

Board of Trustees Committee on Athletic Meeting Report

Thursday, September 18, 2014

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Turner Conference Room Manchester Center, Wake Forest University

Associate Professor Nina Lucas met with the Board of Trustees Committee on Athletics on September 18, 2014. The meeting was held in the Turner Conference Room Manchester Center Wake Forest University. Vice-Chair Dr. Hopkins presided over the meeting. The agenda included the introduction NCAA Governance, Finances, Facilities, Strategic Plan, Academic Report, and Competitive Report. The Academic, Competitive and Facility highlights are listed below. The majority of the meeting Lucas attended focused Athletics analyzing the potential financial impact of recent changes in the college athletics landscape as a result of the O'Bannon ruling along with the NCAA granting the "Power 5" conferences more autonomy. There were three broad categories of possible financial pressures on WF Athletics: 1) recent developments; 2) National Factors and 3) Local Environmental Factors.

1) Recent Developments include

- a) The NCAA Legislative Changes that will aid in the health and welfare of Student Athletes – one of the most visible changes deals with the ability to provide food and snacks to Student Athletes described as “unlimited meals”; the NCAA has also made changes over the years about off season training rules. This has led to many schools having their athletes attend all possible sessions of school i.e. both summer sessions.
- b) Power Conference Autonomy
- c) Unionization at Northwestern University
- d) Ed O’Bannon vs. NCAA Case Ruling

2) National Factors include

- a) Ticket Sales and Contribution Impact from Television Contracts and Technology
- b) Creation of Conference Television Networks
- c) Current Generation of Students
- d) Compensation
- e) Game Guarantees

3) Local Environmental include

- a) Geographical Composition of Student Population
- b) Student Attendance at Games
- c) University Financial Condition
- d) Benefits Costs
- e) ACC Expansion
- f) Facilities Needs
- g) Compensation
- h) Deferred Maintenance Reserve
- i) Local Economy

Academic highlights:

1. Dean's Cup winners for 2013-2014 (Highest team GPA for the year): Men's Cross Country and Women's Golf.
2. At the end of summer school, all student-athletes certified eligible to compete for the fall.
3. Ten (10) student-athletes had a perfect 4.0 GPA in spring 2014 semester.
4. 2013-2014 was one of our best overall academic years.

Competitive highlights:

1. Wake Forest landed the No. 1 ranked men's tennis recruit in the nation when Noah Rubin signed a National Letter of Intent. Rubin won the Wimbledon Juniors Tournament as well as the USTA Boys National Championship in both singles and doubles. He is the first reigning Wimbledon juniors champion to enter college since 1981. He also competed in the US Open singles and doubles.
2. Men's golf recruit Will Zalatoris won the USGA US Junior Amateur Championship this summer. Zalatoris was the Texas state high school individual champion in 2012 and 2013 and was an Academic All-State selection as well.
3. Three (3) fall Olympic sports opened the season in the national rankings. Men's soccer is ranked 11th in the country and field hockey is also ranked 11th. The women's soccer team is ranked 21st to start the season.

Facility highlights:

1. McCreary Field House currently under construction.
2. Golf House nearing fund raising goal and construction should start this fall.
3. The Coliseum Master Facility Plan has begun and will provide the long term vision for the facility.