

**Valdosta State University
Meeting Minutes
Athletic Committee**

Date: January 31, 2018 2:00pm- 3:00pm **Place:** HSBA 4150 **Chair:** Heidi Gonzalez
Attending: Heidi Gonzalez (CC), Ilke Kardes, Bill Truby, Sterlin Sanders, Ben Harper, Andrew Black, Daniel BaracsKay, Steven Scheuler, Gary Hackbarth
Absent: Napoleon Bamfo, Dean Duncan, David Boyd, Jessica Graves, Joy Ihedioha, Serina McEntire, Mike Bochenko, Lorna Alvarez-Rivera, Deb Van Petten
Ex-Officio: Herb Reinhard (Present), David Kuhlmeier (Present); Guest: Jennifer Grubbs (Present)

| | Discussion | Decision | Responsibility |
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| Call to Order | At 2pm. Members signed in and quorum obtained. | | Heidi Gonzalez |
| 1. Review of Minutes from November 29, 2017. | No discussion or recommended revisions. | Minutes approved: 10 for, 0 against, 0 abstain. | All |
| 2. Old Business a. Student Athlete Academic Spotlight (SAAS) Award Ceremony | Initial BB game scheduled on 1/18 to award student-athletes was cancelled due to inclement weather. Discussed 2/22 6pm as an alternate date to award our fall nominated athletes. | Athletic Committee members agreed 2/22 (during ladies BB half-time) as a viable date for ceremony. Heidi will contact Athletic cmte members and request they attend as possible escorts. | Jennifer Grubbs Heidi Gonzalez |
| 3. New Business a. Recommended Change in SAAS process | In an attempt to have a true SAAS Fall Ceremony, chair recommended moving the deadline for Fall nominations to Nov. 1. Heidi will work with Sterlin to begin the Spring nomination process. | Committee voted to approve the change in hopes of awarding athletes prior to end of Fall Semester. Spring nominations will be due March 15 and the committee will review nominees at our next meeting. | All Heidi Gonzalez Sterlin Sanders |
| b. Proposed Change in VSU Excused Absence Policy | As Faculty Athletic Representative, Dr. | | David Kuhlmeier |

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| | Kuhlmeier gave an update on a policy change being reviewed in Educational Affairs committee regarding our student-athletes excused absence policy. | Informative discussion. Will be voted on by Faculty Senate. | |
| 4. Other/Announcements | <p>Herb gave an update regarding the aggressive academic mentoring program for freshman athletes. This initiative is intended to retain students at VSU and promote academic success. However, student-athletes were not participating in program as anticipated. Sports update given.</p> <p>Faculty encouraged to complete Grades First Program for student-athletes – good way to verify if faculty have student-athletes in their courses.</p> <p>In light of recent events at Michigan State, Bill inquired into VSU Athletics prevention strategies regarding sexual assault.</p> <p>March 28 2-3pm in HSBA 4150</p> | <p>Students with <2.25 GPA are mandated to attend sessions every 2 weeks. Students >2.5 GPA must meet monthly – consequences (participation) have been implemented to improve participation.</p> <p>This program allows Athletic coaches/administrators to monitor student-athletes progress.</p> <p>Jennifer provided insight on the work and training currently in progress in the Athletic Dept. Currently 179 student athletes and staff have received sexual assault prevention training.</p> | <p>Herb Reinhard</p> <p>Jennifer Grubbs</p> <p>Jennifer Grubbs</p> |
| Next Meetings | | | |
| Adjournment | At 2:50 pm | | Heidi Gonzalez |