



ANNUAL REPORT
ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama

Dr. Jeffery Ray

August 15, 2024

Committee Chair

Date submitted

Submitted to: Dr. Lee Renfro
Chair, Shared Governance Executive Committee

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024

I. Executive Summary

The members of the Athletic Committee for 2023-2024 Academic year were:

- Dr. Lisa Clayton (*Faculty, 2024*)
- Ms. Corrie Dalrymple (*by interim position*)
- Mr. Jacob Davis (*SGA, 2024*)
- Mr. Will Driver (*SGA, 2024*)
- Ms. Minnette Ellis (*by position*)
- Ms. Kate Hanbery (*by position*)
- Ms. Laurie Holder (*by interim position*)
- Dr. Scott Infanger (*Faculty, 2024*)
- Dr. Josh Looney (*by position*)
- Ms. Melanie Looser (*Faculty, 2025*)
- Dr. Janae Lyde (*Athletics minority staff, 2024*)
- Mr. EJ Powell (*SGA, 2024*)
- Ms. Christa Raney (*Faculty, 2026*)
- Dr. Jeffery Ray (*by position*)
- Dr. Marie Taylor (*Faculty, 2025*)
- Mr. Evan Thornton (*by position*)
- Dr. KC White (*by position*)
- Ms. Debbie Williams (*by position*)

Dr. Jeffery Ray served as Committee Chair for 2023-24 and Dr. Melanie Looser, as the Vice Chair, is expected to serve in this capacity for the 2024-25 academic year. The Athletic Committee is charged with ensuring that the athletics program is compliant with policies (procedures, laws, etc.) enacted by the NCAA, ASUN Conference, and state and federal government. The committee is organized into two workgroups: Gender Equity and Minority Opportunity. Ms. Christa Raney and Mr. Daryl Brown & Ms. Anna Milwee continued to increase enrollment in the Minority Opportunity workgroup's efforts to support minority athletes through the Minority Student Athlete Mentoring Program. The Athletic Committee met three times in this academic year to discuss factors impacting the welfare of student athletes at UNA (e.g. UNA resources available to student-athletes, policy changes enacted by the NCAA) in the ever-changing landscape of college athletics.

II. The Committee's Charge (from the Shared Governance Document)

1. Ensure the proper role of athletics within the overall mission of the university

2. Ensure the integrity of the athletics program with regard to NCAA, Gulf South Conference, state and federal law compliance, gender equity, and support for the principles presented by the Knight Foundation's Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics
3. Review and monitor (as necessary, assist in developing) all compliance procedures and recommend institutional procedural changes based upon changes in NCAA rules
4. Assign and document responsibilities for compliance tasks
5. Work to maintain the proper perspective of athletic competition within the university life of the student-athlete
6. Monitor the academic performance and progress made by student-athletes
7. Oversee all programs designed to ensure the academic success, personal development and personal welfare of student-athletes
8. Handle all proposals affecting University policy according to section C.2 "Shared Governance Procedure for Policy Change Recommendations"
9. To submit a final written report electronically by the first contract day of the academic year to the President with a copy sent to the Chair of the Shared Governance Executive Committee

III. The Committee met on the following dates:

September 8, 2023, November 9, 2023, April 26, 2024

IV. What were the Committee's actions and accomplishments this year relative to each of the items of the charge? (Minutes are provided below)

1. The committee fully reviewed the student-athlete health and well-being resources provided by UNA and found that the Athletics department, in conjunction with other organizations including University Health Services (Ms. Sheena Burgreen, Executive Director; Health & Well-Being), Student Counseling Services (Ms. Maggie Stutts, Director), Student Affairs (Dr. K.C. White, Vice President), and other campus groups, provide all recommended services and resources for student-athletes.
2. The committee received in-person verbal testimonials from three student-athletes who voluntarily shared their journey/experience at UNA with the Athletic Committee. The first-hand nature of the student-athlete's perspective was deemed valuable to the committee and when possible, would be useful to the committee.
3. The academic progress and performance of student athletes was presented to the committee by athletic department personnel, and found to meet all reasonable expectations with overall athletics GPA exceeding 3.0, with many notable team GPA's.
4. The Athletic Committee found athletic department personnel to be informed on and adherent to issues of NCAA compliance and procedures as required; further, the athletic department is doing well to monitor frequently changing NCAA rules due to recent lawsuits and injunctions filed by student-athletes, universities, and states across the USA.

V. What does the Committee plan to accomplish?

Continued monitoring of UNA Athletic department functioning within the university context, student-athletes' welfare and academic success in the changing landscape of college athletics and NCAA rules.

Review the gender equity and minority opportunity aspects for this committee and discuss those at the beginning of the next AY.

VI. What were the Committee's formal recommendations?

The Committee did not make any formal recommendations.

VII. What are the Committee's weaknesses?

None were noted by members.

A. What can the Shared Governance Committee help you do to address the weaknesses?

N/A