Faculty Senate Athletic Committee Minutes 12/10/10

Members in attendance were Kyle Luthans, Jane Strawhecker, Duane Bierman, Nita Unruh, Amber Messersmith, (GA’s for Athletic Compliance: Laura Gormley & Rachel Page) and Jaime Lundgren. Jon McBride was absent.

Chair Scott Unruh officially called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. After committee member introductions, including graduate assistants working in the athletic office, Jane Strawhecker was elected to serve as committee secretary.

Scott began the meeting by updating the members on the role of the Athletic Committee and his Faculty Athletic Rep.), position. This year’s NCAA convention will be held in San Antonio in January and Scott, Jamie, and Chancellor Kristensen will represent UNK.

Jaime provided an update on NCAA legislation. The emphasis is on the non-championship section. At the NCAA convention, representatives will be voting on the second phase of the life in the balance legislation. Jaime shared that during the winter break between December 20-26, there is to be no countable athletic-related activity taking place. Another change in legislation, effective August 1, 2010, requires all head coaches to be certified in CPR.

Scott discussed goals for the year, including the Student-Athlete Satisfaction survey. The survey was moved to the Qualtrics® system and was recently sent out to seniors finishing a fall sports career; however, the return rate is a concern. The committee brainstormed alternatives including a face-to-face Senior Exit interview with an assigned member from our Athletic Committee. freshman could complete the survey during the required Compliance Meeting. We currently don’t have a large enough sample size and have not been able to follow a group of student-athletes from freshman-senior year to analyze the results. Idea were discussed to improve response rate, including having the survey sent by someone on the FS Athletic Committee who is not a member of the athletic department or by having a member of the committee discuss the importance of the survey briefly at a team practice. Scott said several student-athletes are still under the impression answers could be traced back to them and there could be repercussions. Cliff asked if the survey is for in-house use only and Jon said that it was (for now, at least).

Scott surveyed the committee to determine our opinions on assessment requirements for Athletics that parallel requirements for other academic programs. We discussed some reasons to initiate this process and Jaime shared what assessments are already in place / available for public viewing. Nita recommended that a way to begin would be to tie outcomes to the Athletic Department’s mission.

Last, Jaime brought up the need to review the policy for missed classes due to athletic events. More so than past semesters, there have been problems. The committee discussed the need to inform student athletes of the policy at the Compliance Meeting and also to continue conversations with Dr. Bicak to ensure that the most recent policy is being used. Jaime also announced that on Dec. 14-15 she will be in attendance at the MIAA meeting.

Our committee meeting concluded at 10:40 am. Members are to email Scott with days/times for second semester, ensuring a window of time that is at least 1.5 hours.

Minutes submitted by Jane Strawhecker.