

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Lock Haven, PA – March 21-22, 2009
MINUTES**

Attendance – Day 1: Ashley Brucker (Bloom), Christine Wason (Bloom) Colleen Kegerreis (Bloom); Frank Ehrensberger (Cal), Brittany Grigg (Cal), Ed Droughn (Chey), Gaelan Quinton (Chey), Ashley Grimm (Clar), Rich Eckert (Clar), Alexa Detzi (ESU), Janel Cleffi (ESU), Ben Hahn (Edin), Devyn Agett (Edin), Melissa Kornock (IUP), Steph Jeppesen (KU), Shawn Santo (KU), A.J. Zimmer (LHU), Lizz Finneran (LHU), Clarissa Correll (Mans), Katie Akins (Mans), Kelsie Weber (MC), Lauren Rinaca (MC), Jenna Craig (Mill), Erik Arnold (Mill), Will Kane (Ship), Anna Kinard (Ship), Jeremy Deighton (SRU), Anastasia Urbanik (SRU), Zac Tassone (WCU), Janelle Garber (WCU), Steve Murray (PSAC), Carlin Chesick (PSAC)

Attendance – Day 2: Frank Ehrensberger (Cal), Brittany Grigg (Cal), Ed Droughn (Chey), Gaelan Quinton (Chey), Ashley Grimm (Clar), Rich Eckert (Clar), Ben Hahn (Edin), Devyn Agett (Edin), Steph Jeppesen (KU), Shawn Santo (KU), A.J. Zimmer (LHU), Lizz Finneran (LHU), Clarissa Correll (Mans), Katie Akins (Mans), Kelsie Weber (MC), Lauren Rinaca (MC), Jenna Craig (Mill), Erik Arnold (Mill), Will Kane (Ship), Anna Kinard (Ship), Steve Murray (PSAC), Carlin Chesick (PSAC)

Informal Session: Prior to the formal meeting, the SAAC members and FARs participated in a Diversity and Inclusion workshop with Stan Johnson, an independent contractor with the NCAA Office, who deals exclusively with Diversity training at institutions. Important issues related to diversity were discussed including race, sex, religion, national origin and sexual orientation. California University President Dr. Angelo Armenti, Jr. attended the evening session to discuss the first draft of the PSAC's new strategic plan. SAAC/FAR input will be taken into great consideration when developing the plan over the next year.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September, 2008 PSAC SAAC meeting were reviewed and approved.

PSAC Update: Carlin Chesick asked the SAAC members to discuss their feelings on the additions of the three new institutions that officially joined the PSAC this year. Gannon University and Mercyhurst College have participated as full members, while C.W. Post/Long Island University is an associate member in Field Hockey and Football. SAAC was in agreement the additions have helped in travel and competition. Additionally, a SAAC East Chair will be selected in the Fall.

NCAA Update: The misconduct events of the Winter Sports Festival at the University of Houston were discussed. No PSAC institutions were involved in the incidents. SAAC members were told of the \$1,000 grant offered to each school for the NCAA Purchasing website. Institutions have until June 30, 2009 to use the grant.

Division II Update: Rich Eckert (Clarion) discussed the Make-A-Wish campaign and Division II raised \$315,000.

NCAA Strategic Grant Program: The Division II Strategic Initiative Grants were discussed. The SAAC showed concern about the lack of attendance at the second day of meetings this year and brought forth a motion.

MOTION: Will Kane (Seconded by Ashley Grimm): That if a participating institution does not have full representation (two student-athletes) and full participation (including both days in the spring and one day in the fall) for the SAAC Conference Meetings, institutions may not be eligible to receive their SAAC mini-grant in the following academic year.
Note: For each day missed, \$200 would be deducted from the total of the grant. Currently, the grants offered to SAAC are \$600.
Motion PASSES

Sportsmanship: The Sportsmanship Initiatives have been developed and are well under way at each institution. A banner with the words "Portraying Sportsmanship At All Costs" is displayed at each venue. A pregame recitation read in person by a current student-athlete is being read before contests at each campus. The pregame sportsmanship ritual is being eliminated from the SAAC sportsmanship initiatives. It was determined this is just too difficult for sports with a large number of participants. Most sports already have something in place either before or after the contests. SAAC members at this meeting will vote for the nominees this spring for the NCAA Sportsmanship Award submitted by the conference office.

Conference SAAC Project – Make-A-Wish: Make-A-Wish continues to be the conference SAAC project. The Division II SAAC has adopted Make-A-Wish as a national program and conferences/institutions are encouraged to participate in some fundraising efforts. The deadline to submit money is June 15, 2008. Currently, only four institutions have donated. The SAAC agreed each school should be raising at least \$500-\$1,000.

Campus Issues Form:

1. **Video/Teleconference Fall Meeting:** The SAAC members discussed the benefit of conducting the Fall SAAC/FAR meeting over phone or video. The meeting is purely informational and will perhaps be more attended by all institutions.

Future Meeting Dates/Planning: Tentatively, the PSAC SAAC Fall meeting will take place Sunday, September 27, 2009 in Lock Haven if a Video or Teleconference does not pan out. The spring meeting is tentatively planned for Saturday and Sunday March 20 & 21, 2010.