

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS ATHLETICS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 16, 2020**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors of Old Dominion University was held on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 11AM. Pursuant to Executive Amendment 28 to HB29 (2020), the Committee met by electronic communication means, without a quorum of committee members physically assembled at one location, to discuss or transact business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Board and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties and responsibilities.

Present from the Committee were:

Kay Kemper, Chair
Carlton F. Bennett
R. Bruce Bradley
Unwana Dabney
Jerri F. Dickeski
Alton J. Harris
Larry R. Hill
Pamela C. Kirk
Yvonne Allmond
Robert Broermann
Ross Mugler
Maurice Slaughter
Lisa Smith
Armistead Williams

Also present were:

John R. Broderick, President
Austin Agho
Alonzo Brandon
Greg DuBois
Eileen Graham
Scott Harrison
Donna Meeks
DeLisha Milton-Jones
Ron Moses
R. Earl Nance
Randale Richmond
September Sanderlin
Don Stansberry

CALL TO ORDER

Kay Kemper called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Ms. Kemper and seconded by Mr. Bennett, the minutes of the Athletics Committee meeting held on December 5, 2019 were approved by roll-call vote (*Aye: Kemper, Allmond, Bennett, Bradley, Broermann, Dabney, Dickeski, Harris, Hill, Kirk, Mugler, Slaughter, Smith, Williams; Nay: None*).

I. DELISHA MILTON-JONES, HEAD COACH OF WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Dr. Wood Selig introduced DeLisha Milton-Jones as Old Dominion University's new Head Coach of Women's Basketball. Coach Milton-Jones was the 1997 SEC Player of the Year and Wade Trophy winner while at Florida, awarded each year to the nation's top female Division I college basketball player. DeLisha is a two time gold medal Olympian and enjoyed a seventeen year professional playing career. She was a successful head coach at Pepperdine University and most recently an assistant coach at Syracuse University.

Coach Milton-Jones thanked the Board of Visitors for their support. She is excited to be at ODU and is looking forward to getting to work and carrying on the winning traditions of ODU Women's Basketball.

II. ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Mr. Randale Richmond presented a review of ODU student-athlete academic success which included updates on the Academic Progress Rate (APR), Graduation Success Rate (GSR), and fall 2019 and spring 2020 academic highlights.

Mr. Richmond presented the following past and present academia:

Goals of the past:

- GOAL I: An exhausted eligibility graduation rate of 95%;
- GOAL II: A 4-year APR score of a 960 or higher for all teams;
- GOAL III: A Graduation Success Rate (GSR) of 85% (top 25% of C-USA).

Present Goals:

- GOAL I: A combined department cumulative GPA of a 3.0;
- GOAL II: A single-year Academic Progress Rate (APR) score of a 985;
- GOAL III: A 4-year APR score of a 960 or higher for all teams;
- GOAL IV: A Graduation Success Rate (GSR) of 85% (top 25% of C-USA).

Mr. Richmond updated the committee on ODU student-athletes' Academic Progress Rate (APR). APR is a 4 year score used to determine accountability for academic progress. To compete in the 2020-21 postseason, teams must achieve a 930 four-year APR. NCAA members chose the 930 standard because that score predicts, on average, a 50 percent graduation rate for a given team. Teams scoring below 930 can face consequences intended to direct additional focus to academics. Those penalties can include athletically related activities and playing-season reductions. For this 4-Year reporting period, 16 of 16 ODU teams have a 4-Year APR score above our department goal of a 960. During the 2018-19 academic year, 7 teams recorded a perfect Single-Year APR Score of 1000, which is the 2nd most perfect single-year score recorded in ODU's history (all-time high is 8 in 2016-17).

The Graduation Success Rate (GSR), like the APR, measures the graduation success of students at a NCAA member institutions. GSR is based on a comparison of the number of students who entered the university in a given year and the number of those who graduated within six years of their initial enrollment. Student-athletes included in this measure are only those who receive financial aid from the university. For the 2013-2014 Cohort, ODU student-athletes posted an 81% Graduation Success Rate (GSR), which places our cohort score above 80% for the 5th year in a row.

Notable Fall 2019 Academic Accomplishments:

- 3.01: Overall Departmental GPA
- 30 student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA
- 61% of student-athletes earned a GPA of 3.0 or greater
- Women's Volleyball earned highest GPA of all ODU women's programs at 3.74
- Baseball earned highest GPA of all ODU men's programs at 3.24

Notable Spring 2020 Academic Accomplishments:

- 3.47: Overall Departmental GPA
- 39 student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA
- 167 student-athletes earned a GPA of 3.4 or greater
- 50% of student-athletes earned a 3.0 or greater
- Women's Tennis earned the highest GPA of all ODU women's programs at 3.82
- Men's Golf earned the highest GPA of all ODU men's programs at 3.7

Dr. Ron Moses made a presentation on the concept of proactive advising. Proactive advising involves intentional contact with students with the goal of developing a caring and beneficial relationship that leads to increased academic motivation and persistence. With this new concept, advisors closely monitor grades during the course of the semester and can sooner assess which student-athletes are academically at risk. A plan can then be developed in the early stages of the semester for improved study skills and building a relationship with the instructor which could increase the probability for academic success. Advisors also may work more closely with instructors to develop a system to

gain feedback on grades, classroom attendance, and any other pertinent information that may identify a student-athlete as at-risk.

Mr. Richmond concluded his report thanking President Broderick for his support of their academic goals and budget.

Dr. Selig congratulated the athletics academic staff and student-athletes on the successful spring semester in spite of the challenges of the abrupt ending to the sport season and quick transition to online learning.

III. CONFERENCE USA COST CONTAINMENT INITIATIVES FOR 2020-21

The shutdown of campus in March and cancellation of the spring sport season due to the COVID-19 pandemic created numerous budget challenges for the athletic department and Conference as whole. As a result, the Conference formed the Future Planning Committee (FPC) where Dr. Selig served as chair. The FPC was tasked with outlining and recommending significant potential savings through a combination of reduction in regular season, conference championships and other league actions to reduce expenses. Dr. Selig reviewed the final recommendations of cost cuts that will be implemented in 2020-21 resulting in a savings of over \$5M for the conference and approximately \$300,000 in savings for ODU athletics.

- Football: Eliminate visiting team band travel party, eliminate select Conference hospitality for Championship game, strongly recommend to eliminate Friday night stay for Conference games only
- Men's and Women's Basketball: Play 18 games in travel partners, play 8-team championship
- Women's Soccer: Play 6 games in division, weekend games played no later than 2:00 pm local time, play 8-team championship
- Men's Soccer: Weekend games played no later than 2:00 pm local time, eliminate championship
- Volleyball: Play 13 games – eliminating last travel partner matchup, play 4-team championship in one day hosted by the highest seed
- Softball: Play 15 games – eliminating cross division opponents, double header Saturday and single game Sunday
- Baseball: Play 24 games – six series in-division with two cross division series
- Cross Country/Track and Field: XC: Reduce squad size limit to 7; Indoor: Reduce squad size limit to 24; Outdoor: Reduce squad size limit to 28, thorough review of schedule options to allow for more efficient championship
- Swimming and Diving: Reduce squad size limit to 24
- Officiating: Decrease officiating fees by 10% for all sports

IV. NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS (NIL) UPDATE

Dr. Selig gave an update on Name, Image and Likeness (NIL). He reported on the first set of recommendations this past April from the task force established by the NCAA to study potential solutions and make recommendations for the membership to consider, study and review. The next 6-9 months will be spent reviewing these recommendations with a goal for a final set of NIL NCAA legislation that would be approved prior to the 2021-22 academic season and implemented during that year.

V. FALL 2020 THOUGHTS

Dr. Selig provided insight on the upcoming fall sport season and how it may proceed. For football, Virginia schools are anticipating a 25-50% capacity in their stadiums. ODU will model similarly and wait to learn what that number will be and what guidelines will be implemented for suites, club level, and concessions. There is no deadline as of yet for the purchase of season tickets.

The Department of Athletics has been developing a reopening plan for the past several months for the return of student-athletes. The plan was reviewed and approved by Rhonda Harris, ODU Chief of Police, Greg DuBois, and Dr. Robert Dunker. In mid-late July, the athletics department will have a better idea of what the fall competition parameters will be.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.