

University of North Alabama
Athletics Committee Agenda
September 8, 2023 at 2:00 PM
Pierce Hospitality Suite

In attendance: Dr. Lisa Clayton, Ms. Kate Hanbery, Ms. Laurie Holder, Dr. Melanie Looser, Dr. Janae Lyde, Ms. Christa Raney, Dr. Jeff Ray, Dr. Marie Taylor, Mr. Evan Thornton, Ms. Sheen Burgreen for Dr. KC White, Ms. Anna Milwee, Ms. Ashley Cook (UNA PhD student in Health & Well-Being)

Not in attendance: Dr. Josh Looney, Mr. Jacob Davis, Mr. Will Driver, Mr. EJ Powell, Dr. Scott Infanger, Dr. KC White, Ms. Debbie Williams (Ms. Corrie Dalrymple & Ms. Minnette Ellis were not yet assigned to this committee on 9/8/2023).

1. Approval of Minutes and Agenda

The minutes from 3/8/2023 were approved by unanimous vote without modification.

2. Minority Opportunity Committee Report

Drs. Brown, Lyde and Raney & Ms. Milwee continue to build a mentoring program that involves faculty/staff and S-A's, who may be recommended by coaches or voluntarily participate. Mentor nights, Elite speakers, and other events are being planned.

3. Gender Equity Committee Report

No report.

4. Faculty Athletics Representative Report

Dr. Ray deferred his report to the Athletic Director's comprehensive information, but did mention the Fall ASUN meetings he will attend.

5. Compliance Report

Ms. Anna Milwee provided information on multiple topics. Before being placed in the Transfer Portal, S-A's are required to complete an education module on the Transfer Portal, which has a large effect on UNA and college athletics, including that ~50% of S-A's who enter do not transfer to a DI school with scholarship or enroll. The Lion's Share is a NIL collective to benefit UNA S-A's. Altius provides education to S-A's & coaches. Mr. Todd Vardaman (retired Sr. Associate AD) is Athletics' NIL specialist; there is no current AL law regulating NIL.

6. Athletic Director Report

Dr. Lyde provided info in Dr. Looney's absence (travelling with FB): Athletics Department GPA was 3.32 for Spring 23 with 70 S-A's earning 4.0, and GPA records for several sports. Athletics is engaged with the Shoals Community (4,100 hrs. service; \$118,000 impact in 22-23) & uses the Helper Helper app to improve communication and

awards Lion Cup points to foster competition among sports. 11 of 14 programs set DI and/or ASUN competitive bests. Significant increases in Athletic Attendance, Facilities Upgrades, Major Events, Development, and BI Stadium details were shared with the committee; specifics are available in the 22-23 UNA Athletics Annual Report.

7. Old Business

None.

8. New Business

Mr. Mike Ezekiel, a 2017 UNA graduate, is the new Assistant Athletic Director for Communications as of 8/1/2023.

Ms. Sheena BURGREN, Executive Director for Health and Well-Being, University Health Services, explained the comprehensive mental wellness team that is in place for S-A's using a stepped care model. Mental wellness screenings are done with physicals in April (returning S-A's) or August (new S-A's). Ms. Laci Lake, Mental Health Counselor, Student Counseling Services, provides twice monthly group sessions (Huddle) independent of athletics staff to give S-A's a safe space to discuss.

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm

*S-A = student-athletes