Minutes of the Public Session

Regent Gonella welcomed those on the video and teleconference and called the meeting of the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to order in public session at 1:01 p.m.

Regents participating in the session included: Mr. Gonella (Chair), Mr. Gill (Vice Chair), Ms. Gooden, Mr. Attman, Mr. Breslin, Ms. Gourdine, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Peters, Mr. Pope, and Mr. Smarick. Also participating were: Chancellor Perman, Ms. Boughman, Ms. Herbst, Ms. Wilkerson, Ms. Langrill, Mr. Page, Ms. Skolnik, Mr. McDonough, Mr. Eismeier, Mr. Muntz, Ms. West, Ms. Denson, Mr. Mosca, Ms. Lee, Mr. Lurie, Ms. McMann, Mr. Barrio, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Franchak, Ms. Brandenburg, Mr. Evans, Ms. Sorem, Mr. Carter, Mr. DiBartolo and other members of the USM community and the public.

The following agenda items were discussed:

1. Committee Organization, Charge, Ongoing Issues, and Annual Meeting Plan (information)

Regent Gonella welcomed all the Committee members, Chancellor and staff, athletic directors and public and explained that this is an inaugural meeting of the committee. Ms. Boughman and Ms. Herbst reviewed the past focus of the regents through the workgroup, board policies we have in place, and highlighted the issues and focus the previous Board workgroup had on athletics as a means of ensuring continuity as we transition to a standing committee model.

2. Mid-year athletic directors updates – rotating – FSU, CSU, UMCP (information)

Regent Gonella informed the Committee members that there will be a rotating set of athletic directors sharing their perspectives on current issues. Troy Dell from FSU, Derek Carter from CSU, and Damon Evans from UMCP each spoke about their program and the issues and challenges they face.
Regent Gonella explained that since the death of Jordan McNair, several legislators have taken great interest in ensuring that Maryland institutions have in place the appropriate health and welfare arrangements for student-athletes. Last year the Jordan McNair Fair Play Act was signed into law by the Governor. NCAA enacted a policy change allowing student-athletes to benefit from the use of their name, image, and likeness. This rule change and its impact will be continuously monitored by the Committee members.

Another requirement of the Jordan McNair Act is an annual requirement to disclose policy changes enacted or in place that relate to student-athletes. Ms. Lee collected information and compiled into a report which she shared with the Committee members.

Regent Gonella reminded the Committee that the next meeting is scheduled for March 14 and that we are currently planning for an in-person meeting in the Chancellor’s conference room at the Elkins Building in Adelphi. He also explained that we will hear from 3 more athletic directors and consider the finances of our institutions’ athletic departments. The public meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoff J. Gonella
Chair, Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare