

ATHLETIC COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

Membership, 2006-2007

Megan Buchanan, Assistant Athletic Director and Senior Women's Administrator
Gail Cummings-Danson, Athletic Director
Michael Ennis-McMillan, Dean of Studies and DOF Representative
Patricia Fehling, Associate Professor of Exercise Science
Steven Frey, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Chair
Josh Lauren '07
Lauren Mosenthal '10
Daniel Nathan, Associate Professor of American Studies
Pat Oles, Dean of Student Affairs
Adrienne Zuerner, Associate Professor of French, Interim NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative

Membership, 2007-2008

Catherine Berheide, Professor of Sociology, NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative
Megan Buchanan, Assistant Athletic Director and Senior Women's Administrator
Gail Cummings-Danson, Athletic Director
Michael Ennis-McMillan, Dean of Studies and DOF Representative
Steven Frey, Associate Professor of Chemistry
Daniel Nathan, Associate Professor of American Studies, Chair
Pat Oles, Dean of Student Affairs
Adrienne Zuerner, Associate Professor of French
Two student representatives yet to be determined

The Athletic Council met 13 times during the 2006-2007 academic year. The primary responsibility of the council is to provide oversight and support for the athletic, fitness, physical activity, and recreation programs on campus. The following is a brief summary of the activities of the council.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, CEPP charged the Athletic Council (AC) with annual evaluation of Physical Activity (PA) instructors and five year review of the PA Program. This charge was made to provide academic oversight of the PA Program that was moved from Academic Affairs to Student Affairs during the restructuring of the administration in the summer of 2005. In response to this charge, AC wrote procedures this past year for conducting these reviews. These procedures were reviewed and approved by FEC. AC will begin to conduct the review of PA instructors during the 2007-2008 academic year and will review the PA program for the first time in 2011-2012.

AC revised its description and operating code this past year in order to reflect the additional duties and to make more explicit its functions. These documents were reviewed by FEC and approved with minor modifications. The new description will appear in the revised Faculty Handbook that will be presented to the faculty during the fall semester.

John Chaplin of Advancement attended an AC meeting on March 19th to report on the Friends of Skidmore Athletics (FOSA) initiative. John spoke about the history of FOSA, the scope of its activities, and fundraising guidelines for the Athletic Program that ensure an equitable distribution of funding.

Cathy DeLorenzo from the Office of Admissions attended an AC meeting on April 2nd to explain Admissions policies regarding student athletes. She spoke in particular about the slotted athlete program that provides a mechanism for the Athletic Program and Admissions to work together in the recruitment of student-athletes. In conjunction with this report, Gail Cummings-Danson presented data comparing slotted athletes with non-slotted athletes, demonstrating that there is no statistical difference in their academic performance.

Michael Ennis-McMillan and Sue Layden, Associate Dean of Student Affairs attended an AC meeting on April 30th to discuss the work that Student Academic Services (SAS) has been doing with student-athletes. During the past year, SAS provided outreach to all first year student-athletes. First year athletes from each team were required to meet with a particular SAS staff member at least once and were invited to make additional appointments if they cared to. Anecdotal information suggests that these meetings were successful in providing students with information about time management and effective studying habits.

Gail Cummings-Danson presented AC with the nominations for the annual Tim Brown Student Athlete Award and the Council determined the student to be honored.

In addition to the work described above, AC received biweekly reports from Gail Cummings-Danson on the Athletic Program including the progress/success of various teams, alumni functions such as the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, policies regarding student-athletes, progress on various capital projects, and facility challenges we face with the decrepit state of the boathouse, increasingly difficult access to indoor tennis courts, and the insufficient size and infrastructure of the indoor riding ring.

Dan Nathan has agreed to chair AC during the 2007-2008 academic year. Adrienne Zuerner was elected to a three-year term and will replace Pat Fehling who finished her three year term this past May. Finally, Kate Berheide will return to AC as the NCAA Faculty Representative this fall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven T. Frey, Chair
September 4, 2007