The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Bev Graham, Chair.

Members and Visitors Present

Sam Baker, Jeff Blythe, Tom Buckley, Bob Cook, Ron Core, Cynthia Frost, Chris Geyerman, Bev Graham, Vickie Hawkins, Brian Kennebrew, Bruce McLean, Bill Levernier, John Mulherin, Tony Parrillo, Keith Roughton, Samantha Young.

Introductions

Keith Roughton:

Introduced Matt Lombardi, Advisor and Jennifer Allison, Learning Specialist from Student-Athlete Services. Both spoke on the day-to-day duties of the department such as helping the student-athlete with schedules, acting as liaison with the Advisement Center, and meeting with recruits to inform them of the services they offer.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting for October 23, 2008, were unanimously approved.

Financial Update

Jeff Blythe:

- Athletic Financial Report for October was distributed via email for review.
- Made football budget with ticket revenue. Good crowds for App state and Homecoming games helped.
- Spring enrollment figures are looking good.
- Wrapping up fall sports.
- Answered a question about football expenses being greater than the revenue by stating that utility costs are increasing, and in large part because of scholarship costs.

Schedule Approvals

Sam Baker:

- Presented the 2009 Football schedule. The schedule is in compliance with institutional guidelines and NCAA rules. The schedule was approved.

Athletics Update

Sam Baker:

- As recommended by President Grube, Feasibility Study Open Forums were held for the faculty/staff and the students on November 17 at the Continuing Ed Assembly Hall.
- A Feasibility Study survey was emailed and approximately 4,300 have responded.
- Thrilled with gate receipts.
- Men’s and women’s basketball teams are off to a good start.
• Baseball will start in a matter of weeks.
• Football finished the season on a good note beating Furman. Coaches are now focused on recruiting.

NCAA Representative Update

Chris Geyerman:

• NCAA Basketball Enhancement Group may require mandatory summer school for men’s basketball student-athletes to try to improve the sport’s APR. Both the Southern Conference Council of Presidents and the Faculty Athletic Representatives have written letters in opposition to mandatory summer school.

• UNCG FAR, Terry Ackerman presented a program created by faculty at UNCG called “My Play Book” which is an online course to educate and change attitudes and behavior of student-athletes about alcohol and drug abuse. The program is currently being piloted by approximately 100 Division II institutions. The creators of this program will be invited to make a presentation on its effectiveness to the members of the Southern Conference at its annual Spring Meeting, in May 2009.

Southern Boosters Report

John Mulherin:

• Southern Boosters is ending the year.
• Looking forward to the upcoming Spring Campaign in February.

New Business

• Gender Equity Report was emailed last week for the committee’s review. After some discussion of a possible increase in per diem the report was approved.
• The revised Athletics Policy Manual was emailed to the committee last month for review. The Policy Manual was approved.
• The Spring semester meeting day and time will be the last Thursday of the month at 8:00 AM (Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, Apr. 30).
• Sam Baker spoke about sportsmanship and stated that Athletics would like to work with the SGA to help encourage and promote good fan behavior. A few bad incidents can hurt the overall image of the institution.

Old Business

• None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Lanell VanLandingham
Senior Administrative Secretary
Department of Athletics