University Athletic Committee
October 26, 2004
Bowman Room, Jamerson Center

Members Present:  Mike Borzilleri, Megan Evans, Rosemary Goss, Frank Gwazdauskas, Kayenda Johnson, Art Keown, Larry Killough, Cathy Lally, Steve McMullin, Lu Merritt, Jerry Niles, Jesse Richardson, Terry Swecker, Larry Taylor, Joe Tront, Jim Weaver.


Representatives:  Melinda West for Dwight Shelton

Guest Present:  Chris Helms, Director Student Athlete Academic Support Services, Jon Jaudon, Associate Athletic Director, Administration, Tim Parker, Assistant Athletic Director, Compliance, Drew Scales, Student Athlete Academic Support Services

Recorder:  Joyce Wynn, Athletic Department

Joe Tront, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.  The minutes of September 23, 2004 were approved.  The agenda was accepted as proposed.

Announcements

First “Huddle with the Hokies” Colloquium (Jon Jaudon, Steve McMullin)

Handout

Thursday November 18, 2004, 3:30 pm, Donaldson Brown Hotel Auditorium featuring Dr. John Lucas

Parking was brought up as a concern as it is game day.

Business

Breakdown of Athletic Rosters by Academic Discipline (Chris Helms)

Hand-outs

Chris went over the breakdown of the student-athletes compared to the student body as a whole.

Progress on Meeting Objectives Set in Benchmarking study (Chris Helms)

We are implementing the suggestions made by the benchmark study.  Hiring additional support staff and expanding our mentor program for student-athletes and our transitions program.  Dr Ford asked that a three year implementation plan be made against the recommendations.  The plan is as follows:  Year one (2004-05) work on the mentoring program and hiring a 1500 hour computer technician for our computer lab and laptop loan program.  Year two (2005-06) hire one of the two Learning Specialist and year three (2006-07 hire the second Learning Specialist.
**Reports**

**Athletic Mentoring Program (Drew Scales)**
Handout
We have changed mentors from 5th year athletes to Graduate Students as recommended by colleges. Reduced mentor to mentee ratios from 5-8/mentor in 2002-2003 to 3-5/mentor in 2004. The study-hall time requirement can be met by meeting with the mentors. SAASS provides monthly training for mentors and a Mentor Handbook. In 2004, we will establish a data set from previous years to determine reliable criteria in matching mentors with mentees. At the end of the year, a Mentor Recognition Reception is held. Each coach is allowed to ask for mentors for incoming student-athletes.

**Summary of the Exit Survey for Athletes (Jon Jaudon)**
Handout
Jon Jaudon sent out e-mail with a web site that UAC members could go to and see the survey. A summary was distributed. Many of our football seniors have already graduated before their final season. We do not ask for the survey until after their final season. Many football seniors do not come back in January after their final season. 77% of the overall athletes responding said that they would choose Virginia Tech if they had to do it all over again. The committee suggested that a question on mentoring be added to the exit survey; maybe do survey of second year student-athletes as the mentoring program is usually for first year student-athletes.

**Grad Rates and Academic Results of 2004 (Jon Jaudon, Chris Helms)**
Handout
Chris Helms explained the new graduation rates report to the committee.

**Questions for the Athletic Director (Jim Weaver)**
No questions for the Athletic Director.

Joe Tront adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM.