

MIAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Fall 2008 Meeting
Sunday, September 14th, 2008 – 1 p.m.
Hamline University- Sorin Hall- Room B

Present: Brian Jungwirth, Tiffany Magnuson, and Kelly Anderson Diercks (AUG); Erica Hormig and Tim Madson (BU); Amanda Rolik, Laura Johnson and Amanda Michaelson (CC); Laura Hanson (GAC); Kellen Feeney, Dan Frush and Lynette Jones (HU); Andrew Tokom and Kira Spencer (MAC); Heidi Golliet and Ashley Davenport (CSB); Sarah Meissner and Andrea Boser (CSC); Trent Novotny (SJU); Karin Christenson and Jacob Reinhart (STO); Rorak Hooten and Katie Theisen (UST); Marie Godwin (National SAAC); Dan McKane, Matt Ten Haken and Brittany Feser (MIAC)

I. Call to order- 1:05pm

II. National SAAC

National SAAC Member Marie Godwin (Macalester) was in attendance. She talked about her role as an NCAA National SAAC member. She also discussed the benefits of Division III in comparison with Division I and II in terms of the level of student-athlete involvement in voting and decision making. At the Division III level, we have a say in NCAA legislation and at Division I and II, they do not. Marie will be the voice of the MIAC SAAC members and will take our thoughts on certain issues to the NCAA Convention and National SAAC.

III. Officer Duties and 2008-2009 Officers (Matt Ten Haken)

Chair: Trent Novotny (SJU); Chair meetings; assist in setting meeting agenda; represent Committee

Co-Chair: Andrea Boser (CSC); Chair meetings in absence of Chair; assist Chair; monitor Committee work

Secretary: Erica Hormig (BU); Record minutes; maintain attendance records; record votes

Treasurer: Ashley Davenport (CSB); Work with Advisor on financial issues

IV. NCAA/MIAC Rules and Hot Topics (Dan McKane)

- The committee received a handout describing changes in NCAA and MIAC rules as well as some current Hot Topics for discussion. New NCAA bylaws of note include the prohibiting of staff members from communicating with prospective student-athletes by way of text messaging, instant messaging, Facebook, MySpace, and blogs. Another bylaw addresses guidelines for the use of male practice players in women's sports teams.

- McKane also brought to attention the proposed NCAA bylaws for 2009. The committee gave verbal agreement to the bylaw proposing a day off during the week of conference post-season as well as the proposed bylaw for a non-traditional season contest (alumni contest) not triggering a season of eligibility. Other proposed bylaws described on the handout were the discussion of safety certifications for head coaches and the guidelines for out-of-season specific workout programs designed by staff.

- The NCAA has elected to retain its three-division structure for at least the foreseeable future. However, each Division III is continuing to discuss ways to deal with the membership growth and information regarding growth options will be released by the NCAA this fall.

-In MIAC news: our SAAC advisor, Brittany Feser, begins two years with the MIAC office as Assistant Director. There is also a new MIAC bylaw allowing baseball and softball teams to have 12 non-traditional season practices due to weather constraints during the traditional season. The MIAC continues to focus on improving sportsmanship and the committee discussed the level of sportsmanship on their prospective campuses and teams.

V. Service Projects (Dan McKane and Brittany Feser)

-McKane discussed the Toys for Teens program. He gave background on the program and described how SAAC has been involved in the past. In 2007, Toys for Teens and the MIAC SAAC were featured on the KARE 11 news channel. The MIAC office will work to schedule a date in the spring of 2009.

-Brittany Feser presented on Habitat for Humanity. She described the organization and what our involvement could entail. Several members had involvement with Habitat for Humanity and talked briefly about their experience. Typical projects include building, cleaning, and painting houses. There was a proposal to switch the project date to a Sunday, but there was a conflict with spring sports.

-Other options for campus and conference service projects were suggested such as; highway clean-up, blood drive, ACES program (brought forth by UST SAAC members), shoe-drive, sports clinics for kids between games, and Athletes for Autism (kickball/softball fundraiser).

VI. NCAA Leadership Conferences (Dan McKane)

-The NCAA puts on a National Leadership Conference for student-athletes to learn how to become better leaders on their own campuses and within their teams. They also learn about issues facing all Divisions. Several students from Saint Benedict had attended a previous National Leadership Conference and said it was a valuable experience. Additionally, Division III also has its own leadership conference with the next opportunity for MIAC student-athletes on October 16-19, 2009 (Seniors are not permitted to attend).

VII. Student-Athlete Well-Being NCAA Grant (Brittany Feser)

-The NCAA provides each institution with a Tier II grant in the amount of \$1,830 this year to be used to promote Student-Athlete Well-Being. Each year the grant money is often used to hold a conference or bring in speakers to promote the initiatives. The committee was provided with a list of proposed grant topics for review. Some ideas include; nutrition, stress management, time management, injury prevention, career planning and sport psychology issues. The deadline for the grant proposal is October 1st. SAAC members were asked to take the handout back to their institutions, discuss them with their SAAC group and speak to their Athletic Director on how they felt the grant should be utilized.

VIII. SAAC Institutional NCAA Grant (Brittany Feser)

-Each MIAC Institution will receive \$185 to supplement SAAC operations on their campuses. Each SAAC should start planning ways to best use the grant money.

IX. Best Practices (Brittany Feser)

-Brittany talked about institutional SAAC websites and how she would like to see institutional SAAC links on all athletic websites in the MIAC. She mentioned some items she would like to see on the SAAC websites such as what SAAC is all about, links for student-athletes to go to as a resource for nutrition, health and wellness, NCAA website links, etc. We also discussed what each SAAC group has planned for this academic year.

X. Sportsmanship (Dan McKane and Brittany Feser)

-Positive Sportsmanship will continue to be emphasized by the MIAC. The floor was opened to a discussion on how each school has addressed sportsmanship issues and the results of these efforts. Some ideas for promoting sportsmanship were the "Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive" Campaign and "Pack the Stands", where captains from each team rally their teammates to boost attendance on a chosen date.

XI. MIAC Event Enhancement (Matt Ten Haken and Kelly Diercks)

-The issue of improving MIAC events was also discussed. Members of the committee suggested events they had participated in the past such as 'Pack the Stands', and free food at games. Another idea is providing t-shirts and hats for the Championship teams at MIAC championships. The concern of charging students for away games within the MIAC was also brought to attention. The SAAC could potentially help with costs.

XII. SAAC Awards (Brittany Feser)

-Feser presented some ideas for motivating more involvement in SAAC on campus. She suggested a traveling trophy and awards for attendance and involvement. Committee members were encouraged to start thinking about options for spreading SAAC awareness and involvement on their prospective campuses. Some members were for this concept and others were against it.

Adjourned: 2:45 p.m.

Next MIAC SAAC meetings:

December 7, 2008 at Hamline University, 1p.m.

February 15, 2009 at Hamline University, 1p.m.

Minutes by Erica Hormig (BU), MIAC SAAC Secretary