

University Athletics Committee
December 9, 2021 Meeting Highlights
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – In-Person Only
Lane Stadium, 5th Floor Media Dining Room
ACC Network Studio

Present: Sarah Armstrong, Whit Babcock, Tom Burbey, Kevin Carlson (for Robert Sumichrast), Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Jennifer Irish, Sarah Jane Lynch, Robin Queen, Rock Roszak (for Bridget Ryan-Berman), Susan Short, Becki Smith, Kimberly Smith (for Rachel Holloway), Danny White, Chris Wise (for Frank Shushok)

Absent: Allison Bowersock, Travis Burns, Patrick Finley, Heather Gumbert, Maria Kenner, Joe Marcy, Jay Poole, Terry Rakes, Zachary Speizer, Eric Stanley, Ken Stiles, Joseph Tront, Brad Wurthman

Guests: Sarah Armstrong, Eric Frey, Reyna Gilbert-Lowry

Susan Short called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of November 11, 2021. Susan Short noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information system on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

3. Athletic Director Update – Whit Babcock

Whit provided updates regarding:

- the ACC Network Studio (initial \$10M investment, student involvement);
- the ever-changing NCAA environment (believes revisions to the constitution will be approved in January);
- the number of transfer student-athletes at Virginia Tech has increased significantly during the past several years (impact on university processes particularly in relationship to the timing of transcript evaluations, recruiting);
- football bowl opt-outs (signals what is happening nationally);

- and, shared insights related to football head coaching decisions.

In addition, Whit responded to a series of questions/comments provided by UAC members. These included the current noise level in Cassell Coliseum, the current CFP/bowl environment, accolades for J C Price, and vaccination protocol for Pin Stripe Bowl fans and participants.

4. Academic Update – End of Term Eligibility – Sarah Armstrong

Sarah provide a number of updates for the group. These included:

- December graduates ice cream social celebration (30 graduates)
- Final grades will be released on December 18th. Summary page reviews will be provided to coaches.
- Certification process for bowl eligibility (conducted by Registrar's Office) – to be eligible, student athletes needed to pass six credit hours and be enrolled full-time in spring semester courses.
- Team certification for spring and in-season sports.

5. Faculty Athletics Representative Updates – Jen Irish

NCAA Constitution Committee Survey

The 2nd revision of the NCAA constitution has been disseminated. She anticipates that it will be passed in January.

The ACC FARS met last week. Topics included rules modifications, the FAR role in exit interviews, alliance groups, a new work group focused on academics, and best practices related to mental health.

6. ACC Network Studio Tour – Eric Frey

UAC members toured the ACC Network Studio located in Lane Stadium. Eric responded to a number of questions related to the facility, infrastructure, staff backgrounds/experiences, student engagement, and ESPN expectations of the university.

7. Adjournment

The group wrapped up the meeting and tour at 5:00 p.m.

MEETING DATES FOR 2022 (All meetings will be held from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.)

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Thursday, February 10, 2022

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Thursday, May 5, 2022