Minutes of the Athletic Committee Meeting  
October 19, 2009  
1:00 PM – Trimbelle River Room – Student Center

The second meeting of Athletic Committee for the 2009-10 academic year was brought to order at 1:00 pm in the Trimbelle River Room at the Student Center. Those in attendance were:

Brian Huffman – Chair  
Richard Bowen – Athletic Director  
Melissa Wilson  
Kevin McLaughlin  
E. Craig Morris  
Kenneth Ecker  
Victoria Houseman  
Kathleen Olsen

**Swimming and Diving Team**  
   Brian began the meeting by outlining the agenda. As in the last meeting there were many supporters of the team in attendance. Brian said that…

1. The first 15 minutes would be given to public statements.  
2. The balance of the meeting was to be used exclusively by the committee to work out a way to proceed and possibly get started on the actual work.

**Coach Henderson’s Presentation**  
Coach Henderson read a statement (attached) comparing the win/loss record of the swim team with various other teams on campus.

**Other Remarks**  
Another statement of support for the team was read by Chad Ernst, captain of the Cross Country team (attached).

**The Procedure Going Forward**  
The committee agreed to begin working on the first 4 criteria in from page 2 of the Chancellor’s document “Procedures for Terminating or Suspending a Varsity Sport.” It was further agreed that the remaining 4 criteria (items 5 to 8) would be best evaluated in a public meeting.

   The details of the public meeting were completed first. The meeting is to be held in a fairly spacious room with a table in front for the committee and plenty of seating for anyone who may want to attend. The meeting would be scheduled for late October or early November. Notice of the meeting would be posted at least 48 hours in advance and relevant documents would be posted on a website available to the public.
Item 1: Title IX Impact
Rick said that it is the intention of Title IX to “meet the interests and abilities of underrepresented genders” in sports. He said our student body is 63% female, but 52% to 53% of sports participants are male. He added that female participation would never equal male participation due to disproportionate levels of interest in sports and that that was not the intention of Title IX in any case. Craig (Assistant to the Chancellor for Affirmative Action and Equity Compliance) backed up Rick’s interpretation of Title IX.

Item 2: Adequacy of Facilities
Craig said that he thought the decision to keep or drop the team should not be confounded with the issue of the pool. Rick said that, on the contrary, “if the pool were still running, we would not be sitting here now.”

Rick then directed the committee to a section of letter to former Chancellor Don Betz dated Jan. 22, 2008 concerning the 7-year Athletic Review (attached). In that letter the Review Committee had recommended strongly considering dropping the swimming and diving program should the pool fail.

Item 3: Competitive History
Victoria noted that it seemed that, based on Coach Henderson’s remarks, the team’s lack of competitiveness over the years could be attributed to a lack of diving boards at the Karges Pool. Rick maintained that the team would not have been competitive even after the points lost by not fielding a diving team had been factored in.

Item 4: Coaching
There was no controversy here. The Athletic Director maintains that the coaching staff is first rate.

Concluding Remarks
Craig said that items 6 to 8 remain the bigger issues in this debate. He suggested that the desired outcome of this process might be both a majority and minority report to be given to the Chancellor along with the Athletic Director’s original report. The Committee agreed to that goal.

This meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Huffman
Chair, Athletic Committee