University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Athletic Board
2009-2010 Annual Report

Members:

- Ann Snyder (FAC Human Movement Sciences)
- Jennifer Earl Boehm (FAC Human Movement Sciences)
- James Cleary (Alum Rep)
- Dinah Gygi (AS PSOA Advising)
- Mark Keane (FAC Architecture)
- Virginia Stoffel, Chair (FAC Occupational Therapy)
- Frank Wilson (FAC Sociology)
- Festus Obiakor (FAC Exceptional Education)
- Maureen Keyes, Fac Ath Rep (FAC Exceptional Education)
- George Koonce (Dir Athletics)
- Dave Gilbert (Interim Dir Athletics)
- James Hill (Interim VC Student Affairs)
- Steve Mohar (Dir Rec Sports & Facilities)
- Robert Wilson (Student)
- James Babcock (Student)
- Tarah Walsh (Student)
- Alexander Riehle (Student)

Charter:
Functions/Responsibilities:

A1.5 Athletic Board
(1) Membership. Seventeen members as follows: five elected faculty members; one faculty member appointed by the Chancellor to a one-year term; the Faculty Athletic Representative appointed by the Chancellor for a term not to exceed five years; one member of the UWM Alumni Association, appointed by the Chancellor from a list of candidates submitted by the President of the UWM Alumni Association; one elected member of the Academic Staff; four students appointed by the Student Association; and, ex-officio: UWM Director of Athletics or designee, UWM Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or designee, President of the UWM Alumni Association or designee, Director of Recreational Sports & Facilities or designee.

(2) Functions:
  a) Develops and reviews university policies relative to intercollegiate athletics, in conjunction with UWM faculty, administration, students, alumni, and controlling regulations, and oversees the implementation of such policies. Approves for recommendation to the Chancellor the budget for the athletic program.
  b) Recommends to the Chancellor candidates for appointment to the position of Director of Athletics. Approves for recommendation to the Chancellor assignments of personnel to coaching and all other senior athletic administrative positions, consistent with University and State of Wisconsin Personnel practices. Approves for recommendation to the Chancellor motions for retention and nonretention of personnel to all coaching and senior athletic administrative positions.
c) Monitors policies and practices pertaining to equity and nondiscrimination within the Department of Athletics pursuant to NCAA and UWM expectations.

d) Reviews schedules for intercollegiate athletic contests.

e) Oversees the department’s systems for providing student athletes with academic services and monitoring their academic progress. Rules upon questions of athletic eligibility of students under institutional and conference regulations.

f) Implements NCAA and UWM policies concerning athletic scholarships and tuition remissions, and approves the designation of recipients thereof.

g) Recommends to the Chancellor candidates for the position of Faculty Representative for Athletics.

h) Conducts an annual performance review of the Faculty Representative for Athletics, and communicates the results of this review to the Chancellor.

i) Maintains liaison with intercollegiate athletic organizations and conferences, through the Faculty Representative for Athletics.

j) Recommends to the faculty changes in policies that relate to intercollegiate athletics and that appear to be in keeping with the long-term development of the University.

(Document 1137, 3/15/79; UWM Administration approval, 3/20/79)
(Document 1441, 5/7/85; UWM Administration approval, 6/5/85)
(Document 1808, 4/23/92; UWM Administration approval, 4/28/92)
(Editorially revised, 4/26/02)
(Editorially revised, 8/25/06)
(Document 2612, 05/15/08; UWM Administration approval, 05/22/08)
(Editorially revised, 06/13/08)

**Meetings:**

**Semester I**
- Wednesday, September 9, 2009
- Wednesday, October 14, 2009
- Wednesday, November 4, 2009
- Wednesday, December 2, 2009

**Semester II**
- Wednesday, February 3, 2010
- Wednesday, March 3, 2010
- Wednesday, April 14, 2010
- Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Summer as needed
Members of the Board served on the following subcommittees: Steering, Fiscal, Student-Athlete Appeals, Governance and Compliance, Academic Integrity, Equity, Bylaws, Long Term Development, and Personnel.

In July 2009, Dr. Maureen Keyes was re-appointed by Chancellor Santiago as the Faculty Athletics Representative for her third year.

During 2009-2010, the Athletic Board worked with UWM Athletic Director, George Koonce who began his position on April 10, 2009. Kathy Litzau, Associate Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator provided much staff support to the Board and its subcommittees, especially during the hiring period in search for the Associate Athletic Director of Finance and the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Eligibility.

Consistent with recommendations of the NCAA recertification, the implementation of a Board orientation and handbook occurred in September, 2009. Throughout the year a Master Calendar was updated as to the NCAA, Conference and UWM expectations and policies, which guided the work of the Board and its subcommittees as they worked with the Athletic Department staff.

The Board created a policy for Student-Athlete Disciplinary Actions and Appeal Procedures which is now a part of the Student Athlete 2009-2010 Handbook.

The Board was fully represented in the searches which resulted in the hiring of Charlie Gross as Associate Athletic Director of Finance, and Kevin Fitzgerald as Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Eligibility; both started their employment in February, 2010.

In April 2010, the Board recognized Provost Rita Cheng for her years of leadership and NCAA service, especially in her role as the UWM Faculty Athletic Representative for 10 years, during which time UWM was first certified as a Division I program.

The Athletic Board participated in the Celebration of Academic Accomplishments for UWM Student Athletes on Sunday, May 2, 2010 and provided two student athletes with The James Wright Athletic Board Special Recognition Award, Quinn Mongovan (track and field) and Kate Megna (soccer).

Given the resignation of Athletic Director Koonce on June 1, 2010, the Board worked with Interim Athletic Director David Gilbert.

While the Board is pleased to see the number of student athletes whose academic performance is at or above 3.0, they strongly recommend expansion of the Athletic Academic Support staff and services to support students at risk for academic performance, as well as to support overall student athlete well being.

The Board fully supports facilities long range planning (consistent with campus Master Planning) for athletics and were happy to see student support of the $25/semester referendum supporting Athletics, reaffirmed on June 6, 2010 of the UWM Student Association.
• Oversaw annual survey for all Student – Athletes conducted in April 2010 and reviewed responses of the 119 student athletes. Discussed with Athletic Department staff re responding to areas identified for ongoing improvement.

• The Board carefully developed an Athletic Board Policy related to student athletes who may experience scheduling conflicts with athletic competitions and their scheduled classes. Please share with policy with your faculty peers and help to provide awareness of the important role that faculty play in supporting these hard-working student athletes (attached)

• During the 2009-2010 year, the Board met with leaders/coaches/assistant coaches from the following Athletics programs: Pete Corfeld (men’s and women’s cross country, indoor and outdoor track), Michael Moynihan (women’s soccer), Lindsay Vandenberg (women’s volleyball), Sandy Botham (women’s basketball), Leigh Wallace (cheerleading), John Ochsenwald (athletic training) and Chris Whalley (men’s soccer).

Prepared & submitted by:
Dr. Virginia Stoffel, Chair, UWM Athletic Board, 2009-10
STUDENT ATHLETE MISSED CLASS POLICY (Approved by the UWM Athletic Board on October 14, 2009)

Introduction

The University of Wisconsin Milwaukee gained acceptance in NCAA Division I Athletics during the 1990-91 academic year and continues to post impressive athletic results across all sports, including: basketball, indoor and outdoor track and field, soccer, cross country, swimming and diving, men’s baseball, women’s volleyball and women’s tennis. Most notably, UWM’s 300+ population of student-athletes has a record of academic success as evidenced by a cumulative grade point average of greater than 3.0. Members of the faculty and staff remain committed to the academic integrity and ongoing success of its student athletes. Whereas attendance at all class sessions and associated activities is invaluable to the success of all students, the UW- Milwaukee Department of Athletics and the Athletic Board has established the following policy in regard to the scheduling conflicts of its student athletes.

STUDENT ATHLETE MISSED CLASS POLICY

Student athletes must attend all class sessions and complete course requirements according to course syllabi. When scheduling conflicts occur, the following requirements apply:

1. Student athletes cannot be excused from classes to attend practice sessions.

2. Student athletes must submit written information to their instructors including a list of anticipated absences with written verification letters from the Athletics Department during the first ten days of the semester. In addition, student athletes must provide follow-up notification to each professor 48 hours before each contest that affects their class attendance.

3. Student athletes can request to be excused from class attendance no earlier than 5 hours before a regularly scheduled home competition or no more than 30 minutes before the team’s scheduled departure for away competitions. In order to request an excused absence, the student-athlete’s coach must verify the students’ absence in letter format to each instructor, including pertinent details about the competition and the time of departure. While home competitions do not require extensive travel, student athletes are still involved with numerous pre-game activities such as: (a) treatments from athletic trainers and physical therapists, (b) all-team meetings and meals, (c) stretching and warm-up activities, and (d) travel from campus to site of competition. Therefore, the letter will include pertinent details relative to the specific event.

4. Student athletes must follow the regular schedule for final exams, unless competing in NCAA championship events.

5. If a student is excused from course attendance, the student-athlete is still responsible for submitting assignments on time or making alternate arrangements, including missed work, quizzes, labs, tests, and other course requirements.

6. Upon immediate notification that a student absence that meets all requirements is unexcused by faculty or staff, the student-athlete must follow the guidelines for appeals, as written in the course syllabus and posted on the UWM website. See http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/facdocs/1895B.pdf

Student athletes may request guidance from their Athletics Academic Advisor or the Faculty Athletics Representative prior to initiating an appeal.