

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
Athletics Committee
Thursday, December 6, 2018

MINUTES

The Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors met on Thursday, December 6, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 2206 in the Kate and John R. Broderick Dining Commons on the Norfolk campus. Present from the committee were:

Kay A. Kemper, Chair
Yvonne T. Allmond, Vice Chair
Carlton F. Bennett (*ex-officio*)
Lisa B. Smith (*ex-officio*)
R. Bruce Bradley
Larry R. Hill
Alton J. Harris
Wood Selig

Also present were:

President Broderick	Alonzo Brandon
Ross Mugler	Ken Brown
Bob Tata	Velvet Grant
Pam Kirk	Giovanna Genard
Bob Corn	Randale Richmond
Lisa Smith	Ragean Hill
Maurice Slaughter	Earl Nance
Austin Agho	September Sanderlin
Ellen Neufeldt	Eileen Graham
Greg DuBois	

Kay Kemper called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

I. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 14, 2018 MINUTES

Kay Kemper moved to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting and Larry R. Hill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all members present and voting.

II. OVERVIEW OF MEETING

Dr. Wood Selig began the meeting with an overview of the agenda. The following items would be covered:

- a. Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) report given by Miss Kealsie Robles (field hockey student-athlete) and Mr. Mufu Taiwo (football student-athlete)
- b. Sports Medicine Analysis report given by Mr. Scott Johnson, Head Athletic Department Trainer
- c. Women's Volleyball update given by Dr. Wood Selig, Athletic Director
- d. Other General Athletic Updates given by Dr. Selig

III. SAAC REPORT

Dr. Selig introduced the two SAAC Representatives present at today's meeting:

- a. Miss Kealsie Robles, President of SAAC and a senior majoring in Sports Psychology. Miss Robles is a member of the National Field Hockey Team and has made the Dean's List every semester at ODU.
- b. Mr. Mufu Taiwo, Vice President of SAAC and a senior majoring in Information Technology. Mr. Taiwo is a member of the football team and has one more year of eligibility. His post-graduation plan is to pursue a master's degree in Cyber Security.

Miss Robles thanked Mr. Hill for supporting the student-athletes with his investment in the L.R. Hill Sports Complex at ODU, one of the top facilities in the conference. She gave an overview of the structure of SAAC at ODU explaining that there are two representatives from each sport program. The

ODU SAAC has evolved considerably over the past four years and is now arguably at the top of Conference-USA for involvement and effectiveness. Mr. Taiwo added that the National SAAC is comprised of several levels starting at the University and culminating in a national SAAC Committee. There are four committees within the ODU SAAC:

1. Championship Effort Committee
2. Community Outreach Committee
3. Life Skills Committee
4. Golden Monarch Awards Committee

Miss Robles informed the committee that the end of the year awards banquet has been revamped to now be called the “Golden Monarch Awards” and will be run by the student-athletes, instead of by the administration which should serve as a learning opportunity for our SAAC leadership.

Mr. Taiwo and Miss Robles stated together that the main goal of SAAC is for the voices of the student-athletes to be heard. There are two larger meetings during the academic year, one at the beginning of the year at President Broderick’s home to discuss goals for the year, and the second at Athletic Director Selig’s home to discuss results and potential areas for improvement.

The top issues discussed within SAAC:

1. Mental Health
2. Time Management
3. Transfer rules

IV. SPORTS MEDICINE ANALYSIS

Given by Scott Johnson, Head Athletic Trainer

Dr. Selig began the report by referring to the University of Maryland heat exhaustion death of a student-athlete. What are we doing at ODU to prevent such a tragedy?

Mr. Johnson began his report by stating that the health and well-being of student-athletes at ODU are our top priority.

Mr. Johnson then reviewed the organizational structure of the Athletic Training Staff. There are currently eight full time trainers and five graduate assistants who are certified and licensed. Within the next two years, there will no longer be graduate assistants. Additionally, the required degree level for a full time athletic trainer will be increased from a bachelor's to a master's degree by 2022. The plan to replace graduate assistants is to have a staff of 12 full time athletic trainers over the next several years.

Mr. Johnson then reported on outdoor conditions and protocol (policies on heat, cold and lightening). ODU has Thoroguard in place which is a predictor of lightening within 15 miles. The heat policy is reviewed every year with staff, and although cold weather is not as much of a factor in this area, similar steps are taken when there is extreme wind chill as when there is extreme heat (practice indoors).

Mr. Johnson then reported on Medical Clearance and Participation:
All student-athletes receive the following tests:

1. Medical physical exam every year
2. Sickle cell test
3. Sentara cardiac testing (unique to ODU as few schools have this)
4. Mental Health Screening

Mr. Johnson next reported on Concussion Protocol and Traumatic Brain Injury. He reviewed the symptom scale sheet that student-athletes must fill out every day if they have been diagnosed with a concussion. He reviewed the steps taken when a student-athlete sustains a concussion. The physician ultimately determines when the student-athlete is ready to return to class.

Coaches receive annual training on concussion protocol. Each student-athlete is given an NCAA concussion handout which educates them on the causes and symptoms of concussions.

For mid-game injuries, student-athletes are tested on the sidelines with a physician who looks for signs or symptoms of a concussion. There are community doctors who volunteer their time and often travel with the teams. Football is the only team that always has a physician with them when

traveling. When we travel without a team doctor, the home team generally supplies trainers and/or MDs.

Mr. Johnson noted that if coaches disagree with a diagnosis by a doctor or trainer, the final decision always rests with our medical staff. The Athletic Trainers do not report to coaches, they report to athletic administration.

Mr. Johnson then gave an overview of Insurance. He explained that when a student-athlete is injured during a game or practice, and does not have primary insurance, the athletic department covers the expenses with our secondary insurance. Our policy is that student-athletes never pay anything.

Drug Testing was the next topic covered by Mr. Johnson. Drug testing within the athletics department is random across all sports. The NCAA administers the tests. Over 300 student-athletes are tested per year. An outside company randomly selects the student-athletes to be tested. The ODU Drug Testing Policy is a three strike policy:

1. First strike: meet with student athlete and educate them. They are given 10 hours of community service.
2. Second strike: miss 10% of athletic competition
3. Third strike: terminated/removed from the team

According to the outside company used to administer the tests, we have one of the best Drug Testing Policies in the country.

Mental Health Awareness was the last topic covered by Mr. Johnson. The trainers meet with all teams to discuss the subject of mental health. They work with counseling services to assist all student-athletes who are in need of help. Each student is allowed a 10 visit maximum for on campus counseling with exceptions if they need to continue visits.

V. GENERAL UPDATES

Dr. Selig gave a brief update on Women's Volleyball. He informed the committee that Ragean Hill, Senior Woman Administrator is taking the lead on the hiring process of a head coach. She was to attend the Division I Final

Four Women's Volleyball Championship in Minneapolis to speak with interested candidates.

He informed the committee that we are making great strides in APR. Men's sports are well above 930 and Women's sports are even higher. Competitively our teams are also doing well. Fundraising is experiencing a terrific year.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.