



Melissa McDonald, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
Oakland University
Rochester, MI 48309

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Dear Associate Provost Banes-Berceli and the Senate Steering Committee,

I am writing in my role as Chair of the Senate Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (SIAC) to provide an annual report of the committee's activities. I will be continuing to serve as chair of the committee for the upcoming 2025-2026 year, which is the last year of my 5-year appointment as Faculty Athletic Representative.

The committee has functioned well in its advisory role to the athletics department. The landscape of college athletics has undergone rapid changes in the last 5 years, with increased ability to transfer between programs, ability to profit from one's NIL (name, image, likeness), the requirement that DI programs provide student-athletes with a set of "core guarantees," introduction of roster caps, and the option to engage in revenue sharing with student athletes. These changes have the potential to impact student athletes' competitive opportunities and their wellbeing. The committee has participated in a variety of conversations about how to adapt to this new reality and best support our student athletes in the process.

This year, the committee met monthly, for a total of seven meetings. Discussion topics for each are listed below, and meeting minutes for each are appended to this letter.

- Nutrition
- Core Guarantees
- House Settlement
- Communications, Media, Broadcasting
- Title IX, Sexual Violence, Gender Equity
- Academic Performance and Accommodation
- Facilities

I am happy to discuss any of the information provided here, upon request.

Thank you for your time and support,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa McDonald".

Melissa McDonald

SIAC Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024

Members Present: Melissa McDonald, Steve Waterfield, Ashley Stone, Mari Tilashalski, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Hydeen Beverly, Katie Mysen, Evan Dermidoff, Dan Arnold, Lori Hodorek, Courtney Heileman

Guests: Paul Rice, Madison Wyatt

1. Review of SIAC charge and member introductions
2. Updates from committee members, if applicable
 - a. WBB foreign tour
 - b. SA welcome back event – friendly team competitions
 - c. Success at OU workshop for freshmen student-athletes
 - d. Next workshop for sophomores – “Design your life” workshop, in partnership with career life design office on campus
 - e. Sept 30 workshop providing NIL education for each team – How to build your brand and pitch yourself
 - f. SAAC Initiatives for the year
 - i. Increase engagement: Bring a buddy to SAAC meetings, more events like the welcome back event, more send-offs for big games to hype up teams traveling for competition.
 - ii. Student-athlete civic engagement competition
 - g. Horizon League
 - i. Personal Development initiative – Life after sports
 - ii. Community Service – Pushing schools to go to underprivileged areas and get kids involved in athletics. Promoting voter and civic engagement.
 - h. Green bandana project now requires new members to go through a suicide prevention (QPR) training program. Courtney to provide more details as they become available.
3. Guest Introductions:
 - a. Madison Wyatt – Sport Dietician
 1. Background. Previously worked in outpatient eating disorder clinic. Been here for approximately one year. Current position is split between athletics (15hrs a week) and teaching (25hrs)
 2. Majority of time in athletics currently is spent providing clinical sports nutrition (helping SAs gain weight, lose weight, maintain weight, manage diabetes or allergies, address concerns with disordered eating, etc.).
 - a. Provides individualized assistance (when to eat, how much to eat, what to eat)
 - b. Helps SAs build good habits – instill general rules of thumb (e.g., honor hunger, eat every 3-4 hours, etc.)

- c. Can help SAs calculate their individual energy needs
 - 3. Team education (building athletes' plate, food demos, hydration testing)
 - 4. Manages fueling station for SAs
 - 5. Has a new intern helping in her athletics role and is looking to add more opportunities for students to volunteer and gain observational hours.
 - b. Paul Rice – Head Coach Cross Country / Track and Field
 - i. Background: Former SA at OU and Coach for 25+ years
 - ii. Overview of how nutrition is integrated into training
 - 1. Cross-country distance athletes have the biggest challenge when it comes to fueling and energy demands because of the high mileage they undertake. Difficult because athletes come out of HS with low levels of nutrition knowledge or misinformation learned from social media.
 - 2. Greater concern among female distance athletes due to under-fueling. Can result in issues with bone density, amenorrhea, disordered eating / energy deficiency.
 - 3. OU does not have a team dedicated to helping SAs with eating disorders. People have to be assembled when the problem arises with the current staff. There are also not a lot of specialists in our area. Treatment that is available comes at a high cost, as insurance does not fully cover treatment.
 - a. Have relied on the Cedars program for in-patient and out-patient for SAs in the past. Had to help cover costs with OU gift funds and parents paying out of pocket.
 - 4. Some arrive with disordered eating concerns, some arise through the comparison and competition at the DI level.
 - 5. Student-athletes understand the importance of nutrition, but it is no just about ensuring they have the right education and resources
4. Discussion
- a. Do teams have to meet with Madison
 - i. Yes, an initial meeting is now required with all teams. Up to the team after that how frequently she meets with them.
 - b. Is there a digital repository of nutrition resources that SAs can access?
 - i. No, but could be a good resource for SAs, though questionable as to whether SAs will take the time to review and apply to their sport.
 - ii. Perhaps providing training videos for nutrition for new/transfer students who are eager for information.
 - c. Chartwells is current food provider but with RFP open there is the opportunity for change in food service options?
 - d. How are disordered eating concerns identified and treated?

- i. Students come to Madison or are referred based on doctors, coaches, trainers (e.g., recurring stress fractures)
 - ii. There is no current screening procedure. That is a goal, but currently do not likely have the resources necessary to manage all of concerns that may be flagged
- 5. Review data from the end-of-season surveys as it pertains to nutrition and disordered eating concerns [see attachment]
- 6. Future Meetings:
 - a. October 14 @ 12pm
 - b. November 14 @ 12pm
 - c. December 9 @ 12pm

SIAC Meeting Agenda

October 14, 2024

Members Present: Melissa McDonald, Steve Waterfield, Ashley Stone, Mari Tilashalski, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Hydeen Beverly, Katie Mysen, Lori Hodorek, Courtney Heileman, Dan Arnold

Guests: Greg Kampe

1. Updates from committee members, if applicable
 - a. NIL sessions completed
 - b. DEI social media campaign
 - c. Networking and career preparation event next Monday
 - d. House Settlement received preliminary approval. Likely to be approved in the spring of 2025.
 - e. SAAC is holding sponsored games, conference send-offs, events throughout the year including 6 community service events for Fall semester. Social media team spear-heading staff appreciation/thank you efforts
2. Guest Introductions:
 - a. Greg Kampe – Head Coach Men’s Basketball
 - i. Background
 1. 41st year at OU
 - ii. Coaching philosophy
 1. Used to have a my-way or the highway kind of mentality when he first started coaching. That’s what SAs wanted and were accustomed to (e.g., order, discipline). But SAs have changed over the years. If you asked a SA 20 years ago to jump, they’d ask how high, 10 years ago they’d agree but ask you why. Now, they’ll say sure, but how much will you pay me. In the future, they’ll say, I’d like to, but it’s not in my contract.
 2. Much more individualism now. The respect for the team and authority have declined, so he has to find a way to earn that respect, without being a dictator, and teach them to appreciate that life is a team sport.
 - iii. Perspective on NCAA changes
 1. There is a fear of being left out, especially among mid-major schools, as the change is being directed by larger schools. Could mean fewer opportunities for staff and student-athletes.
 2. Last year’s NCAA March Madness Tournament showed the importance and value of the mid-major leagues with Oakland beating Kentucky.
3. Overview of what led to the core guarantees requirement

- a. Transformation Committee was formed 3 years ago in an attempt to head-off legal challenges, by re-thinking SA experience and benefits. There were mandatory benefits provided to SAs at autonomy schools, but not other schools. The thought was to loop all DI schools in on those requirements and benefits. Most changes went through in August of 2024, a few others will go in effect in August of 2025
4. What universities are obliged to adhere to the core guarantees?
 - a. All Division I programs – or DII/DIII with a Division I sport
5. What are the core guarantees?
 - a. Pay for degree completion. Applies to SAs who receive full scholarships (headcount sports or equivalency sport with full scholarship). If they leave without graduating, they can return to complete their degree within 10 years, and receiving the funding to do so.
 - b. OU provided insurance to SAs for two years post injury, now the requirement is for 2 years post-graduation, transfer, or after the exhaustion of eligibility.
 - c. Provide SA and coach education on: Transfer requirements, mental health training, nutrition, strength and conditioning, NIL, financial literacy, career prep, DEIB, sexual violence. (OU had been doing all of this already)
 - d. Scholarships were previously written on a year by year basis, and could be cancelled more easily. Now they are guaranteed through eligibility or until completion of degree, even if they quit on day 1. Can still be cancelled for certain reasons, e.g., committing a crime, becoming academically ineligible (some caveats). Also applies to 4-year transfers. Aimed at trying to reduce 4 year transfers for anti-trust reasons. Note that students who enter the transfer portal and don't place somewhere can stay at their current school and retain the scholarship.
6. Are there any transparency requirements to inform SAs of these benefits?
 - a. SAs are notified of their options when they consider quitting the team or entering the transfer portal and are advised by coaches/compliance/etc.
7. Are SAs aware of these changes?
 - a. Currently, SAs are relatively unaware of many of the changes. However, smaller/Olympic sports, such as swim and dive, are concerned that their programs may be cut in the future to save money.
8. What other benefits are there to student-athletes under this model?
 - a. Greater flexibility in providing for the student-athlete experience, e.g., we are now able to provide entertainment to teams (e.g., go-karts, movies, etc.) and boosters can now buy team meals at a restaurant.
9. Are there any negative impacts to student-athletes, athletics, the university, etc. expected?
 - a. The change in roster numbers. A SA recruited by Power 5 may have thought they had a spot on the team, but now may not with a reduced roster limit. Following this transition, there will also likely be fewer opportunities for SAs because of fewer roster spots or fewer sports.

- b. Difficult for smaller departments to provide the full range of benefits, meaning they may need to cut sports.
 - c. Concerns about Title IX.
 - d. Quality of the education and training provided. In attempts to save money, some programs may outsource the training, resulting in less face-to-face and tailored content for student-athletes
- 10. What are the enforcement mechanisms for the core guarantees, how often will implementation be confirmed/audited, how effective are those mechanisms likely to be?
 - a. Attestation requirement by AD or president. If you attested and did not actually meet the requirement, then it would be a violation.
 - b. Very unlikely to be audited
 - c. Programs have to meet requirements to be Division I, so could lose that status or be put on probation.
- 11. What is the current status of the implementation of the core guarantees at OU?
 - a. Coaches training – Need to be educated on all of the same areas as SAs, and/or where to get those resources (required to be in place by Aug 2025)
 - b. Senior administrator whose primary responsibilities are DEI – will be hiring a senior staff member to fulfill that role (required to be in place by Aug 2025)
- 12. Do you foresee changes in this model in the future?
 - a. In the future, the benefits may be specified in a contract.
 - b. House settlement might give rise to more legal challenges which could change the benefits.
- 13. Future Meetings:
 - a. November 14 @ 12pm House Settlement/Finances
 - b. December 9 @ 12pm Communications, Creative/Emerging Media, Broadcast

SIAC Meeting Agenda

November 14, 2024

In attendance: Melissa McDonald, Steve Waterfield, Ashley Stone, Terry Dibble, Evan Dermidoff, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Mari Tilashalski, Hydeem Beverly, Katie Mysen

Guest: John Hitchings

1. Updates from committee members, if applicable
 - a. Signing Day is today
 - b. Career prep workshop Oct 21st. SAs asked for it to happen again, going to do mock interviews (7-8:30pm Monday February 10th)
 - c. Life after sports workshop
 - d. Friendsgiving
 - e. MSOC playing in semifinals
 - f. Military appreciation game at MBB and WBB games
 - g. Good attendance at SAAC meetings. Volunteer events include adopt a family, OU Cares Christmas, Moon Beams for Sweet Dreams outside Beaumont Troy children's hospital (light display outside), Mitten Toss, Movie night (Twisters)
2. Guest Introduction:
 - a. John Hitchings – Associate Athletic Director for Internal Operations
 - i. Background: Worked 8 years at UD Mercy, handled day to day business operations, been here since October of 2021. Majority of job is to create and monitor budget of athletic department.
3. Overview of the lawsuits that prompted the NCAA settlement (House v. NCAA, Hubbard v. NCAA, and Carter v. NCAA). Defendants are Power 4. Expected to be approved in January. There will be a period of rebuttal. Expected to go into effect in April.
4. Review of the Proposed Settlement:
 - a. Past Damages Relief: Even though defendants are Power 4 institutions, the damages will apply to all Division I institutions. Will have to withhold money to institutions to pay for this (2.8 billion).
 - i. Reducing contributions to division schools by 31%, two are not being reduced (SA opportunity fund, and special assistance fund). Reduction of 250,000 annually for 10 years. We lost the second most in the HL (average in 211k). Vast majority of damages to Power 5 MBB and FB SAs.
 - ii. Postcards sent to SAs with information about how to see how much money they would get from the settlement.
 - iii. Settlement value determined on the basis of sport, school, play time, position, etc.
 - iv. OU SAs who want to enter the settlement have to contact attorneys for the settlement defendant

- v. Institutions that don't have football or who are not in Power 5 are footing the bill for other institutions.
- b. Injunctive Relief (future revenue sharing)
 - i. Institutions must opt-in to the settlement. OU will opt-in, most HL schools will opt-in, most comparable/peer conferences will opt-in.
 - ii. Power 4 is required to revenue share. Others can choose to. How will money be distributed? Market based (mostly football) or equity based (title IX). We don't expect that OU will engage in this.
 - iii. Permissible for universities to do direct NIL deals with SAs – paying them for their NIL.
 - iv. How to determine market value for starting quarterback at Power 5 university? NCAA working with Deloitte to create a system for determining market value for various sports/roles. All deals over \$600 would be submitted to a clearing house to determine permissibility (whether it is above market value).
 - v. NCAA has tried to reign in influence of boosters/collectives. Judge said that they cannot prevent them from offering NIL. Revised settlement is now less forceful against NIL collectives. Collectives are not subject to Title IX.
- c. Elimination of prohibition on compensation of SAs (outside of grants-in-aid and compensation and benefits tied to educational expenses)
- d. Removal of Division I scholarship limits (number and value) but implementation of roster limits
 - i. Swim and Dive has a roster limit of 30, could give all a full scholarship.
 - ii. Have to also comply with Title IX
 - iii. Students at Power 4 institutions had offers rescinded because of roster limits.
 - iv. Unanswered questions: Can you have more than the roster limit at any point preceding first competition. Can you have reserve players to account for injury.
- e. Any money provided to SAs (e.g., cost of attendance, Allston benefits) go toward the cap.
- f. Opt-in. Must pay back-damages regardless. Opting in will make you more attractive for recruitment – closer status to Power 4. If Power 4 breaks away, they would be more likely to coat-tail universities that opt-in. Want to be able to provide more opportunities for NIL to student-athletes.
- 5. Should Title IX legally apply to the settlement damages and injunctive relief? How is Title IX expected to influence the settlement (i.e., estimated that 80-90% of back-pay would go to male SAs)?
 - a. Unlikely to impact past damages, most likely to impact revenue sharing.
- 6. Of the 2.8 billion in past damages relief, Division I conferences outside of the Power Five will be expected to pay approximately \$960 million.
 - a. How will this impact mid-major conferences?
 - b. Why wasn't the settlement put to a membership vote?

7. What financial impact will the settlement have on OU athletics and/or the broader university?
 - a. To create a budget without impact to SAs we have to create more revenue, such as by increasing venue rentals, concessions, ticket sales, etc. Moving into a practice facility for MBB and WBB will open more opportunities for rental of O'Rena.
 - b. Reduce expenditures. Hiring stall/freeze. Reduce athletic scholarships. Asking university for help.
 - c. Some expenses are non-negotiable (e.g., championships for MBB last year 385k). Officiating expenses are going up this year. Pre- and Post-season housing (e.g., 95k). Meals. Student-athlete secondary insurance.
 - d. Teams may need to fundraise more.
8. What impact will the settlement have on non-revenue sports / Olympic sports at OU, and at the mid-major level?
 - a. Pulling of scholarships for Olympic sports, limitations on travel, reducing roster below limit.
9. Future Meetings:
 - a. December 9 @ 12pm Communications, Creative/Emerging Media, Broadcast

SIAC Meeting Minutes

December 9th, 2024

In attendance: Melissa McDonald, Steve Waterfield, Ashley Stone, Terry Dibble, Lori Hodorek, Evan Dermidoff, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Mari Tilashalski

Guests: John Hitchings, Clarence Round, Natalie Longroy, Jordan Nelson, Michael Reedy

1. Updates from committee members, if applicable
 - a. SAAC movie night: Twisters
 - b. MSD and WSD took second place at Zippy. Heading to FL in a week. HL Championships 2 months away.
 - c. SAAC Online meeting Dec 1st
2. Guest Introductions:
 - a. John Hitchings: Associate Athletic Director for Internal Operations
 - b. Clarence Round: Coordinator, Creative and Emerging Media
 - c. Natalie Longroy: Coordinator of Video Content Services
 - d. Jordan Nelson: Coordinator of Athletic Communications
 - e. Michael Reedy: Coordinator of Athletic Communications
3. Communication
 - a. What are the primary responsibilities undertaken in this area?
 - i. Michael and Jordan split the 19 sports, they handle everything on the website: game previews, recaps, press releases. Also media interactions, people who want to come to games/talk to players, game coverage, working with stats, taking stats, live tweeting, game-day graphics, nominating SAs for awards (e.g., HL player of the year/week), Hall of Honor, Black and Gold Awards, and working with CJ and Nat to assist with social media.
 - b. What (are there any) major changes have occurred in the last 2-3 years?
 - i. Things were previously website focused, but now social media is the main source of connection for people. Twitter/X and Instagram are the most utilized – It is easier to embed links on Twitter..
 - c. What are some recent highlights/accomplishments?
 - i. March Madness. Awake 24hrs working night and day. Scheduled and held over 35 interviews the day after MBB won against Kentucky.
 - d. What are the biggest challenges you face in this area?
 - i. Resource base (e.g., stat laptop for baseball, personnel). Can't travel to away games with staffing levels. Try to provide preference for big events (breaking school record). Rely on interns to help provide coverage.
 - e. What changes do you foresee coming in the future?
 - i. Shorter and punchier content on the website (e.g., game previews).
 - ii. Using analytics to increase efficiency
 - f. Budget?
 - i. Each media/communication area has a separate budget within athletics.
4. Creative/Emerging Media

- a. What are the primary responsibilities undertaken in this area?
 - i. Graphic design and photography. Staff present at most games taking photos, getting them to SIDs for game-day social media, coming up with ideas for branding athletes at their media day.
 - ii. Video content, video board in O'rena, hype videos, highlight reels, etc.
 - iii. Video draws in more views than photos or text.
- b. What (are there any) major changes have occurred in the last 2-3 years?
 - i. Switch from LED to strobe lighting
 - ii. 3rd year of having a digital archive (smug mug) for photo and video. Will keep building the archive. SAs don't have access to it, but they can access their content via Opendorse.
- c. What are some recent highlights/accomplishments?
 - i. March Madness – Men's Instagram account up to 25k followers, second most followed account in HL. OUs most followed account. Reaches 100k to 500k likes, 10-20 million in views.
 - ii. Doing more collaborations with athletes on Instagram.
 - iii. Can do special photoshoots thanks to shift to strobe photography (night photos, colored lighting).
 - iv. Adding in sponsorship collaborations to posts.
 - v. Have had more interns, can cover more angles in video footage
 - vi. Earned media value during march madness was almost a million dollars.
 - vii. Often the "Non-sport stuff" that gets the most attention (e.g., Swim and Dive team members shaving their heads at a basketball game).
- d. What are the biggest challenges you face in this area?
 - i. Resources – having proper gear, maintaining intern group (mostly OU interns).
- e. What changes do you foresee coming in the future?
 - i. Bigger presence in social media, quicker turn-around on content. Using cellphones to capture more content and post more quickly - rather than using a pro-camera.
 - ii. Shift of platforms. Bluesky is becoming more popular, but college athletics aren't dominant on it yet. May need to make that jump eventually.
 - iii. Collaborations with news outlets
 - iv. Earned media value, during march madness almost a million dollars. Non-sport stuff.

5. Broadcast Media

- a. What are the primary responsibilities undertaken in this area?
 - i. Oversee broadcast production, such as making sure we have talent (play by play and color).
- b. What (are there any) major changes have occurred in the last 2-3 years?
 - i. Have a new partnership with media group, broadcasting company, Premier Media Group. Used to hire free-lancers who worked in this

region, so we were competing with professional teams to staff games. Now we always have someone who can staff games. They provide some equipment. We recently used funds from the HL to purchase new cameras, tripods, monitors.

- c. What are some recent highlights/accomplishments?
 - i. Partnership with the Premier Media Group founded by Jonathan Turner who was a play-by-play announcer for OU. Wants to work with all schools in the HL.
 - ii. Can provide remote operated cameras (avoids using cameras in bad weather, or when people aren't available to run them). Very easy to set-up.
 - iii. Broadcasts have improved
- d. What are the biggest challenges you face in this area?
 - i. Working with Premier Media Group to figure out what's possible.
 - ii. Every sport wants their games to be broadcasted, but there are limited resources, so have to balance across seasons/sports. Ultimate goal is to broadcast every home HL event on ESPN+
- e. What changes do you foresee coming in the future?
 - i. Increasing broadcast of home games.
 - ii. 45 broadcast games is the minimum for HL, we had 52 last year, and we are already on track to outpace that this year.

SIAC Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2025

Present: Melissa McDonald, Steve Waterfield, Ashley Stone, Mari Tilashalski, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Terry Dibble, Hydeen Beverly, Katie Myson, Dan Arnold

Guests: Brian Nelson

1. Updates from committee members, if applicable
2. Guest Introductions
 - a. Brian Nelson, Head Coach Baseball
3. Title IX
 - a. Overview of Title IX and implementation at OU
 - i. Participation opportunities have to match gender distribution on campus
 - ii. Scholarships/athletic aid distribution
 1. Athletic aid has to be distributed based on campus gender proportions
 - iii. Recruitment expenditures:
 1. Departments are given equal money, but teams can fundraise to do more recruitment. MBB spends more on recruitment because of the difficulty of finding high competitive players regionally, and fundraises to do so.
 - iv. Operating expenditures:
 1. Department gives equal money to each sport, but teams use fundraising to spend more.
 - v. Head Coaches
 1. No female coaches for any men's team, nearly have of coaches for women's teams are men. Is there a concerted effort to find more women coaches?
 - a. Goal is to find the best coach in any search, and there is not a good pipeline for women's coaches. Can make more as assistant coach at power 4 than as a head coach here. Even some D2 coaches making more than our DI coaches here.
 - b. Horizon League provided coaches free membership in WeCoach, a program that recruits, retains, and promotes women's coaches.
 - vi. Review of EADA report
 1. Participation and scholarship aid distributed matches proportionality of men and women on campus.
 2. Sports can't show a loss of revenue, but none of our sports make money, so the revenue totals are not accurate.
 - vii. Sexual violence
 1. End-of-season survey data
 2. Student-Athlete Education

- a. All SAs receive yearly sexual violence education
- b. Chad Martinez met with the swim and dive team to address the specific concerns raised in their end-of-season survey, as well as with the coaching staff.

3. Staff Education

- a. [From Jennifer Swiatowy] Staff receive the same Title IX training that the University provides to staff/faculty as it meets the requirements from the NCAA standpoint. We have to take the training prior to July each year so we start in about April or May working with HR to assign to each employee so that we can be sure to capture everyone here and monitor for completion. In addition to the Title IX Training we have twice provided Unconscious Bias all-staff training, and are constantly sending out the University's offerings of trainings to our staff. Several of us also subscribe to the trainings that OUWB provides as those have proven to be essential to our department as well!
- b. We have about 80 full-time employees and easily 100+ part-time, casual and volunteers (full-time, part-time, coaches, assistant coaches, grad assistants, casuals and volunteers) that have to take the Title IX training (Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence). We attest to completion of this training in November of each year.
- c. My role, in addition to the Title IX training is also to assist in any conduct investigations as it pertains to staff. Since I began in this role, I have been involved in three – one stalking complaint, one sexual harassment complaint that came from student athlete evaluations and the most recent swim and dive issue. We don't get many staff issues but I'm always ready to manage those that do come along. We don't take a hands off approach but our initial process is certainly to follow protocols that the University has in place with the Title IX office and if necessary OUPD.

4. Student-athlete perceptions of gender-equity

- a. Review of End-of-season survey data
 - i. Most comments indicate that SAs perceive that MBB is treated better than the other sports.
 - ii. Try to ensure equal media coverage for all sports.
 - 1. There was a big email announcement from Ora when the BB team won their regular season championship (something not seen for our other sports that win)
 - a. That was a university communications decision, not one made by athletics.

- b. Athletics could encourage the university to promote the other sports championships.
- iii. Issues raised in the comments by SAs about MBB getting better travel accommodations (flying instead of driving). This is due to the MBB team getting paid a lot of money to travel to away games, so they have functionally "fundraised" to receive that benefit.

SIAC Meeting Minutes

February 14th, 2025

Present: Steve Waterfield, Mari Tilashalski, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Evan Dermidoff, Dan Arnold, Lori Hodorek, Courtney Heileman

Guests: Chris Stelma, Jenn Dempster

- Committee Member Introductions
- Updates from committee members, if applicable
- Discussion Topic: Academic Performance and Accommodation
 - Guest introductions: Role, background, overview of department/team, primary responsibilities or philosophy as it relates to academic performance.
 - Chris Stelma (Head Coach – Softball)
 - Making sure SAs know where the resources are. Academics are why they are here. They recruit high academic kids. Try to work around their schedules. Support them in their education. Don't need to come to practice if you need to prepare for an exam.
 - Jenn Dempster (Director of Academic Success)
 - Background in education. Former OU SA. Has worked at Oakland for over 30 years. Likes to see our SAs succeed. Uses all available resources across campus to help them grow and be successful.
- Availability and Descriptions of Academic Resources
 - MBB WBB making sure they stay eligible. Meet NCAA requirements. Changing schedules. Work with advisors across campus. Helps work with high risk SAs (below a 2.5). Deals with all issues with Dean of Students (as an advisor to them if they called to their office). Get progress reports, how they can help them improve. Communicates feedback to SA (positive and critical). Manage Grizz hours (study hours). Helping SAs to learn how to study. Trying to set it up so they can also study in the academic support center. Set aside area of SAs specifically, and work for their Grizz hours. Tutoring website can be challenging, got a list of when tutoring is offered for each class and distributed it. Make the resources as accessible as possible.
- Academic Progress Reports
 - 40% to 60% completion once moved online
- Honor Roll/GPA Information and breakdown of majors
- NCAA Eligibility Rules
- Academic Progress Rate (APR), including percentage of ineligible student-athletes, current APR numbers, and APR education
 - 930 needed for post-season competition eligibility
 - 985 needed for financial award
- Review of end-of-season survey data on institutional experiences and support services
- Open Discussion

SIAC Meeting Agenda

April 4th, 2025

In Attendance: Melissa McDonald, Steve Waterfield, Mari Tilashalski, Jordyn Shipps, Aidan Boldt, Hydeen Beverly, Katie Mysen, Lori Hodorek

- Tour of new practice facility: Oakland West Center (1500 University Drive)
- Updates from committee members, if applicable
- Practice facility
 - Rationale, cost, fund sources, revenue expected?
 - HL schools with practice facilities. Greater access to facility for practices. Open O'Rena for volleyball. Able to rent the O'Rena more often for greater revenue. Can do camps here. Chris Reed oversees rental space.
- Partnership between OU Credit Union and O'Rena
 - University has longstanding relationship with credit union. Looking for someone to name the O'Rena. 5 million dollar 10 year deal. Lifesaver post covid. Official sponsor of OU women's athletics. Logo on the court, signage at baseball and softball.
- Status and prioritization of facility projects and fundraising updates?
 - SA development center
 - Locker rooms, expanded training, workout space, nutrition.
 - 20+ million
 - Adding on to existing footprint and reimagining space.
 - More feasible now that the basketball practice facility is set-up on west campus.
 - Potential university plans to create a new rec center on campus, which might open up the current rec center footprint.
 - Indoor golf facility
 - Was going to take the Lepley pool and turn it into indoor (would be 6 million). Nick Pumford organized for \$150,000 created putting and chipping area, and hitting bays. Pavillion at Golf and Learning Center. Can rent it out for lessons.
 - Expansion of Grizz Dome (e.g., hitting tunnels)
 - 22 it was 1.5 million dollar project (now probably 2 million). Current lessees of the dome are not interested in softball/baseball. Now they are emphasizing soccer. Not imminent.
 - Enhanced soccer stadium seating
 - \$500,000 – If someone wanted to name the soccer field. Would build into the hill. Better viewing experience, more comfortable seating.
 - Tennis Dome
 - Would provide a lot of rental revenue. Current team travels to practice facility. 6 million dollar project. There is a spot in the master plan near the current dome, and in parking spaces on main and west campus. Could have a private partnership to fund it. Profit of \$150,000 a year.

- Baseball / Softball upgrades (e.g., lighting)
 - Can't host HL championships because we don't have list. \$550-700,00 (baseball) \$280,000-350,000. Naming rights would accomplish the cost. Already host teams on both fields, but would expand access via later games, could do concerts.
- Locker rooms
 - Space constraints
 - Any coach can renovate, but size can't change
 - Soccer, softball, baseball, softball operation center near fields with locker rooms. But would cost 12 million.
- Hot tub
 - May not be able to be repaired. Rec well funded. May need to increase rentals of pool to pay for repairs. Have new pumps, just need to install them, probably in May.
 - Count came in for an inspection, pumps were not up to code, examined hot tub, will have to fix it or drain it.