Athletics Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

Present: Mr. Jeremy Byers (proxy for Mr. Ben Baker), Dr. Steve Smith, Mr. David Shields, Dr. Miranda Bowie (proxy for Dr. Pat Roden), Dr. Lisa Clayton, Ms. Christa Raney, Dr. Amanda Coffman, Mrs. Lisa Burton (proxy for Tina Sharp), Mr. Terry Fowler, Mr. Mark Linder, Ms. Jana Morrison, Mr. Todd Vardaman

Absent: Mr. Tyler Killen, Mr. Chase Wise, Mr. Payton Edminston

Dr. Amanda Coffman asked for approval of the minutes for the December 6, 2011 meeting and the agenda for the meeting on January 24, 2012. There were no additions or corrections. Mrs. Christa Raney made the motion to approve the submitted agenda and minutes, and Dr. Lisa Clayton seconded the motion. The minutes and agenda were approved as read.

Mr. Mark Linder gave the Athletics Director report:

* Bobby Wallace is the new head football coach. Since Coach Wallace’s hire, the football coaching staff has visited over 60 high schools.
* Signing date for fall sports is February 1, 2012.

The committee discussed the addition of two women’s sports, indoor and outdoor track. Adding the sports would enhance the women’s cross country program. Even though no new funds are needed to add indoor and outdoor track, Dr. Steve Smith suggested that Mr. Mark Linder request to attend the Budget Committee meeting in February 2012. The Athletics Committee made the motion to approve the addition of the two sports. The motion was passed. A letter of support to the president is not needed.

The committee discussed the additional faculty members on the Athletics Committee. Dr. Coffman had spoken to Richard Statom, chair of the Shared Governance Committee, concerning the request to add two additional faculty members to the Athletics Committee. The request to add additional members for more faculty representation was sent to the Shared Governance Committee on February 8, 2011. Dr. Statom stated to Dr. Coffman that the request was tabled because the problem would be solved by sending proxies when a committee member is absent. Additional faculty members are needed for representation on the Athletics Committee. Mr. Statom suggested to Dr. Coffman that he resubmit the request to the Shared Governance Committee. No SGA members assigned attend the Athletics Committee meetings. Students can also send a proxy member.

Dr. Coffman sent Athletics Committee members the policy regarding absences on committees via email. The policy states that a committee member must send a proxy if missing a committee meeting. If a committee member misses a meeting three times without sending a proxy, the committee chair should report the member to Richard Statom.

The committee discussed the housing issues on the university campus. Members of the Gender Equity Committee toured the housing for students in October 2011. Some of the maintenance issues were mold, rust, leaking roofs, and plants growing out of gutters. Mr. David Shields stated that Mike Thompson and Audrey Mitchell meet every three weeks to discuss housing. Mr. Shields stated that repairing some of the apartment roofs would cost approximately $40,000. Mr. Terry Fowler, chair of the Minority Opportunity Committee, said that when a student athlete resides in their apartment year round, no maintenance is done on the apartment. There is no visible UNA signage when travelling on Waterloo Road to UNA. Signage will be reconstructed with the building of the new science building. Suggestions were also made to add recycle bins and nice trash bins on the UNA campus. Mr. Shields asked that the committee compile a list of maintenance issues and send them to him.

The committee discussed the academic success of freshmen and sophomores living on campus. A survey showed that 50% of students living on campus do not graduate. When freshmen live on campus for one year the graduation rate is 70%; living on campus for two years results in a graduation rate of 80%.

The proposal for the NCAA Division I Work Group was discussed. The committee would consist of Athletics Committee members and members outside of the Athletics Committee. The task would be to assist in the possible transition from Division II to Division I. The proposal has suggested 20 members to be on the work group. The list of membership for the work group should have justification of each member. The Shared Governance committee states that a work group should consist of less than 10 members. The committee discussed that the Work Group be a committee instead of a work group or the work group be within the Athletics Committee, which would mean the expansion of the Athletics Committee. Mr. David Shields suggested that Dr. Amanda Coffman and Mr. Mark Linder request to attend a Shared Governance meeting to discuss the work group request.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 28, 2012.

Ms. Christa Raney made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Lisa Clayton seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.