

Minutes of the University Athletics Committee  
Friday, September 5, 2014  
Board Room, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor Patterson Office Tower

Meeting Opened and Roll Call

Dr. C.B. Akins, Sr., chair of the University Athletics Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

The following members of the University Athletics Committee were present: C.B. Akins, Sr. (chair), Sheila Brothers, O. Keith Gannon, Terry Mobley, community members Vickie Bell, Paula Hanson, Davis Marksbury and faculty representative Joe Fink.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Akins welcomed the committee members and said that the minutes of June 10, 2014 had been distributed and asked for any corrections or comments. Seeing none, Trustee Mobley moved that the minutes be approved. Trustee Gannon seconded the motion, and it carried without dissent.

Business Items

Chair Akins presented FCR 1, FCR 2, FCR 3 and FCR 5 for the Committee's review. Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart was pleased to acknowledge the gifts and pledges to fund Department capital projects in general and more specifically for the football training facility and practice fields. Director Barnhart thanked Vickie and Wendell Bell for their contributions and commented that the dedication ceremony of the Vickie and Wendell Bell Soccer Complex on Sunday, August 31 was a great success.

Director Barnhart updated the Committee on FCR 23, the Renovate/Replace Playing Field – Commonwealth Stadium Capital Project. The project will renovate and replace the natural grass playing field with a synthetic surface, thus allowing the field to be used more regularly by not only the football program, but other sports programs as well. Trustee Brothers moved to recommend approval to the Finance Committee. Trustee Gannon seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

Departmental Report

Director Mitch Barnhart continued with Department of Intercollegiate Athletics report. Highlights on the field since the June 10 Board meeting include an eleventh-place finish in Directors' Cup standing. The previous best finish was No. 25 for the 2012-13 season. Eighteen of 22 sports contributed to this finish, with seven teams finishing in the top 10 for their respective sports. He thanked the student-athletes, coaches and staff, both academically and athletically for their hard work. He thanked the administration and University for their support.

Director Barnhart continued that in the first full weekend of the 2014-15 athletics year, football had an impressive win. Director Barnhart thanked Senior Associate Athletics Director Russ Pear for his efforts to open Commonwealth Stadium in the midst of construction.

He continued that women's and men's soccer won at home in the newly dedicated Wendell and Vickie Bell Soccer Complex, volleyball hosted and won the Bluegrass Battle in Memorial Coliseum and cross country had an impressive meet in Nashville. Earlier this month, men's basketball enjoyed a successful six-game tour in the Bahamas.

Director Barnhart continued that off the field, highlights include the successful launch of the new SEC Network on August 1. 1000 events will be televised on the linear (satellite, dish, cable) network with another 500 events being produced for the digital network. In addition, UK has the option to produce more UK events for the digital network, which will increase the total by another 200 productions. Available in over 90 million homes with actual subscriptions of over 60 million, these broadcasts not only help recruitment, but keep student-athletes connected with their families and friends.

Six new members of the UK Athletics Hall of Fame were announced. They were: Keith Bogans from men's basketball; Pat Etcheberry from track and field; Marty Moore from football; Passion Richardson from track and field; Terry Shumpert from baseball; and Sarah Witten from women's tennis. This class will be inducted during Hall of Fame Weekend September 26-27.

UK Athletics multimedia rights partnership began last week, as JMI Sports negotiated to take over for IMG before the previous agreement expires next April. This gives the Department a head start in our relationship with JMI Sports and positions the Department for a strong partnership over the next 15 years.

The renovation of Commonwealth Stadium will continue through 2014 and be completed in time for the 2015 season. Also, Director Barnhart reported the first renderings were unveiled of the new football training facility. Construction will begin at the conclusion of the design phase this fall.

Football senior Max Godby was nominated for the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team, which is the top college football honor for recognizing outstanding community service achievements. He also was just named SEC Football Community Service Team Member of the Week.

In conclusion, Director Barnhart reported that nine student-athletes made the second of two annual department-sponsored service trips to Ethiopia in July. The trip continues to serve as a unique opportunity to give our student-athletes a perspective they otherwise never would get, in addition to being an incredible bonding experience. Director Barnhart thanked Associate AD Jason Schlafer for his contributions in leading this effort.

Faculty Representative Dr. Joe Fink reported the completion of the certification process for each of the teams. The office reviews the academic records of over 500 student-athletes, looking at each individual's credits completed, percentage completion toward degree and GPA. He

complimented the student-athletes on their impressive ability to juggle academics and team commitments so successfully.

Community Member Paula Hanson commented on the inspirational football team Cat-Walk before the August 30 opening game. She was delighted to see how the players interact with and thank the fans. She encouraged everyone to arrive early to be a part of the event. She also commented on the logistics of the stadium and how efficient was the transition to new parking spaces and travel to and from Commonwealth Stadium. She complimented Russ Pear and his team for this accomplishment. Director Barnhart also complimented Senior Associate Athletics Director for Operations Kevin Saal and his team for the successful first game.

#### Other Business

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. C.B. Akins, Sr.