The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Jerry Ledlow, Chair.

Members and Visitors Present

Cathy Beene, Jeff Blythe, Bob Cook, Iris Durden, Joe Franklin, Chris Geyerman, Bev Graham, Alice Hall, Vicke Hawkins, Jerry Ledlow, Bill Levernier, Michael Moore, John Mulherin, Keith Roughton, Dana Sparkman, Christine Whitlock.

Introductions

Cathy Beene:

- Introduced Shea Huxtable, women’s tennis student-athlete and new volleyball head coach, Chad Callihan. Shea outlined for the UAC the work of the SAAB. Coach Callihan shared his vision for the volleyball program and expressed his desire to start a youth volleyball program in the Statesboro area.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting for November 28, 2007, were unanimously approved.

Financial Update

Jeff Blythe:

- Discussed the December budget report. Budget is better this year than at same time last year. Advertising dollars will exceed the budget. Connie Palfy and Licensing will make projected budget again this year.
- Football ticket revenue is up from last year. Next budget report, the football guarantee money from Colorado State will show up in revenue. January is a crucial month for expenses because of spring scholarships.
- Basketball gate was very good for the double header on Saturday January 26th.

Schedule Approvals

Cathy Beene:

- Distributed revised women’s tennis schedule. A home match with Presbyterian was added to the schedule. Distributed the spring and fall schedule for women’s soccer and the spring schedule for men’s soccer. All schedules are in compliance with institutional guidelines and NCAA rules. The schedules were approved.

Athletics Update

Cathy Beene:

- The new softball facility seating and pressbox has been installed in preparation for the upcoming season.
• New scoreboards were installed for baseball and softball. Signing day is February 6 for football, soccer, track and field.
• Jayson Foster won the Walter Payton Award. We are all very proud of him. Joe Franklin stated that Jayson will be honored by the State Senate on Tuesday, February 5.

NCAA Representative Update

Chris Geyerman:

• At the NCAA Convention in Nashville, attended the hazing prevention summit, and programs on APR best practices and of faculty perceptions of college athletics (Knight Commission Report).
• Distributed the GPA report for fall 2007. The student-athletes’ GPA continues to be consistent with the GPA of the regular student body. Expressed concern with football’s fall GPA. Keith Roughton discussed the current football study hall procedures and stated that class attendance checks started this week. Chairman Ledlow will meet with Sam Baker to discuss issues related to football’s GPA.

Southern Boosters Report

John Mulherin:

• The Annual Campaign mail out is slated for March 17. The success and excitement with football is showing with an increase in donations.
• Eagle Club begins in March with 28 scheduled events, so we will be on the road a great deal of time.
• A question was asked concerning the response to the new parking policy. John stated that to this point in time the responses have been favorable. Fees generated from the new parking policy will be used for the Excellence Fund.

New Business

• Bob Cook suggested all coaches submit block out time (practice schedules) to the Athletics Director on a semester basis. Also stated the granite plaque at the football practice field nearest to Snooky’s could not be read and asked if it could be moved.
• Bill Levernier voiced concern over a memo sent to professors from the softball coach stating the student-athletes will miss 11 class days. Cathy Beene will follow up with the coach and email the committee. The SoCon Softball Tournament is scheduled during finals due to a change in the institution’s academic calendar. There’s no policy in place for making up missed finals.
• Keith Roughton stated that the committee will vote for the Student-Athlete Academic Awards at the next meeting.
• Bob Cook suggested there be more recognition for academic success. Some suggestions from the committee were: Most Improved and Comeback Scholarship of the Year.

Old Business
• Jerry Ledlow read the response from Faculty Senate concerning the request for a University-wide Excused Absence Policy for students attending approved off-campus events in an official university capacity.
• Michael Moore suggested from prior experience on Faculty Senate to be very specific when presenting new policy requests to be considered.
• The Student-Athlete Online Community Policy was amended as recommended by Lee Davis and Maura Conley in Legal Affairs and approved by UAC via email.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lanell VanLandingham
Senior Administrative Secretary
Department of Athletics