# Athletics Council Report (2020-2021)

# Submitted by: Jessica Velasco, DPA

Meetings

Fall 2020 Meeting (before chair change)

February 9, 2021

March 22, 2021

September 13, 2021

Members

Jessica Velasco (Faculty Rep & FAR/Chair starting in November 2020), Billy Jack Ray (Faculty Rep), Pam Pipes (Registrar), Wyatt Olson (Assistant Director for Athletics Compliance, Jim Goodman/Amanda Workman (Director of Athletics), Carlos Gonzalez (Faculty Rep), Tristen Licon (SAAC President), Kendra DeHart (added in September 2021 as the faculty rep replacement for J. Velasco), & Kathy Stein (FAR/Chair through November 2020)

Summary of Council Activities

* Navigated changes in Membership/Leadership: FAR, AD, Compliance, Faculty Reps
* Supported the updates to the student athlete handbook and coaches handbook (first update since 2015)—Credit to Wyatt Olson for getting this completed over the summer. The current AC members received a copy, and we will now review it on an annual basis to offer feedback and suggestions.
* Reviewed policies on student athlete eligibility, appeals, and required number of credit hours for participation.
* Supported the transition of grade checks to an online format for faculty—provided feedback on the test form in the development stage (these went live September 28, 2021)
* Discussed a tracking system for appeals (adding in 2021-2022 year)
* Moved to a process of granting appeals on a week-to-week basis instead of season/semester basis.
* Reviewed council charge, responsibilities, and membership (changes recommended and approved in September 2021 Faculty Assembly meeting)
* Officially assumed the responsibility for deciding athletics appeals Compliance Committee was dissolved (due to outdated charge that failed to reflect addition of Compliance Director and also the custom of the AC handling appeals in recent years)
* Supported DIII Week activities and the creation of a promotional video about the benefits of being a DIII athlete (featuring current student athletes from SAAC).
* Talked about the development of recognition opportunities for student athletes (e.g., Student Athlete of the Week). This will hopefully be done through the online grade check system.
* Created an Athletics Council organization in Blackboard for maintaining records and council history, making the transition between FARs easier (having some trouble getting members added—but have requested assistance from the Blackboard team)

Looking Ahead

* Leadership: The chair of this council, based on the charge, is the FAR.
* Annual review of charge, handbooks, important policies, and appeals outcomes
* Continued development of policies and opportunities to support the success of student athletes