

2002-2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Senate Athletics Committee

William Macauley, Chair

The Senate Athletics Committee met four times during the past academic year. Bill Keene (School of Education and Human Services), William Cramer (Kresge Library), Sheldon Gordon (Biological Sciences) and Sarah Newton (School of Nursing) served as the faculty representatives. Hank Mittelstaedt (Attorney) served his second year as the external community representative appointed by President Russi. Carmen Etienne (Registrar's Office) served as the AP Assembly representative. The Student Congress representative to the committee was unable to attend any of the meetings this past year, again. When the committee was formed the Athletics Director, Jack Mehl was appointed, ex-officio. Finally, as the Faculty Athletics Representative I was designated the chair of the committee.

The charge to the Senate Athletics Committee is as follows:

1. To advise the Athletics Director and the President on matters related to the administration of the university's athletics programs;
2. To receive timely and regular reports from the Athletics Director and the President on current and proposed plans and policies that affect the athletics programs, including plans and policies on buildings, facilities, budgets, services, academic support and NCAA compliance, and to advise and make recommendations on same;
3. To receive reports and recommendations from other committees and to advise and make recommendations to the Senate and its committees, as needed;
4. To take on additional duties as directed by the Senate Steering Committee; and
5. To report to the Senate at least annually on the status of Oakland University's Intercollegiate Athletics programs.

This year the committee was engaged in NCAA certification, both as a committee and by providing several members of the Steering Committee and various subcommittees for this year long effort. The SAC will again be involved during the site visit by the NCAA in November.

The committee also considered the establishment of mechanisms to review club sports wishing to be considered for varsity status. The final touches for these new procedures will be finalized next year.

The food issue for student athletes seemed to have resolved itself with the new contract with Chartwells. The committee will revisit this topic next year after consulting with the Student Athletics Advisory Committee.

Finally, after detailed review and discussion the committee wrote a letter to President Russi in support of a proposal by the Department of Athletics to improve the Baseball

and Soccer facilities on campus and to launch Men's and Woman's indoor and outdoor track at Oakland. This initiative is possible due to a local businessman's involvement. The proposal was postponed for a year.

A note. In the first two charges to the committee listed above, the committee requests the following change to more accurately reflect the Athletic Directors reporting structure. We ask that the 'Vice President for Finance and Administration' be replaced by 'the President' in numbers one and two above. This reflects the reality of the university's organization for the past several years.

Bill Macauley, Faculty Athletics Representative