University Athletic Committee  
January 20, 2005  
Bowman Room, Jamerson Center

Members Present: Megan Evans, Rosemary Goss, Frank Gwazdauskas, Larry Killough, Art Keown, Steve McMullin, Terry Swecker, Joe Tront, Bevlee Watford, Jim Weaver.

Members Absent: Mike Borzilleri, Lanny Cross, David Ford, Kayenda Johnson, Cathy Lally, Lu Merritt, Jerry Niles, Dixie Watts Reaves, Hilda Reynolds, Jay Reynolds, Jesse Richardson, Dwight Shelton, Larry Taylor, Norrine Bailey Spencer.

Representatives: Bill Campion for Lanny Cross, Mike Ellerbrock for Dixie Watts Reaves, Melinda West for Dwight Shelton.

Guest Present: Chris Helms, Director Student Athlete Academic Support Services, Jon Jaudon, Associate Athletic Director, Administration, Sharon McCloskey, Senior Associate Athletic Director, Senior Women’s Administrator.

Recorder: Joyce Wynn, Athletic Department

Joe Tront, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM. The minutes of December 15, 2004 were approved. The agenda was accepted as proposed.

Announcements

No meeting in February.

Business

NCAA Compliance & Oversight Subcommittee (Terry Swecker)
Committee is pleased with the activities going on within Athletics to stay compliant with NCAA. Insuring compliance with NCAA regulations is a major task, as indicated by the effort required of athletic and non-athletic personnel. It is further complicated by the fact that the NCAA rules are constantly in a state of change. A number of proposals currently being considered, if adopted will make additional changes to scholarship limits, eligibility, and other areas.

For these reasons it is imperative that constant attention and resources be devoted to compliance activities at Virginia Tech. At the present time, we believe concerned personnel are doing what is necessary to minimize the possibility of serious violations taking place.

Recommendations for increased staffing in compliance.
Compliance requires coordination between multiple areas of the university outside of athletics as well as coordination of the rules for the NCAA, university, and commonwealth. Institutional memory from experience is key to completing the present task in a timely manner. As such, the predictable loss of several key individuals through retirement, new jobs, or other circumstances
could severely hamper compliance efforts for weeks to months. Addition of personnel within and outside athletics would lessen the risk of compliance violations when key personnel leave.

**Increased education of peripheral groups**
As stated above, the present compliance group does a commendable job on training key parties within athletics (primarily coaches and athletes) However, there are many peripheral groups within athletics such as marketing, medicine, psychology, etc, and outside of athletics such as the Hokie Club and donors who interact with coaches or athletes on a frequent basis. Educational efforts should be enhanced for peripheral groups through websites or additional personnel. It is unclear whether the NCAA or university may have authority over activities of all of these groups. However, suspected violations by these parties certainly gain the interest of the media and the potential impression of lack of institutional oversight.

The annual report or the NCAA Rules Compliance & Oversight Committee was accepted by the UAC and will be forwarded on the President.

**The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA)** (Joe Tront)
Handout
The Faculty Senate asked the UAC to review and give them a statement on this organization.

**Motion:**
This committee does not believe that membership in the COIA would enhance the athletic or academic experience of the student athletes at Virginia Tech. This organization appears to be unnecessary at the national and local levels, however, it is within the purview of the faculty senate to decide whether to join.

Amended statement to read:
The committee does not perceive a benefit from joining the COIA.

The motion was passed unanimously.

**Reports**

**“Huddle with the Hokies” Colloquium** (Rosemary Goss)
Handout - flyer
Discussed ways to get the information out about this seminar series. One mechanism is to disseminate it electronically at the Basketball games on the scoreboard. Other suggestions: University front page on the VT website, e-mail, Collegiate Times advertisement and an announcement in Graduate Chemistry classes. The Hokie Celebration on the same day as the Huddle with the Hokies was a concern.

**Athlete’s Academic Performance for fall ‘04** (Chris Helms)
Handout
Chris Helms went over the handout.
The committee reviewed the academic performance of all of the student athletes. Performance seems to continue to improve. Question: Are there any positives or negatives that you see that may look different from years past? Lacrosse and Volleyball had outstanding performances.

**Questions for the Athletic Director** (Jon Jaudon)
Jim had to leave.
Question concerning coaches teaching classes was raised.

It is not in our coaches contracts to teach any courses here at Virginia Tech. That practice has ceased at many colleges over the last 10 years and VT does not employ the practice of coaches teaching.

Joe Tront adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM.