Athletic Council Minutes  
February 15, 2008

Members Present: Aaron Burns (ASNMU), Robert Fleming, Jim Gadzinski, Ken Godfrey, Julie Rochester (Chair), Brandon Sager, Steve Specker, Mike Truscott

Members Excused: Jim Anderson, Bridget Berube, Dave Faiella, Amelia (Mimi) Marschall (SAAC), Mike Rotundo, Dennis Stanek, Renxin Yang

Members Absent: Cheryl Teeters, Jon Teichman

Permanent Guest: Chris Greer, Dean of Students

Guests: Dan Elmore, student-athlete representing SAAC for Marschall, and Christine Larson, representing Financial Aid for Rotundo

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by chair Rochester.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of January 25, 2008 Minutes (Sager/Specker)
4. Chair’s Report (Rochester)
   4.1 Committee on Compliance Report – no report.
   4.2 Executive Committee Report – no report.
   4.3 Committee on Sportsmanship Report (Godfrey) – will be scheduling a meeting in April or May.
   4.4 Nomination for NCAA Infractions Committee (Rochester) – Chair Rochester has nominated herself to serve on the committee and will let the AC know if she has been selected.

5. Athletic Director’s Report (Godfrey)
   5.1 Facilities
      5.1.1 Locker Facilities for Cross-Country and Skiing – A meeting with the President will be held soon and one discussion item is the possibility of providing the needed locker room(s).
      5.1.2 PEIF Pool – Although no definitive plan has been developed, the issue of refurbishing/replacing the pool is still under consideration.
      5.1.3 Berry Events Center
         5.1.3.1 Ice Cover Flooring – The flooring used to cover the ice sheet for basketball games is in need of refurbishment or replacement.
         5.1.3.2 Basketball Floor – It appears that the floor will only withstand one more refinishing before it will need to be replaced.
      5.1.4 Superior Dome – A tear in the turf was reported and is being repaired.
   5.2 Budget – Even though revenue for tickets and clubs is down, Godfrey is not planning to raise ticket prices for next year and is looking into possibilities for "family packages."
   5.3 Personnel – Dan Mettlach has been hired to fill the vacant assistant football coach’s position. The selection process for the football Defensive Coordinator is still underway.
   5.4 Sports Update
      5.4.1 Swimming and Diving – Competing this weekend in regional competition in Indiana.
      5.4.2 Basketball – Both women and men host SVSU this Saturday.
      5.4.3 Ice Hockey – Playing at Ohio State this weekend.
      5.4.4 Skiing – Participating in the NCAA Regionals in Minnesota this weekend.
      5.4.5 Indoor Track – At CMU this weekend.
6. **Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Report** (Elmore for Marschall) – Recently completed first meeting of the new year and discussed:

6.1 **Superior Edge** – While the SAAC supports the idea, they didn’t find it practical for student-athletes who have already been at NMU. A concern was that prospective employers have no idea what the Superior Edge entails. They will do their best to entice new student-athletes to participate.

6.2 **Second Annual Athlete Social** – Are looking to repeat an event like last year’s dodge ball activity.

7. **ASNMU Report** (Burns) – no report.

8. **Old Business**

8.1 **Exit Interviews/Survey** (Rochester) – will continue discussion and development of survey tool at the next Executive Committee meeting.

8.2 **Recommendation to President Wong Regarding Single Course Offerings** (Rochester) – The AC agreed to language in the proposal. Rochester will forward to Dr. Wong and Dr. Koch.

8.3 **NCAA Wagering Study** (Rochester) – Both the volleyball and soccer teams (selected by the NCAA to participate) completed the survey. Rochester provided a copy of the survey for AC members to review.

8.4 **NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship Nominees** (Rochester) – One student-athlete will be applying for an award (deadline is March 20th).

9. **New Business**

9.1 **Degree Completion Award Program** (Rochester) – This scholarship may be awarded to athletes after their eligibility has been exhausted and their athletic scholarship has ended. Athletes have been provided with this information through the Athletic Department.

9.2 **Assistant Football Coach/Defensive Coordinator Search** (Godfrey) – see Athletic Director’s Report.

9.3 **NCAA Video – Division II Strategic Positioning/Community Engagement & Division II Public Service Announcements and Feature Stories** (Rochester) – The committee viewed three portions of the NCAA production, “I Chose Division II.” The video speaks to direction in which DII is moving, philosophy, etc.

9.4 **Division II Community Engagement Award** (Rochester) – Handout on the award was provided.

10. **Open Discussion/Good of the Order**

10.1 **Up-Coming Athletic Events** (Godfrey) – see Athletic Director’s Report.

10.2 **Athletic Council at NMU Hockey 2/23** (Rochester) – A head count was taken for tickets. All AC members are invited to attend.

10.3 **Article of Interest – Athletics Recruiting and Academic Values: Enhancing Transparency, Spreading Risk, and Improving Practice** (Rochester) – A link was sent via e-mail to this article.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Next Executive Committee meeting: **Friday, February 29, 2008, 10:00 a.m., 3301 Hedgcock**

Next Athletic Council meeting: **Friday, March 21, 2008, 10:00 a.m., 3301 Hedgcock**

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Gadzinski
Athletic Council Secretary