Committee on Athletics

April 28, 2011 – 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Bickerstaff Academic Center

**Unapproved Minutes**

**Present:** Joanie Conley, Vic Cegles, Sharon Guthrie, Simon Kim, Manuel Loureiro, Austin Metoyer, Frank Murgolo, Brenda Vogel, Jun Yan, Rita Hayes, Michael Whitlow, Norma Kolb

**Absent:** Ikaweba Bunting, Sarah Arroyo, Gayle Fenton, Karen Hakim-Butt, Isai Baldez, Brittany Fastuca, Justin Lawson, Bryce Weiglin, Alison Wrynn , Andy Vaca, Sharon Taylor, Sandra Shirley

**Guest:** Chris Jolly, Learning Specialist, Bickerstaff Center

1. Approval of Agenda
* The meeting was called to order at 12:40pm
* The agenda was approved with no changes
1. Approval of Minutes from March 24th meeting
* The minutes were approved with no changes
1. Athletic Director’s Report: Vic Cegles, Athletics Director
* Vic reported on the current status of all teams who are currently competing
* Athletics honored 220 academic all stars at an event in April
* Jewels of the night is May 14
* A discussion ensued about the status of the capital campaign and how Athletics might use those funds. Some of the priorities Vic listed include: locker rooms for soccer and softball, moving into the former Frog’s location, and expanding the BAC.
* Vic discussed the impact of the University’s new *Excellence Fee* on athletics.
1. Nomination of Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) to Academic Senate for second term
* Brenda outlined the process for reappointing her to a second term as FAR
* President Alexander indicated last May that he would like her to continue for another four year term. She was under the impression, however, that her reappointment did not need to be brought back through the COA and the Senate. Upon review of the policy, however, she realized she was in error and brought the matter before the COA.
* Vic Cegles spoke in favor of Brenda’s re-nomination.
* Joanie moved and Jun seconded the motion to re-nominate Brenda to the position of FAR. The vote was unanimous.
1. Review of Student Athlete Academics: Chris Jolly, Learning Specialist, Bickerstaff Center
* Chris provided a history of the Bickerstaff Academic Center (BAC) and an overview of their services.
* The BAC offers programs in two general areas, advising and academic support. Advising includes ensuring that students enroll in the classes necessary to earn their degree and to follow the complex NCAA academic requirements. Secondly, the BAC offers several academic support services including tutoring, study skills workshops, study hall, a freshman transitions program, and mentoring programs.
* Chris also provided some data on the number of students the BAC serves:
	+ There are roughly 350 student athletes per year
	+ Last year, there were 3248 advising contacts, 20,000 study hall visits, 1300 tutoring contacts in the BAC in addition to referrals to other units, 432 mentor contacts, and over 400 academic specialist drop-in contacts.
* Chris then provided the group with an overview and demonstration of GradesFirst, the on-line early-warning and communication system used by BAC.
* The system allows efficient communication between students, advisors, coaches, mentors and sport supervisors. It also allows BAC counselors to issue electronic grade requests to faculty in order to monitor student athlete academic progress.
1. Other business
* Members were reminded that starting in fall 2011 semester, meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of October, November, February, March and April from 3-4:30 in BH 391. Those specific dates for next academic year are October 19, November 16, February 15, March 21, and April 18.
* Rita shared with the group the recent success of our club roller hockey team. They won the national championship.