

The Athletics Committee Spring 2025 Meeting – Minutes

Tuesday, 2/11/2025

Meeting Location: Teams

Call to Order 3:15pm

Attendees:

Members Present: Tom Hisiro, Husnu Narman, Andrew Stringfellow, Suzanne Konz, Charles Giangarra, Amanda Capino, Karen McComas, David Steele

Members Absent: Chris Schletter, Boniface Noyongoyo, Rob-Roy Mace, Sarah Mollette,

Appointed Students, Nonvoting Members Not Present: Sage Sigdel

Ex-Officio, Nonvoting Members Present: Christian Spears, Debra Boughton, Beatrice Crane-Banford, Kaylyn Torian, Arlin Vieira

Ex-Officio, Nonvoting Members Not Present: Matt Tidd, Marcie Simms, Lisa Maynard

Senior Associate Athletics Director, Beatrice Crane-Banford began the meeting reviewing the Activity Wheel Document in Athletic Department PowerPoint and also the agenda for the meeting.

Beatrice reported the NCAA now requires a Core Guarantee of Programing Principles which will be attested by the NCAA in November of 2025 for the 2024-25 year.

Christian Spears reported on two All M Capital Projects. The All M Creative Suite used by all areas to create content to promote Student-Athletes and their teams. He also discussed the All M Capital Project involving renovated space in an improved location in Gullickson for the School of Health & Movement Sciences. This change also opens space for coaches and staff near the Practice Facility.

Christian reviewed the Department of Athletics “Plan-On-A Page” and the strategy of focus on Maslow’s Hierarchy and Fan’s First and also working toward the 50/50 goal (generated/institutional) financial model.

He also highlighted the academic success of our Students-Athletes reporting 101 with a 4.0 GPA and all athletics teams at a 3.0 gpa or higher which is amazing. He credited the students, coaches, academic staff, and the leadership from the Provost’s Office for this fantastic achievement.

Christian also reported on Student Athlete recognition for Abby Herring, Women’s Track and XC - SBC nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year, Logan Osburn, Football - SBC Elite Award, Kylee Mastin, Women’s Track and XC - XC Runner of the Year, and Mike Green, Football - SBC Player of Year.

Beatrice Crane-Banford reported 1,570 Hours of Community Service by our Student-Athletes for the Fall 2024. Beatrice also discussed the Title IX Annual Report. Title IX Compliance for participation is being met in Prong Three – Accommodating Interests and Abilities. Marshall may look at adding Beach Volleyball (SBC sponsored sport) and or Acrobatics & Tumbling (an NCAA emerging sport sponsored in Mountain East Conference) at some point.

Dr. Karen McComas discussed her role as the Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR), a position required by the NCAA. This position focuses on Student-Athlete well-being, Academic integrity, and Institutional control. This critical position serves as the “principal point of contact to whom student-athletes can report any actions” and also serves as a bridge between the Student-Athletes, the Athletics Department, and Academics.

Beatrice Crane-Banford highlighted new policies and a communication reporting flow chart for Student-Athlete well-being and new safety guidelines for transporting current and prospective student-athletes.

Christian discussed the House Settlement (House v NCAA) scheduled to be approved in April. Marshall and the entire SBC are choosing to Opt-In which will allow the potential for institutional revenue sharing with student-athletes and make the change from the previous NCAA scholarships limits to new team roster limits. Schools who Opt-In would be able to provide full scholarships if they choose to do so up to the new team roster limits. This change projects to reduce our number of student-athletes by approximately 40 which will create some department savings.

Christian Spears provided Athletic Team Updates, Football - SBC Champions, Men’s Soccer - NCAA Runners Up. He also reported Marshall’s Women’s Swimming and Diving team will join the AAC as an affiliate member in 2025-26 as the Sun Belt Conference will no longer sponsor the sport.

Christian reported new Head Coaches in Football, Tony Gibson and in Volleyball, Heather Stout. Also hired was John Zubek, Associate AD for Compliance.

Q&A

Tom Hisiro asked about the current football transfer portal policy and the challenges this creates. Christian Spears reported that what Marshall went through in December with the Bowl game may create changes in the Transfer Portal as all 134 FBS Head Football Coaches voted for changes at the recent AFCA Meetings. Christian indicated we may also see a reduction in Bowl games due to the expanded CFP format.

Old Business:

Open - None were brought forward before meeting.

Adjourn: 4:18pm

2/17/2025

X David Steele

David Steele

Signed Recording Secretary Signed by: S-1-12-1-3607016424-1164535727-529861046-603004655;/sac0864-1143-4hcb-b69a-4476269ce9ec/

Minutes Read _____ Date _____