

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Faculty Athletics Committee
Minutes of Meeting: February 17, 2014

Present: **Committee Members:** Lissa Broome, Beverly Foster, Paul Friga, Layna Mosley, Andy Perrin, Joy Renner, John Stephens, Kimberly Strom-Gottfried, Deborah Stroman

Athletic Department Personnel: Bubba Cunningham

Other Advisers: Michelle Brown

Guests: Amanda Albright (DTH), Peter Chaflin (Sports Administration Intern), Owen Reynolds (Layna Mosley's son), Jonathan Weiler (Global Studies)

I. Announcements

Professor Joy Renner will be meeting this week with directors of undergraduate studies to talk about departmental contacts with FAC. We discussed holding two four-hour retreats, with the first on May 6 from 12-4 and the second to finalize our report on May 16 (either 12:30 – 4:30 or 1-5).

II. Alignment – Top 3 in Conference and Top 10 in Nation in Academics

Professors Deborah Stroman, Kimberly Strom-Gottfried, John Stephens, and Layna Mosley met with Bubba Cunningham and Vince Ille to discuss the Athletic Department's goal articulated in the strategic plan for each team to be top 3 in the conference and top 10 nationally in academic performance as well as athletic performance. Bubba Cunningham noted that this is a stretch goal and is the first time coaches have had academic goals of this sort, alongside similarly lofty athletic goals. FAC members discussed the different metrics that could be used to measure academic performance. Measures that can be compared from school-to-school include the Academic Performance Rate (APR), the Graduation Success Rate (GSR), and the Federal Graduation Rate (FGR). How should single year rates and the multi-year rates be used? APR focuses on eligibility and retention and is limited to those student-athletes receiving athletically related aid. There might be some value in looking at academic performance by the entire team and in knowing what percentage of the team is included in the APR and GSR calculations. GPA data might give a better picture of academic distinction, but might create an incentive to take easy classes. Committee members agreed that the numbers should be examined on several dimensions – each year and over time; by sport and collectively. Professor Paul Friga also described a hybrid measure for combined athletic and academic performance that he devised while consulting with the athletics department on its strategic plan.

Each FAC member could help develop the data for the teams that they interact with and also help in putting that data in context when it is presented and discussed with FAC. One goal might be to share strategies used by coaches on teams that have enjoyed good academic performance with

all coaches. At some point, we may want to compare ourselves with specific peers, such as other ACC schools or those public schools in a group that Bubba has assembled (includes California, UCLA, Penn State, Illinois, Florida, Virginia, Michigan, and Texas).

Professor Friga said we could use this data to help tell the academic story about student-athletes in a better, more positive way.

III. Readings on Black Student-Athletes

Professor Deborah Stroman will lead this discussion at the beginning of our March meeting. She asked the committee to think about engagement (black men are less engaged on college campus than other students) and accountability (are ASPSA counselors guiding black male student-athletes to eligibility or making the University's resources fully available to all student-athletes no matter their race or ethnicity).

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lissa Broome