Faculty Senate Athletic Committee Minutes, October 3, 2008

Cliff Summar, representing the Faculty Senate and also replacing Sam Lopez on the committee, read the committee’s charge and then oversaw the election of officers. Nita nominated Scott for chair (Jane second) and Scott nominated Janet for secretary (Jane second). Both elections were unanimous.

Chair Scott Unruh officially called the meeting to order at 10:22 am. Members in attendance were Jaime Lundgren, Jon McBride, Jane Strawhecker, Janet Steele, Cliff Summar and Nita Unruh. Members absent were Ken Messersmith and Pat Seaton. In order to accommodate the schedules of those who were unable to attend, it was decided that future meetings will be held at 1:00 on the first Tuesday of the month this semester.

Scott reported that graduate student Mandy Bennett is learning to use the Opinio program and will access last year’s surveys for the committee to review as well as activate the surveys for this academic year.

Jaime reported that the Athletic Department’s Independent Self-Study (ISS) was successfully submitted despite being due the day in May that Kearney was hit by a tornado. Areas of non-compliance, such as job descriptions, will be addressed. The next ISS is due in 5 years.

The next item discussed was the potential development of a standard method by which coaches should notify faculty of travel rosters and departure times for out of town events. Faculty members on the committee indicated they appreciated both a list of travel dates at the start of the semester plus an e-mail reminder with travel roster a day or two prior to the event. Jon and Jaime said they would work with the coaches and Eve Green to devise a standard method for notification. Everyone agreed that it was still the responsibility of the student-athlete to speak to his or her instructors regarding missed assignments and exams.

Scott said he will be attending a Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) meeting in San Diego in December, and Jon, Jaime, and Scott will attend an NCAA meeting in January.

In new business, Jaime reported that the committee may see more appeals from athletes regarding transfer within the conference now that the RMAC has changed its rules for transferring within the conference. Students must still be released from their current scholarship in order to be eligible to participate immediately and must meet other eligibility requirements such as GPA.

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 am. The next meeting is planned for 1:00 pm on Tuesday, November 4 in the Zikmund Conference Room.