The University of Alabama
University Athletic Compliance Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 20, 2014

The March 2014 meeting of the University Athletic Compliance Oversight Committee convened at 9:00 A.M. in Room 207m of the Student Services Center.

Committee members in attendance were:

- Dr. Kevin Whitaker [College of Engineering]
  Faculty Athletics Representative
- Dr. Joe Hornsby [College of Arts and Sciences]
  Past-Faculty Athletics Representative
- Vicki Peeples
  Assistant Dean
  College of Human Environmental Sciences
- Jonathan Bowling
  Associate A.D. for Compliance
  Intercollegiate Athletics, Compliance
- Michael Dean
  Assistant AD for Compliance
  Intercollegiate Athletics, Compliance
- Jon Dever
  Associate A.D. for Student Services
  Intercollegiate Athletics, Academics
- Helen Allen
  Director Student Financial Aid
  Office of Academic Affairs
- Michael George (Chair)
  University Registrar
  Office of Academic Affairs
- Rachel Morton [Guest]
  Assistant University Registrar for Athletic Certification,
  University Registrar
  Office of Academic Affairs
- Denny Savage [Guest]
  Senior Associate University Registrar Student Services
  University Registrar
  Office of Academic Affairs
- Michelle Boteler [Guest]
  Assistant Director, Counseling & Information Services
  Office of Student Financial Aid
  Office of Academic Affairs

Committee members absent were:

- Shane Lyons [ex officio & does not normally attend]
Deputy Athletic Director
Intercollegiate Athletes
• Mary Spiegel
  Associate Provost & Executive Director of Undergraduate Admissions
  Office of Academic Affairs

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by the Chair.

The first item of business was the introduction of Vicki Peeples to the committee. Vicki is the Assistant Dean, College of Human Environmental Sciences. She replaces Dr. Hank Lazer, who retired.

The meeting then opened with a presentation by Rachel Morton [OUR] regarding the NCAA Academic Performance and Graduation Success Rate Program Data [GSR] Review. Rachel announced to the committee that the University of Alabama [UA] has been randomly selected for an offsite review [campus visits are rare]. More specifically, President Bonner received a letter from the NCAA on March 11, 2014, announcing UA’s selection. The review is to be conducted by an NCAA representative, under the authority of the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance, Subcommittee on Data Collection and Reporting.

According to the letter, the first actionable item was for UA to identify a primary and secondary institutional contact. Rachel Morton and Denny Savage were identified to the NCAA as UA’s primary and secondary contact respectively.

The second actionable item was for the UA Review Team to participate in an introductory teleconference on March 19, 2014. UA participants included Jonathan Bowling, Michael Dean, Helen Allen, Michelle Boteler, Denny Savage, Rachel Morton, and Michael George. A second teleconference was held on March 20, 2014 with Rachel Morton and Denny Savage to discuss the GSR portion of the data review.

UA’s first deadline is April 3, 2014, in which UA must provide to the NCAA a sampling of documentation. These documents include:

  • Office of the University Registrar
    o Written policy and step by step procedures for certifying continuing eligibility, including all forms used in this process.
    o All documentation supporting the certification and the official transcript for one student-athlete. Can be from any year in the review and does not have to be from the sport being evaluated. All documentation supporting the entry of 2-year transfer data into the APP for one student-athlete from the sample list in Attachment C of the initial data request.

  • Compliance
    o Final squad list, roster as of the first date of competition, and the participation list for Cross Country for 2012-13.
    o Final squad list for Football for 2012-13.
No later than April 25, 2014, the University [Intercollegiate Athletics, the Office of Student Financial Aid, and OUR] must provide all required documentation which includes squad lists for football and cross country and transcripts, financial aid documents, eligibility certification, etc., for each student-athlete identified. Following receipt of UA's documents the NCAA will conduct their review and render a preliminary report. Upon receipt of the report UA will have two weeks in which to respond. Upon receipt of our response, the complete report with our response, is submitted to the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance, Subcommittee on Data Collection and Reporting for a final review. The committee may make further recommendations. The entire review process make take two to three months from the date of receipt of UA's documentation.

An update on the status of the review will be provided to the UACOC at our April meeting.

Copies of NCAA relevant documentation may be found at attachments 1 and 2.

Following the presentation of the NCAA Academic Performance and GSR Program Data Review, Kevin Whitaker provided a brief FAR report. He mentioned that the NCAA is undergoing a restructure but did not have specifics at this time. He also mentioned that the SEC Network is the "hot" topic in the conference and that it will definitely influence conference game scheduling. He also announced that the Dish Network will be carrying the SEC Network which will allow the commissioner to tout that "anyone can get the SEC Network." Lastly, Kevin mentioned that the University was the only institution in the conference who had a finalist in all four categories of the Scholar-Athlete Post-Graduate Scholarships.

During the Round Table Information Sharing session:

- Jonathan Bowling reported that Compliance was in the process of reviewing/updating departmental/office guides regarding gambling and staff agent policies. The four guides in question are attached for committee membership review and comment, if any, to Jonathan. Jonathan emphasized that any athletic certification staff member who wagers on any sport which the SEC participates can be fired. He further emphasized that contact with an agent by any staff member is a suspendable, fireable offense.

- Jon Dever briefed the committee that UA student-athletes have been awarded NCAA post-graduate scholarships 13 times in recent years, significantly more than any of our peer institutions.

- Michael mentioned that Brad Porter's replacement [Athletic Academic Certification Specialist] has been selected. Her name is Shelley Vold. Shelley is a former Academic Advisor in the Capstone College of Nursing and will be joining the OUR team on April 1, 2014.

Being there was no other new business the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 A.M.
The next meeting will be Thursday, April 17, 2014, 9:00 - 10:00/10:30 A.M. in Room 207m of the Student Services Center.

Respectfully submitted 4/27/2014

W. Michael George
Chair

Attachments [6]
1. NCAA March 7, 2014, Letter to President Bonner w/ one attachment
2. NCAA March 18, 2014, Memorandum to Rachel Morton with seven appendices
3. Administrative and Coaching Support Staff Guide
4. Athletic Marketing and Promotions Guide
5. Athletic Equipment Room Guide
6. Athletic Strength and Conditioning Guide