The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Faculty Athletics Committee
Minutes of Meeting: November 6, 2012

Present: Committee Members: Lissa Broome, Glynis Cowell, Beverly Foster, Layna Mosley, Eugene Orringer, Barbara Osborne, Andrew Perrin, Eileen Parsons, Joy Renner, John Stephens

Athletic Department Personnel: Bubba Cunningham

Other Advisors: Mario Ciocca, Harold Woodard

Guests: Kate Fedder (DTH), Wayne Lee (History)

I. Preliminary Matters

Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The minutes from the October meeting were approved following the deletion of a sentence. The modified minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. There were no further additions or corrections to the minutes.

II. Information from the Athletics Director

Athletic Director Bubba Cunningham discussed some of the recent athletic successes of some of the school’s teams. He noted that there were nine events being hosted on campus over the course of three upcoming days.

III. Report from the Faculty Athletics Representative

Lissa Broome noted that the FAR’s annual report to Faculty Council would be presented on November 9. She reviewed with the committee an attachment showing the Academic Progress Rate (APR), Graduation Success Rate (GSR), and Federal Graduation Rate (FGR) for UNC-CH and four of its high profile teams (football, men’s basketball, women’s basketball, and women’s soccer) since the inception of the APR and GSR. Committee members expressed a desire to review this data for all UNC teams over time. Richard Southall, a UNC faculty member and head of the College Sports Research Institute has compiled another graduation rate based on an adjustment to the FGR to include only full-time students. Full-time students graduate at a higher rate than part-time students and student-athletes are all full-time students. Professor Southall’s Adjusted Graduation Gap calculation may be especially meaningful for institutions that have a large part-time student cohort.

IV. Report from the FAC Chair

Joy Renner reported that the faculty informational video outline is under construction. She mentioned that a document with all the contact information for each sport has been posted on the committee’s Sakai site. Professor Renner encouraged committee members to contact liaisons on
other campus committees in their expertise topic area in preparation for FAC’s review and monitoring of that topic, and to coordinate with their FAC partner on how to proceed with collecting information and gathering and addressing questions about the topic area. She also encouraged FAC members to continue relationship development with their assigned teams. Professor Renner suggested that each department or school designate a representative for student-athletes and advisors to contact with questions about majors and careers. Beverly Foster suggested that this could be accomplished efficiently through meetings of the Directors of Undergraduate Studies. Professor Renner stated that the committee would discuss admissions in December and possibly advising in January.

VI. Closed Session

Pursuant to a motion by Lissa Broome in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-318.11, the committee went into closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information. That motion was seconded and approved. Visitors to the committee left the room and the committee proceeded in its closed session discussing confidential issues related to specific students and personnel issues.

At the conclusion of the committee’s discussion (at which no action was taken), Lissa Broome moved that the committee conclude its closed session and move into open session. That motion was seconded and approved. Visitors rejoined the committee as the committee resumed its open session.

VII. Discussion of Team Liaison Role

Professor Renner led a discussion of the duties associated with the team liaison role, including

- Communicating with the coaching staff of the team to discuss the student-athlete experience at UNC from recruitment through graduation;
- Meeting with the team so that the student-athletes know that the faculty and the FAC are interested in learning more about their commitments as student-athletes;
- Contacting ASPSA counselors and academic advisors assigned to their team to learn about any policies, processes, or support that might be needed; and
- Representing the team in FAC discussions regarding the special needs of the sport.

VIII. Student-Athlete Experience

John Stephens, Glynis Cowell, and Barbara Osborne are the content resources on student-athlete experience. Vince Ille oversees the student-athlete experience in the Athletics Department. Exit survey instruments for senior student-athletes who have exhausted their playing eligibility from several schools have been reviewed in order to fashion the best possible survey instrument. The Odum Institute has agreed to help design the survey instrument from these sample instruments, incorporating the feedback on those instruments already provided by FAC members. Joy Renner suggested that the goal be to have the survey instrument ready to be administered electronically for spring semester reviews. Vice Ille will try to contact December graduates when the new survey instrument is completed so that all of this academic year’s seniors will be included. The survey will be administered by each sport administrator who will also interview the student-
athlete about how UNC can improve the overall student-athlete experience. The survey data will be accessible to the Athletics Department, FAC, and the Chancellor for review and analysis.

So that FAC does not lose this opportunity to interact with student-athletes, it will meet annually with the Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC), which has representatives from each team (not all seniors) to discuss issues related to the students’ academic experience at UNC and how better to manage the conflicting demands of athletics and academics.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

The next meeting is December 4, 2012.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lissa Broome