

**MIAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee**  
**Spring 2009 Meeting**  
**Sunday, February 15th, 2009 – 1 p.m.**  
**Hamline University- Klas Center - Room 206**

**Present:** Brian Jungwirth and Tiffany Magnuson (AUG); Erica Hormig (BU); Amanda Rolik (CC); Maddy Lenhard (CAR); Laura Hanson (GAC); Kellen Feeney (HU); Amanda Lagan and Kira Spencer (MAC); Sarah Meissner (CSC); Trent Novotny and Tom Hoffman (SJU); Melissa Paulson (SMU); Karin Christenson and Jacob Reinhart (STO); Rorak Hooten and Katie Theisen (UST); Dan McKane, Matt Ten Haken and Brittany Feser (MIAC)

**I. Call to Order: 1:03 p.m.**

**II. Conference SAAC Service Projects (Brittany Feser)**

- a. Rebuilding Together: Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> has been set for our spring community service day. Wes Bischoff, volunteer coordinator for Rebuilding Together, was ill and unable to make it to our meeting. Two representatives from each institution are expected to attend, unless circumstances don't allow, then other institutions can bring more volunteers. We need to figure out which time slots work for which institution and the approximate number of volunteers expected. Lunch will be provided on the site and Brittany will send out necessary information as soon as it is received from Wes.
- b. Feed My Starving Children: A possible new community service project for the fall. Are we satisfied with our current community service projects? Toys for Teens received a lot of positive feedback and we will continue in that direction. Some students had experience with Feed My Starving Children and said it was a great experience. You spend approximately two hours filling bags with rice, vegetables, etc. and then they get sent around the world. The MIAC office may look into this further to see if anyone is interested in the fall, just as an extra community service opportunity for institutional SAACs.

**III. Best Practices on Campuses within SAAC groups (Brittany Feser)**

- a. What have your institution SAAC groups done since our December meeting (community service projects, campus projects, etc.)? Shop with Cops, prepare for spring athletic banquets, ACES, Kids club, spruce up community project, breast cancer awareness, Chuck-A Puck, and Athlete cookout to name a few.
- b. What will your SAAC group do next year to enhance the awareness of this group on campus and enhance the role of SAAC on your campus? Look into creating a SAAC binder to pass on for future years, create banners at events indicating the sponsor (SAAC), create t-shirts with entire name, have SAAC members read the sportsmanship statement before sporting contests, possibly change the name of SAAC if it conflicts with a group on campus, etc.

**IV. National DIII SAAC Update from Marie Godwin (Brittany Feser)**

- a. Marie Godwin was unable to attend as she is studying abroad for the semester. Brittany Feser read an email from Marie giving the update from the National DIII SAAC. Marie mentioned that the 2009 NCAA Convention was fairly uneventful due to the lack of controversial legislative items, but that National SAAC worked hard to have the student-athlete voice heard. Outcomes can be seen by the voting results. Also, National SAAC is looking into getting involved with the Special Olympics.
- b. Email Marie with any questions at [mgodwin@macalester.edu](mailto:mgodwin@macalester.edu).

**V. 2009 NCAA Convention Update (Dan McKane) (Attachment)**

- a. Recap of voting results: (2) Coaches are now allowed to provide specific off season workouts for athletes, but they must be requested by the athlete – Passed. (3) Fall sports (excluding Football) new start date of August 15th- Failed. (4) All DIII hockey teams have a practice start date of October 15<sup>th</sup>- Passed. (5) Proposed no day off during conference championships – Withdrawn. (6) Participating in non-traditional season (1 alumni game) does not trigger use of a season - Passed. (9) Starting next year, Head coaches must be trained in first aid, CPR, and AED use – Passed.
- b. Feedback on voting results indicated student-athletes were satisfied with voting results.

**VI. MIAC SAAC Facebook Group (Brittany Feser)**

- a. Brittany has created a Facebook group for the MIAC SAAC. This will be used to keep members updated on MIAC events as well as allow members to inform the group of what is being done on their own campuses through SAAC. Please join! All are welcomed to join, not just SAAC members.

- b. This group can be found under “MIAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee”.

#### **VII. Exposure of SAAC on your campuses and in the community (Trent Novotny)**

- a. Student-athletes are concerned with getting SAAC awareness out to campuses and other student-athletes at institutions. Trent mentioned that the focus of SAAC should be brought back to the student-athlete, and not so much on community service. What can we do for the student-athlete?
- b. Ideas for exposure: Posters for events that say “Sponsored by Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)”, SAAC T-shirts, SAAC bulletin board in athletic department, Games of the week poster, Pieces of paper describing what SAAC is handed out with tickets at sporting events, advertised in game day programs through the SID, etc.

#### **VIII. Upcoming MIAC Athletic Director’s Meeting Preview (Dan McKane)**

- a. Next meeting with ADs is March 10<sup>th</sup>. Agenda items include compliance, MIAC Bylaws, sportsmanship and cost containment. If you have an idea for cutting costs within the athletic department, please contact Dan and your Athletic Director.

#### **IX. Legislative items for Athletic Directors (Brittany Feser)**

- a. Any items that members of MIAC SAAC would like brought forth to the Athletic Directors will be brought up in the next meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>. MIAC SAAC members are encouraged to e-mail Brittany or post concerns on the MIAC SAAC Facebook Group page before March 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **X. SAAC websites (Brittany Feser)**

- a. Meet with your Advisor and SID to discuss improvement plans, or to start a SAAC link on your athletic website. Some student-athletes, that currently have a SAAC link, do write-ups and give them to their SID’s to post on the website.
- b. Suggestions for MIAC SAAC website: Links to each institutions SAAC page, possible photo gallery.

#### **XI. Sportsmanship (Brittany Feser)**

- a. A discussion about sportsmanship took place. Most students didn’t report any serious issues on their campuses with sportsmanship. Sportsmanship statements are read before sporting events at some but not all institutions, by a competing student-athlete or SAAC member.
- b. Other ideas included sportsmanship posters, ways to keep home and away cheering sections under control by having a separate section, student-athletes asking spectators individually to be respectful, etc. The issue of alcohol use by visiting fans was also discussed and how it is hard to control at a home event.

#### **XII. NCAA Gambling Restrictions (Dan McKane)**

- a. Gambling restrictions were discussed in light of the upcoming NCAA championships. As defined by NCAA rules, if there is money going in and money/prize going out, it is not permissible for a student-athlete to participate.
- b. Participation in brackets are not allowed if there is both an entry fee and a prize at the end. For example, if there is no entry fee, the NCAA allows you to participate, but strongly discourages you from doing so. Gambling by student-athletes is allowed in non-NCAA sponsored sports, such as horse racing or NASCAR.

#### **XIII. NCAA Leadership Conference Reminder (Brittany Feser)**

- a. The NCAA Division III Leadership Conference dates are October 16-19, 2009. Up to three students are allowed to attend, with one administrator (doesn’t have to be someone from the athletic department). An administrator must attend, however.
- b. It is important to start thinking about this and finding an administrator this spring to attend because the deadline to apply will be the end of this summer (around August). The MIAC office would like at least one individual and administrator from each institution to attend.

**Adjourned:** 2:30 pm

*Minutes by Erica Hormig (BU), MIAC SAAC Secretary*