Members Present: Lanny Cross, David Ford, Megan Evans, Rosemary Goss, Frank Gwazdauskas, Cathy Lally, Steve McMullin, Lu Merritt, Jerry Niles, Dixie Watts Reaves, Hilda Reynolds, Norrine Spencer, Terry Swecker, Larry Taylor, Joe Tront, Jim Weaver.

Members Absent: Mike Borzilleri, Kayenda Johnson, Art Keown, Larry Killough, Jay Reynolds, Jesse Richardson, Dwight Shelton, Bevlee Watford.

Representatives: Melinda West for Dwight Shelton

Guest Present: Chris Helms, Coordinator, Student Athlete Academic Support Services, Jon Jaudon, Associate Athletic Director, Sharon McCloskey, Senior Associate Athletic Director, Tim Parker, Assistant Athletic Director, Compliance.

Recorder: Joyce Wynn, Athletic Department

Joe Tront, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. The minutes of April 22, 2004 were approved. The agenda was accepted as proposed.

Business

Committee Charge (Joe Tront)
The UAC was formed July 1, 1988. Joe Tront read the President’s charge to the committee.

CHARGE: To review and provide advice on broad policy issues relating to intercollegiate athletics.

Specific Committee responsibilities include:

A. Provide advice to the Athletic Director on such matters as financial aid for student athletes, residential life for student athletes, program balance between revenue and non-revenue sports, recruiting, admissions, NCAA compliance, and general intercollegiate athletic budgetary and operational matters.

B. Provide advice to the Provost on matters related to academic progress of athletes, the admission policy for athletes, academic advising of athletes, and relations with academic departments and faculty in general.

C. Participate in the search process for the selection of the Athletic Director. The Committee will also participate in periodic evaluations of the Athletic Director in coordination with the University official to whom the Athletic Director reports.
We have taken on other things also as part of our role.

- Establish better academic connection with conference members.
- Use academics as an ambassador to open doors for collaboration with other conference members.
- Sponsor collaborative event connected with athletic event.
- Continue monitoring gender equity practices.
- Promote conference wide standards of behavior, safe alcohol use policy.
- Enhance academic recognition of student athletes

**Future Agenda Items**

Please let chairman know if you have any agenda items.

**Announcements: (Joe Tront)**

Three subcommittees were formed as follows:

**Gender Equity:**
Will exam the practices within Athletics and make any suggestions as appropriate back to the UAC. Cathy Lally has agreed to chair this subcommittee again this year. Committee members so far are Art Keown, Bevlee Watford and Sharon McCloskey as ex officio. We invite anyone else who would like to work on this committee to notify the chair of the committee or Joe Tront.

**Rules Compliance Oversight and Advisory:**
This subcommittee will evaluate the compliance of Athletics with the NCAA rules and regulations that govern athletics. The annual report of this subcommittee will be forwarded to the President after approval by the UAC. Terry Swecker has agreed to chair this committee working with members: Frank Gwazdauskas, Larry Killough, and Tim Parker as ex-officio. Anyone willing to serve on this subcommittee should contact the committee chair or Joe Tront.

**Academic Athletic Alliance:**
This subcommittee was tasked with putting together mechanisms that will bring academics and athletics closer together so that faculty and students can see the positive purposes in both entities. One of the mechanisms the subcommittee will be looking into is starting a colloquium series which will run in conjunction with athletic events. Steve McMullin has agreed to chair this committee. Committee members include David Ford, Chris Helms, Joe Tront, and Norrine Bailey Spencer. We are again looking for one or two more members.

**Team Schedules 04-05 as related to Missed Class Time (Jon Jaudon)**
Handout
Jon went over the report to the committee and questions regarding missed class time for athletes were discussed.

**Reports**

**Grad Rates and Academic Results of 2003-2004 (Chris Helms)**
Handout
At the beginning of each semester Chris Helms gives a report on the academic success of our student athletes from the previous semester. The NCAA has been tracking the graduation rates
of student athletes since the mid 1980’s, when it first required that institutions submit this information annually. The committee discussed the graduation rates and academic progress of athletes as indicated by team GPAs. The athletic graduation rate has continued to improve over the last five years. Most agreed that on average, the graduation rate for athletes was good and that those teams with poor would continue to be monitored and encouraged to improve. Chris informed the committee that SAASS works with former student athletes after the six year window regardless of the fact that they will not count as a positive on the graduation rates for Virginia Tech.

**Comprehensive Action Plan Discussion (Joe Tront)**

Handout

In August the President put together a task force to review the Comprehensive Action Plan. He appointed the task force to make recommendations to him on any updates or revisions that would be beneficial to the plan. He is looking for a report to be submitted by Monday the 18th. UAC members Jon Jaudon, David Ford and Joe Tront are on the task force. Joe Tront has sent out the Comprehensive Action Plan to everyone earlier in the year. The focus of the task force at this point is the section on sanctions. Tront asked for any input from this committee regarding the appropriateness of the way in which the sanctions are spelled out in this particular document. Some discussion ensued. Tront will take back suggestions from the UAC members to the task force and will report to the UAC on the outcomes of the task force at a later date.

**VT/ACC Colloquium Series (Steve McMullin)**

The committee discussed how we might put together an academic/athletic colloquium series that coincides with an athletic event. For example, before football games we might want to have a nationally known speaker, or one of our faculty give a lecture on a Saturday morning before a ballgame that would both entertain and interest our alums’s as well as our visitors. An example of how this works can be seen at Penn State where they host talks titled “Huddle with the Faculty”. They have a lecture before each of their home football games. They use their own faculty to put these on. This would be a mechanism to build academic liaisons with some of our new ACC colleagues. The committee suggested that we work towards hosting a lecturer before the Maryland game in the late afternoon as this is a 7:00 PM kick off.

**Transitioning into the ACC (Jim Weaver)**

Jim Weaver indicated that it has been an extremely professional transition. “We have been treated first class. Sharon McCloskey as Senior Women’s Administrator and Larry Killough as the Facility Representative and myself as the Director of Athletics were invited to every meeting that occurred in the conference last year.” The inaugural season began July 1st 2004. The ACC held orientation session in Greensboro on every facet of the conference office. The ACC took billboards out in Northern Virginia and Christiansburg welcoming Virginia Tech to the ACC. The commissioner himself has been here at Virginia Tech on two occasions for events. In May ’04, the Academic Summit had two faculty representatives speakers, Professor Carmichael from Wake Forest and Don Ward, from North Carolina State and also a graduate of Virginia Tech. Don Ward is the president of the conference this year. VT head coaches received salary increases because we were low on salaries compared to ACC. We will increase salaries for the assistant coaches next year. We will receive one million dollars more from the general distribution than we ever received from the Big East -- $6.25 million dollars from the ACC in revenue the first two years. In the third year we will get a full share. Last year a full share was $9.5 million. We will pay a $2 million dollar entry fee to the ACC and a $1.3 million exit fee to the Big East. We have figured out ways with our senior administrative staff to pay this without
going to our alumni and fans for help as we are trying to raise money to finish the west side of
the stadium. The most important single element in the West Side Stadium expansion is a new
18,250 square foot operation for Chris Helms’ SASS unit which will impact every student athlete
male and female alike at Virginia Tech.

Questions for the Athletic Director (Jim Weaver)
Jim responded to a few other questions regarding competition in the ACC. He also stated that
fly-overs at the football game are sponsored by the Corps of Cadets.

Joe Tront adjourned the meeting at 5:10 PM.