Minutes of the Faculty Senate Athletic Committee Meeting
10:15 am November 5, 2004, Football Coaches Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Chair Scott Unruh. Members present were Aaron Estes, Jon McBride, Neil Schnoor, Laure Smith, Janet Steele, and Josh Tolin. Members absent were Bruce Elder, Bob Rycek, Jane Strawhecker, and Nita Unruh.

Scott began the meeting by discussing the portion of the UNK Athletic Manual presented for review (eligibility and transfer eligibility) at the October meeting. There are many forms, some mandated by the NCAA and others unique to the Rocky Mountain Athletic conference and UNK, which must be completed before an athlete is eligible to pick up equipment and begin practice. For 2005 all forms will be required to be completed before athletes will be able to participate. When the manual is completed, these forms will be included so all coaches will have access to the forms. In addition, it is hoped that the forms can be placed on a web site so students can access them. Scott said that his professional society suggests that, for clarity, all language be edited to read athletic trainer and athletic training room. Jon said that freshmen and transfer student athletes must enter with a physical, and proof of insurance is necessary in order to participate in practice. It was suggested that this information be added to the manual as well.

Laure presented a current version of the portion of the manual that will focus on Camps and Clinics and encouraged all committee members to read through this for discussion at next month’s meeting. Specifically, we must improve our monitoring of camps and clinics so as to be in compliance with NCAA rules. A discussion of the effect of camps and clinics on recruiting followed, and rules relating to individual instruction were also discussed.

The committee next discussed the development of a questionnaire to assess the satisfaction of student athletes with the athletic program. The goal is to be able to track a subpopulation of athletes throughout their careers to see how their perceptions of and satisfaction with the program change. Neil suggested that we meet with Jeannie Butler, since her office coordinates assessments and could help us set up the questionnaire. Josh suggested that we put the questionnaire on Blackboard, grouping all athletes together as an organization. Laure thought this was a very good idea since it would give her a tool to post information for all student athletes.

Laure handed out the Official 2004 NCAA Graduation Rates Report for UNK, noting that the rate is holding steady. A discussion of interpretation of the report followed. In particular, clarification of how the rates are calculated is necessary if the rates are reported to the general public.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am. The next meeting is scheduled for 10:15 am Friday, December 10 in the Zikmund Conference Room.