Announcements

Joe Tront reported that President Steger has accepted the 2005 Rules Compliance Report.

Business

Coaches’ Perspectives: Men’s Soccer (Oliver Weiss)
Handout of top 20 program goals and 42 simple goals and objectives to live by.
Mission: Teach all players the values of honesty, hard work, accountability, and create a mindset that fosters an attitude of excellence in academics, athletics, and other social behaviors. Coach Weiss stated: “I have held this job for 4 1/2 years. All players are my coaching staff’s recruits. Two things I really strive for is excellence in everything and balance. What I like about my job is that I can open doors for student athletes and help them to overcome barriers that they thought they could not overcome.” He went on to describe his recruiting practices and said: “My program is very goal driven, disciplined, and restrictive to an extent. I do not let student-athletes play if their GPA is not 2.3 or better.” The Men’s Soccer GPA is 3.00 and the team had two Academic All Americans over the last two years. Coach Weiss said that the fan base is good but would like more students attending games. Due to scheduling the team plays some week day games. Coach indicated that he will continue to emphasize that his student-athletes go see their college academic advisor.
Athletics Department Financial Status (Randy Butt)
Randy Butt stated that the year-end outlook of our finances is very good. We sold out Football again this year and that continues to increase our concessions revenue which goes up when we sell out games. Athletics will have a surplus on our operating budget this year. There are some one time expenditures this fiscal year that the revenues were collected in the previous fiscal year so our bottom line may appear to be in the red when it is not. Those expenditures are all facility or project oriented. We budgeted departmental operating dollars as part of the bowl game budget since the ACC gives only provides $1 M for any bowl and it cost us more than that to go to a bowl. This was the first year for a football league championship game; the ACC only paid what it cost to attend. We did not make any money on that game. The revenue that the championship game generates goes into a general revenue pool that is distributed evenly to all ACC schools at the end of the year. One of the peculiarities about the ACC system is that some schools that do not go to a bowl game make more income than schools that do go because the ACC only pays out $1M (travel funding) for a bowl-bound team and it typically cost much more to attend.

The South End Zone budget is set up to stand alone as is the West Side Stadium expansion. The West Side did not open this year, but we budgeted enough money to pay debt on the loan. In response to a question, Randy indicated that our loan cannot be paid off early because of the language of the bond issue. This is typical. Otherwise our current revenue stream would allow early re-payment. This stream is highly dependant on the success of football and basketball.

Student-Athlete Exit Interviews (Jon Jaudon)
Handout
Jon reviewed a handout showing the results of the student-athlete exit survey. Originally filled out in paper and pencil filled the return rate was generally only 20% to 30%. Megan Armbruster moved it to an online survey. We had 87% response in ‘04-‘05 and so far 100% in ‘05-‘06. We asked seniors to fill it out at the end of their season. Several suggestions on changing the questions were received from the UAC during the discussion including:
- Consider reducing the size of the survey.
- Compress questions and reduce redundancy
- Create some analysis options through VT survey program to look at data dependencies.
- Some typos were discovered.

It was recommended that after analyzing the data, Jon or one of the staff members should report back to the UAC on how the Athletics Department is addressing the concerns expressed by graduating student-athletes.

Reports

Student-Athlete Academic Performance (Chris Helms)
Tabled due to lack of time. Will be first on the agenda for the next meeting

Questions for the Athletic Director (Jim Weaver)
Tabled due to time.

Joe Tront adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM.