

## **Faculty Athletic Committee**

### **Minutes**

November 30, 2023

Via Zoom - 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

1. Roll call

Present: Jim Deisler (Co-Athletic Director), Shana Halalilo (Co-Athletic Director), Dr. Erika Derkas (Sociology), Cody Cole (Assistant Athletic Director of Compliance and Student Success), Dr. Melanie Zollner (Business), Dr. Seonsook Park (Education) and Dr. Benjamin Bencomo (Social Work). Absent: and Dr. William Hayward (FAR).

2. Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM

3. Approval of the Agenda, motion made by Dr. Park, second by Dr. Zollner. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes for 11.2.2023 by Dr. Park, second by Dr. Zollner. All in favor, motion carried. Abstained, Dr. Derkas.

5. Jim Deisler – Co-Athletic Director’s report

- Attended Cross Country National meet to support NMHU student athletes. The NMHU Cross Country team finished in 18<sup>th</sup> place. Andrew Amor finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place.
- Starting winter sports: Basketball, wrestling, indoor track.
- Preparing for winter break, finals and getting students registered for the spring.
- Athletic Department is coordinating with Sodexo as they have to feed students during 4 of the 5 weeks of winter break.

6. Shanna Halalilo – Co-Athletic Director’s report

- For the past three years, the Department of Athletics has set a GPA goal of 3.00 for student athletes. The goal was met, including spring 2023. However, the goal might not be met fall 2023, so there might be a need for regrouping and reflection. There has been changes; Rhett left and Cody is now both Director of Compliance and Student Success. The majority of his position is compliance. With Jim and Shanna, moving into the Directors’ role, there was a void to fill with Jim not being the Director of Compliance. Cody has stepped in and filled his role well.

- Shanna indicated there are a lot of student athletes that consistently meet the GPA goal and make the Dean's list. They would like to highlight student athletes' meeting GPA expectations. Students will be recognized and receive goodies on February 3, 2024. Faculty will be invited.
- On fund raising, 67,000 U.S dollars were raised through different programs. The Department of Athletics is working with the Foundation.
- Shanna talked about inter session courses and the need for knowing final grades sooner or maybe courses being available for registration up until Thursday (after final grades are released). Dr. Bencomo indicated there has been conversations on this topic at Academic Affairs and it's worth continuing the conversation. Dr. Derkas suggested inviting Dr. Romero, Registrar, to know more about the logistics behind inter session courses. Shanna would also like to request data for first-time students, to know if they are losing students for missing scholarship requirements. Jim indicated he had spoken with Dr. Romero a few times; the issue is with contracts and CBA. Dr. Bencomo suggested it might be easier to have a conversation about add and drop dates and then make the faculty aware. Dr. Zollner asked if Dr. Bencomo could draft a letter and present it to Academic Affairs. Dr. Bencomo would ask if the add and drop dates could be extended. Dr. Bencomo indicated he would be happy to make the request, however, this would be for AY 25 – 26, since the academic calendar for next year has already been approved. Shanna would like Dr. Bencomo to follow up on this.
- Dr. Derkas and Dr. Park talked about summer courses not been bound to CBA contracts and a need for clarification on how inter session courses fit into the calendar, fall and/or spring.

7. Cody Cole – (Assistant Athletic Director of Compliance and Student Success).

- Cody shared on the importance of recognizing student athletes and academics. Dr. Bencomo indicated it would be nice if the FAC would attend the event. Dr. Bencomo suggesting drafting a letter of recognition to give out to students in addition to what the Department of Athletics will provide. Dr. Bencomo indicated he would reach out to Dr. Gonzales' office to see if she would be interested in signing a certificate.

8. New Business

- Follow-up discussion on email to faculty with season travel dates. Dr. Bencomo asked if Cody could send an email to faculty regarding student athlete's travel dates before the start of spring 2024. Cody will send the information before the semester starts.

9. Old Business

- FERPA and Legitimate Educational Interest. Dr. Bencomo met with Dr. Romero, Registrar, and discussed on the topic. Dr. Romero suggested the best way to know about students' progress is through the students' themselves. Dr. Romero suggested there should be an identified person with legitimate interest, that would be Cody. Cody would have to go through Dr. Gonzales' office. Coaches cannot request that information.
- Ferpa and Legitimate interest has been discussed at Faculty Senate. Faculty has made it clear that coaches should not be reaching out to them for status reports.
- There was discussion about progress reports, what was done in the past. There was discussion about early alert reports. It seems there was good response when this system was instituted, but not lately. Dr. Bencomo suggested creating a checklist similar to early alert reports that could go to the person with Legitimate Educational Interest. No grades would be involved. There was conversation about having alerts throughout the semester. Dr. Bencomo will include this topic in a future agenda.

10. Next meeting date and plan: First week in February. The meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 8 AM next semester: February, March and April 2024.

Meetings will be held on Zoom with the possibility of one in-person meeting.

11. Adjournment, motion made by Dr. Park, second by Dr. Zollner. All in favor, motion carried. 9:14 AM.