at Athletic Events** (Rochester) – Discussion led from “is this a problem/how big of a problem” to the suggestion to invite faculty/staff departments to attend games. An ad-hoc committee was formed (Beerman-Chair, Fleming, Gadzinski, Godfrey) to look into the feasibility.
 - 9.3 **Review Bylaws** (Rochester) – A revision was proposed to formally remove the SID as a member of the AC (**Gadzinski/Sager**) and unanimously accepted.
 - 9.4 **Recognizing Teams for Academic Achievement** (Rochester) – It was felt that the AC needs to recognize athletic teams and athletes for individual achievement (recently the volleyball team was cited by the AVCA for academic excellence). Gadzinski will draft a letter from the AC recognizing the achievement, but further discussion on the AC role was tabled for a future meeting.
 - 9.5 **August 2008 NCAA Division II Strategic Positioning Survey** (Rochester) – Godfrey completed the survey.
 - 9.6 **Committees/Elect Secretary** (Rochester)
 - 9.6.1 **Committee on Compliance** – Membership continues to be Beerman, Godfrey, Rochester, Rotundo, Teichman, Truscott and Cathy Dehlin (as needed).
 - 9.6.2 **Executive Committee** – Membership continues to be Beerman, Gadzinski, Godfrey, Rochester, Rotundo, Teichman and Truscott, but it was suggested

that the new faculty at-large member also be selected to serve on this committee.

9.6.3 **Committee on Sportsmanship** – Membership continues to be Dean Ellis, Fleming, Godfrey, Jenny Ryan, Specker and Stanek

9.6.4 **Secretary** – Moved to re-elect Gadzinski (**Sager/Truscott**) – unanimous.

10. Open Discussion/Good of the Order

10.1 **Guest Speakers** (Rochester) – Suggestions included coaches not able to address the AC last year, the Provost, the President, student-athletes, and the student-athletes that attended the NCAA leadership conference.

10.2 **President Wong to Attend AC Meeting** (Rochester) – President Wong will, again, be attending at least one of the AC meetings this year.

10.3 **Attendance at Athletic Events** (Rochester) – Handout provided.

10.4 **American Athletic Institute “Life of an Athlete” Presentation** – Handout provided; all are encouraged to attend.

10.5 **2008 Fall Athletic Council Meeting Schedule** (Rochester) – Schedule is as follows:

10.5.1 **Executive Committee Meetings** (10:00 a.m./ACAC Resource Room) – August 22, September 26, October 24 and November 21.

10.5.2 **Athletic Council Meetings** (10:00 a.m./ACAC Resource Room) – September 5, October 10, November 7 and December 5.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Gadzinski
Athletic Council Secretary