

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Report of the Faculty Athletics Representative for 2007-08
To the Faculty Council
October 10, 2008

I. Introduction

Since the practice of an annual report by the faculty athletics representative (FAR) to the Faculty Council began, each such report has been submitted as a supplement to the annual report of the Faculty Athletics Committee. The FAR is an ex officio member of the committee (unless also an elected member), so the FAR participates in all of the work of the Committee on behalf of the faculty. Thus, linking these two reports seems appropriate.

II. Activities of the Faculty Athletics Representative within UNC-Chapel Hill

In addition to participating as a member of the Faculty Athletics Committee, the FAR is involved in a number of activities within the university that recur annually. Those recurring activities are listed in an Appendix to this report. In addition to those recurring activities, I have worked in the contexts listed below since my report for 2006-07.

- The Priority Registration Task Force completed its work and presented recommendations to the Faculty Council in December 2007. At that meeting the Faculty Council took actions to establish the Priority Registration Advisory Committee and to implement priority registration;
- The search committee for a new men's head lacrosse coach interviewed candidates in the late spring of 2008; and
- The Director of Athletics consulted an ad hoc advisory group on a departmental personnel matter.

III. Activities with the Atlantic Coast Conference

Within the Atlantic Coast Conference four individuals from each member institution have the primary governance and operating responsibility. They are the chancellor/president, the director of athletics, the senior women's administrator, and the faculty athletics representative. Conference bylaws direct that the chancellor/president shall cast the institutional vote on a small number of specified issues. Otherwise, common practice within the conference is for the chancellor/president to delegate the voting responsibility to the faculty athletics representative, with appropriate consultation within each member institution..

The officer positions within the ACC are held by faculty athletics representatives from the member institutions on a set rotation. During 2007-08 I was the Past-President and thus served on the Executive Committee. I served on the Postgraduate Scholarship Committee which is comprised of the twelve faculty athletics representatives, and I also represented the ACC FARs on the Executive Committee of the 1A FAR organization.

IV. Activities with the National Collegiate Athletic Association

Since restructuring in 1997, National Collegiate Athletic Association governance has consisted of the Board of Directors (chancellors and presidents), the Management Council (athletic administrators, conference officials, and faculty athletics representatives), and two Cabinets, plus a number of committees that review proposed legislation and discharge operating responsibilities for the membership. Institutional participation is through conference membership instead of the former one-school-one-vote structure. The Atlantic Coast Conference has had one position on the Division I Board of Directors and three positions on the Division I Management Council. At the request of the Atlantic Coast Conference, I served as one of its three representatives on the Management Council through April 2007. I also served on the Governance Subcommittee of the Management Council that was charged by the Division I Board of Directors to conduct a thorough review of the structure, governance, and legislative processes of Division I and to make recommendations for a new structure. Our recommendations to replace the Management Council with a Leadership Council and a Legislative Council and to distribute the cabinet level work among six new, but smaller, cabinets were adopted by the Board and have been implemented.

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors has adopted a comprehensive academic reform package that is intended to improve the graduation rates of student-athletes, particularly in selected high profile sports that have produced poor graduation results and consequent adverse publicity. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been represented at all levels of this work by the Chancellor, the Director of Athletics, and the FAR. I have worked in this process virtually from its inception and now serve on the NCAA Committee on Academic Performance (CAP). CAP is responsible for implementation (now under way) and also for design of additional elements of the program that will be needed in 2007-08 and beyond. In addition, the NCAA Board of Directors has formed three groups to focus on specific sports: baseball, men's basketball, and football. I have served on the group for baseball (and on its executive committee), and I also serve on the group for men's basketball (and chaired one of the subcommittees). Recommendations from the baseball group have been implemented and are being monitored by the executive committee of that group. The basketball group is well along in its work and intends to report recommendations to the NCAA Board of Directors by the end of this calendar year.

One of the objectives of NCAA President Myles Brand is to bring attention to academic research that is being done on various aspects of intercollegiate athletics as a basis for identifying research conclusions that might be relevant to NCAA policies. That work is conducted by the NCAA Advisory and Editorial Board on which I serve. This group organized a first research colloquium in January 2008 and has initiated a new journal, the Journal of Intercollegiate Sports. The first issue was published in June 2008 and this group is organizing the second research colloquium for January 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Evans
Faculty Athletics Representative

Appendix
Summary of Recurring Activities of the Faculty Athletics Representative
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Listed below are the recurring activities of the faculty athletics representative.

- Serve on the Faculty Athletics Committee (ex officio if not an elected member)
- Serve as the de facto secretary for the Faculty Athletics Committee
- Participate in exit interviews of student-athletes (with members of the Faculty Athletics Committee and staff of the Department of Athletics)
- Review admission cases for student-athletes (as a member of the Admissions Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Admissions)
- Serve on the Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee (Chair for 2008-09)
- Meet with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- Confer with the staff of the Academic Support Center
- Monitor the academic progress of student-athletes and participate in the meetings with head coaches that review these results
- Participate in the university's compliance program regarding NCAA regulations
- Represent the university in meetings of the Atlantic Coast Conference
- Other duties as requested (e.g., Priority Registration Task Force, Title IX Committee, Diversity Committee, discussions of the likely impact of the legislative provision regarding tuition, presentations to prospective student-athletes regarding academic programs, etc.)