
The Athletics Committee of The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama met in Sellers Auditorium in the Bryant Conference Center on the campus of The University of Alabama on Friday, September 14, 2012. Trustee Finis St. John chaired the meeting. Michael A. Bownes served as Secretary.

On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

The Honorable Joseph C. Espy III, Trustee from the Second Congressional District

The Honorable James W. Wilson III, Trustee from the Third Congressional District

The Honorable Finis E. St. John IV, Trustee from the Fourth Congressional District

The Honorable Ronald W. Gray, Trustee from the Fifth Congressional District

The Honorable William Britt Sexton, Trustee from The Fifth Congressional District

The Honorable John J. McMahon, Jr., Trustee from the Sixth Congressional District

The Honorable Karen P. Brooks, Trustee from the Seventh Congressional District

Other Trustees in attendance:

The Honorable Angus R Cooper II, Trustee from the First Congressional District

The Honorable Marietta M. Urquhart, Trustee from the First Congressional District

The Honorable W. Davis Malone III, Trustee from the Second Congressional District
The Honorable Kenneth L. Vandervoort, Trustee from the Third Congressional District

The Honorable Paul W. Bryant, Jr., President pro tempore and Trustee from the Fourth Congressional District

The Honorable Vanessa Leonard, Trustee from the Sixth Congressional District

The Honorable John H. England, Jr., Trustee from the Seventh Congressional District

The Honorable Andria Scott Hurst, Trustee from the Seventh Congressional District

The meeting was also attended by Chancellor Robert E. Witt, UA President Guy Bailey, UAB Interim President Richard Marchase, and UAHuntsville President Robert Altenkirch, as well as support staff from the UA System Office, UA, UAB, and UAHuntsville.

Kellee Reinhart introduced the press: Kim Eaton from *The Tuscaloosa News*; and Jerome Davis and Jennifer Edwards from *WVUA*.

Chairman St. John called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2011, meeting. On motion of Trustee McMahon, seconded by Trustee Sexton, the minutes were approved.

Chairman St. John called on Athletic Director Mal Moore to present an update on the UA athletic program.

Coach Moore thanked the Board for its support of UA Athletics and said unity on the campus among athletics, faculty, staff, students, and alumni is unlike anything he has seen during his time at the University.

Football had 21 graduates on its roster when Alabama won the 2011 national championship and the Crimson Tide football program had the second highest graduation rate among schools in the final 2011 BCS Top Ten. Alabama’s graduation rate for student-athletes is 74% while the general student population has a 66% graduation rate. The Crimson Tide led the SEC in Academic All Americans with nine students.

Coach Moore said the new strength and conditioning facility should be completed in February 2013. The track stadium is being completely remodeled and is expected to be completed in November 2012, allowing them to host more
meets and various high school competitions. The indoor tennis facility is one of the nation’s finest and will allow them to host more tournament play.

UA ranks number two nationally in licensing products among Collegiate Licensing Company (CLC) Universities. Athletics received a check for $7.8 million from CLC, half of which goes to the University in support of National Merit Scholarships. For the first time in history, the Crimson Tide earned national championships in four sports: football under Coach Nick Saban; gymnastics under Coach Sarah Patterson; women’s golf under Coach Mic Potter; and softball under Coach Patrick Murphy. These titles earned the Crimson Tide the distinction of being the only school in the nation to win more than two NCAA titles in 2011 and 2012.

Coach Moore thanked former Interim President Judy Bonner and Chancellor Robert Witt for their support. Coach Moore said that he looked forward to working with President Guy Bailey in maintaining The University of Alabama’s status as a premier athletic program. Chairman St. John noted that Coach Moore has been honored nationally as the Athletic Director of the Year.

Chairman St. John then introduced special guests:

Gymnastics Coach Sarah Patterson, in 35 years at UA, has led Alabama to the NCAA championship 30 consecutive years, winning six national championships. She was honored by the Board of Trustees with the naming of the Sarah Patterson Wall of Champions.

Gymnast Ashley Sledge is a member of the 2012 national championship team, a senior public relations major, and a scholastic All American.

Golf Coach Mic Potter is a 30-year coaching veteran and is in his eighth season leading the UA Crimson Tide Women’s Golf team. Under Coach Potter’s guidance, Alabama has now made seven consecutive trips to the national championships and earned its first national championship this past season.

UA golfer Stephanie Meadow, one of the most sought-after recruits in the world, is a native of Northern Ireland. She is a two-time Scholastic All American, a two-time All American, a member of the 2011 regional championship team, and a member of the 2012 national championship team.

Softball Coach Patrick Murphy is in his 15th year as Crimson Tide Head Coach. He led Alabama to four Southeastern Conference championships, five SEC tournament titles, and has taken all 14 teams to the NCAA regionals, and eight teams to the Women’s College World Series, with the eighth trip
culminating in the 2012 national championship. Five softball players accompanied Coach Murphy to the Board of Trustees’ meeting.

Softball player Kayla Rowe is a senior majoring in public relations, a two-time Scholastic All American, a two-time All American, has a .345 batting average, and is a member of the 2012 championship team.

Chairman St. John said the coaches and athletes epitomize the highest ideals of sports and scholarship and they are exemplary athletes, students, and citizens. Their national championships have influenced a generation of young men and women in our state. Chairman St. John presented resolutions to the coaches and teams to recognize their achievements.

Chairman St. John called on Athletic Director Brian Mackin to give an update on UAB’s athletic program.

Mr. Mackin said it was an honor to serve as UAB’s Athletic Director and congratulated Coach Moore on his success in the UA athletic program. UAB hired two high profile coaches for men’s basketball and football programs and added two women’s sports: volleyball and bowling. The GPA average is 2.98 and 11 sports had a 3.0 GPA or better; UAB had 10 Conference USA Academic All Americans. Four teams reached the NCAA Championships and UAB hosted the Conference USA Championship for the first time. The men’s soccer program finished first in Conference USA and the golf team competed in the national championships. Mr. Mackin introduced Marla Townsend, Head Softball Coach at UAB, whose team had the most wins in their league for the past year.

Ms. Townsend said they will host the national championship in February 2013 and invited the Board to visit their great facility. She has been at UAB for 15 years and expressed appreciation for being able to host many of the top teams in the country. Half of her student-athletes are on academic as well as athletic scholarships. Ms. Townsend introduced Head Men’s Basketball coach Jerod Haase and said he is a great addition to the UAB Blazer athletic program.

Mr. Haase said he was excited to be at UAB and emphasized that academics are a priority for the basketball program, which is based on a strong commitment to hard work. He said he wants to have a team that represents UAB in the right way.

Chairman St. John called on Athletic Director E. J. Brophy to give an update of the UAHuntsville athletic program.

Dr. Brophy thanked the Chancellor and the Board for their leadership and support. He said the past athletic season was the best in UAHuntsville’s athletic
history and their students do a great job in the classroom, in the community, and in athletics. UAHuntsville’s goal is to recruit talented young people with quality character who are serious about receiving a quality education and earning their degrees.

Six sports at UAHuntsville achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher; no sport was below a 2.58 GPA with an overall departmental GPA of 2.91. Hockey, their only Division 1 team, has an APR of 978. One-third (79) of student-athletes received All Conference Academic Awards for having over a 3.0 GPA. Ten percent of student-athletes at UAHuntsville earned 4.0 GPAs. Premier student-athletes Mary Kelly from softball and Josh Mozier from men’s cross country earned the Commissioners Academic Top Ten, which honors the top 10 student-athletes in their conference and focuses on academics, athletics, and community involvement.

Men’s basketball won both the Gulf South Conference regular season championship and the Gulf South Conference tournament championship. UAHuntsville hosted the NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship for the second year and won. Coach Lenny Acuff, Head Basketball Coach, was the Gulf South Coach of the Year and the basketball team, for the first time, sold out season tickets. Recently, softball at UAHuntsville was named the Gulf South Conference Program of the Decade. Softball, men’s cross country, baseball and soccer all had a good year.

Dr. Brophy said their facilities also continue to improve and they have completed a baseball and softball facility and a tennis court renovation. UAHuntsville also received a $100,000 pledge to name the basketball court after Jack Kelly. Dr. Brophy was accompanied by two coaches.

Softball Coach Les Stuedeman has been at UAHuntsville for 18 years. This year she was named the Gulf South Conference Coach of the Year and won her 800th game at UAHuntsville.

Coach Lenny Acuff has won 400 basketball games at UAHuntsville. He thanked Board members for taking the time to attend games and visit their campus.

With no other business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

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C. Ray Hayes                                                   Michael Bownes
Vice Chancellor for Financial Affairs   Secretary of the Board of Trustees