

Athletic Council Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2025
9:00-10:00 a.m. Williamson Sports Center Conference Room

Athletic Council Members Present: Daniel Peterson (Chair), Kate Berheide, Megan Buchanan (SWA and AAD), Gail Cummings-Danson (AD and AVPSA), David Cohen (ADOOF), Bernardo Ramirez Rios (FAR)

Absent: Mike Dunn (Fall semester replacement for Karen Kellogg)

Student representatives have not yet been determined.

- I. FEC asked all committees to look at their operating codes.
 - a. We decided to cut the membership section since it is redundant
 - b. We decided to update the mission statement to the current one
 - c. We decided to add a statement on the role of the elected faculty members of the committee in the process of reviewing athletic department staff who teach physical activity courses
- II. Updates from Gail
 - a. There was no issue with housing during pre-season for athletes who lived off campus.
 - b. Residential life ran a pilot program this year that allowed incoming athletes to room with an athlete from another team. Gail indicated that most first year athletes opted into the pilot program.
 - c. Coaches have to raise money to cover part of the normal operating costs for the athletic program in addition to spring teams paying for their travel over spring break. The funds raised come from alumni giving, parent giving, and fundraising activities such as Kids Night Out and sports clinics. \$150,000 of the money raised goes back to the general college budget.
 - d. The 430-440 athletes constitute 16 percent of the Skidmore student body.
 - e. While the coaches are on 10-month contracts, they recruit all year round and they have to cover their travel costs out of their teams/budgets.
- III. Update from Bernardo
 - a. Bernardo discussed the proposed SCORES Act, a federal bill that would regulate aspects of intercollegiate athletics, especially name, image, and likeness (NIL) policies.
 - b. After a discussion of the problems athletes can encounter with course scheduling, Bernardo agreed to send an email to chairs and program directors asking them to be conscious of the needs of athletes wherever possible.
- IV. Review of Physical Activity Instructors

- a. Gail provided the names of the three instructors to be evaluated this academic year.
 - b. Daniel will review Amanda Wadsworth's PA courses this fall.
 - c. Kate and Karen will review the other two instructors during the spring semester.
- V. The next Athletic Council meeting is October 20, 2025. The final meeting for the fall semester will be November 17.