Members and Visitors Present


Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 4, 2003, meeting were unanimously approved. One revision was made to denote the fact that Jake Simons was in attendance at the meeting.

Financial Update

Lacy Needham had previously forwarded the committee members financial statements for the period ending December 2003. She noted at this juncture the coaches are managing their budgets in a very responsible manner which is assisting in controlling expenses. It still remains to be seen what the total income from fees will be for the spring semester which will ultimately impact the budget.

Schedule Approvals

Cathy Beene presented two revisions of schedules that had previously been approved. Baseball had to change the game with Savannah State to April 6 and Track has made changes to its schedule and is looking for another meet to replace the Western Carolina Invitational due to the fact that their track is not finished and will not be available.

Athletics Update

Sam Baker:

- Announced that Ashley Hart of the University of Alabama-Birmingham has been hired to become the new Women’s Soccer Head Coach. As noted last week there have been staff changes within the football staff. Coach Rusty Russell and Levon Harbin will not have their contracts renewed. Joe Tresey has assumed duties as the new defensive coordinator and the other assistant will be identified in the very near future.

- Football recruiting continues to progress with the February 4 signing
date close at hand. The Athletic Department is most appreciative of the efforts extended by faculty and staff in assisting in the recruiting process. The Athletic Department is saddened by the recent announcement that Dr. Ron Core will be leaving to assume a new position at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. He has certainly been a great friend to the Athletic Department. His leadership has been instrumental in getting the facility development plan in motion.

- The Athletic Department was saddened by the fact that three swimmers were arrested in Kennedy Hall for possession of marijuana. It is another sign that Athletics must stay ever vigilant in addressing the issue of illegal recreational drug use.

- Richard Rogers handed out the GPA’s for the Fall Semester. The all women’s sports GPA for the Fall 2003 Semester was 2.91. The all men’s sports GPA was 2.39. The GPA for all the sports for the fall semester was a 2.60. In another comparison, the women sports had a 2.91 GPA while all Georgia Southern undergraduate women had a 2.80 GPA and the men had a 2.39 GPA while all Georgia Southern undergraduate men’s GPA was 2.52

**NCAA Update**

Dr. Rogers also discussed the changes that the NCAA is proposing for academic reform. There are three filters that will determine if an institution is meeting its academic institutional missions. The first filter would be the national comparison of all Division I teams using the annual academic progress rate. The second suggested filter would be a comparison of all Division I teams within a sport using the AARP and the third would be using federal graduation rates for sports teams in comparison to the local student body graduation rate. Those institutions that do not meet any of these three criteria could be subject to penalties and disincentives. There is still much to be discussed on this subject to take place over the next several months.

**Southern Boosters Report**

The annual membership campaign is underway. There is a move to accelerate the timetable because of the Georgia tickets. Southern Boosters is joining with the Foundation for an Atlanta SOARS for Southern Campaign that will take place in the month of February that is very comparable to the Day for Southern conducted here in Statesboro and Southern Boosters continues to work on the Capital Campaign and its related projects.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m. The next
meeting is scheduled for February 26 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Futch
Senior Secretary