

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2019

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Jeffrey Portnoy called the meeting to order at 12:24 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Campus Center, Executive Dining Room, 2465 Campus Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822.

Committee members in attendance: Committee Chair Jeffrey Portnoy; Committee Vice Chair Stanford Yuen; Regent Kelli Acopan; Board Vice Chair Wayne Higaki; Regent Robert Westerman.

Others in attendance: Board Chair Lee Putnam; Regent Eugene Bal; Regent Michael McEnerney; Regent Randy Moore; Ernest Wilson Jr. (ex officio committee members); President/UH-Mānoa (UHM) Chancellor David Lassner; Vice President for Legal Affairs/University General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; Executive Administrator and Secretary to the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Kendra Oishi; and others as noted.

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Board Secretary Oishi announced that the Board Office did not receive any written testimony, and no individuals signed up to provide oral testimony.

Regent Wilson arrived at 12:26 p.m.

#### III. AGENDA ITEMS

##### A. Coaches Corner: Michelle Nagamine, University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa Women's Soccer Coach

A talk story session was held with UH Women's Soccer Coach Michelle "Bud" Nagamine. Coach Nagamine discussed the academic improvements the team had made since she took over the program in 2010, improving from a 2.81 cumulative GPA to a 3.56 cumulative GPA in Fall 2018. She shared that after the 2015 season, she established a leadership committee comprised of student-athletes. Coach Nagamine expressed the value of a non-revenue generating sport, including helping to ensure that student-athletes are contributors to their communities.

Committee Vice Chair Yuen commended Coach Nagamine and her staff for their philosophy on coaching, and the team's academic achievements, and engagement in the community. He noted that the team plays at Waipi'o and asked how that impacted the team. Coach Nagamine explained that every game is like an away game with the team leaving the same time as the visiting team leaves the hotel and playing at a field at

which they do not practice. UH's operations staff works with the City and County of Honolulu to uphold the quality of the Waipi'o Soccer Complex. Having a venue on campus would be more convenient, but there are pressing issues that need to be addressed. Coach Nagamine commented that the Waipi'o community is very supportive and since there is no charge for admission, the average attendance is about 1,300 per game.

Committee Chair Portnoy asked how Coach Nagamine would respond to individuals who say UH spends too much on non-revenue sports given the budget deficit. Coach Nagamine explained that the role of a non-revenue generating sport is to make UH look the best it can by doing the right things in the community, and by graduating student-athletes that are better soccer players and better people who contribute to their communities and the workforce. They focus on the holistic experience of athletics and not just the deficit and as part of a team, student-athletes learn to be cooperative and collaborative people who can function in group settings and actively problem-solve.

## **B. For Information and Discussion**

### **1. Update on Health and Wellness for UH Mānoa and UH Hilo**

Dr. Andy Nichols, Director of UHM University Health Services, introduced Dr. Jon Sladky, the new UHM Team Physician. Dr. Sladky provided an update from UHM on health and wellness including concussion management, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) best practices on mental health, and recent developments and new technologies.

Regent Westerman asked whether faculty were trained to identify signs of concussions among student-athletes. Dr. Sladky explained that there is collaboration with the academics team regarding accommodations for student-athletes diagnosed with a concussion. He was not aware of the level of education on campus in terms of diagnosing or evaluating concussions, but noted that there is increased awareness about concussions and treatment.

Regent Bal departed at 12:53 p.m.

Regent Moore asked when the baseline cognitive evaluation is performed and whether periodic evaluations were performed that would uncover undiagnosed issues. Dr. Sladky explained that the initial evaluation is done at the beginning of a student-athlete's career at UH. It was previously thought that evaluations should be done at the beginning of every season, but with the progression of technology, the current recommendation is for one baseline evaluation. The critical tool in dealing with concussion management is having athletic trainers, coaches, and teammates that are very engaged with players to help identify symptoms.

Committee Chair Portnoy indicated that he was made aware of a lawsuit filed by a football player from Hawai'i who went to the University of Southern California (USC) who is suing various entities, and asked whether high school and other preadmission records for student-athletes admitted to UH could be accessed to determine previous concussion history. Dr. Sladky explained that they do not obtain all previous records,

but concussion history is a standard question during the pre-participation examination of student-athletes. Student-athletes can also sign a consent form that enables UH to obtain records. Committee Chair Portnoy suggested that efforts be made to find out the preadmission concussion history of incoming student-athletes. Dr. Sladky added that in cases of student-athletes with a concussion history, there is a more extensive vetting process and thorough examination performed and they are referred to a neuropsychiatrist. Dr. Nichols added that student-athletes are required to complete a medical history form during the pre-participation examination attesting to its accuracy.

Board Chair Putnam indicated she thought the report would include a five-year breakdown of concussion statistics by sport. AD Matlin explained that data on concussions was provided in last year's report, which he would forward to the committee.

UHM Associate Athletic Director for Student Services (AAD) Lois Manin provided an update on mental health that included the status report on UHM's implementation of the NCAA best practices. UHM is developing a master plan to address procedures for identification and referral, pre-participation screening, and environments to support well-being and resilience. There are collaborative initiatives regarding the master plan with both the Mountain West and Big West Conferences as well as discussions with the campus counseling center, the school of social work, Hawai'i Pacific Health, and the State Director of Human Services.

Committee Chair Portnoy asked whether there were regular office hours for student-athletes to receive counseling. He noted that students have informed regents about the lack of mental health professionals available and asked if the athletics department is participating in minimizing that inadequacy. AAD Manin explained that student-athletes have the same access to counseling services as other UHM students. She indicated that there is an increase in the need for services and a decrease in the number of mental health professionals. UH is sharing information nationally and within the conferences to create the master plan in a responsible manner to maximize internal and external resources.

Committee Chair Portnoy asked whether coaches were trained regarding what to look for regarding the mental health of student-athletes. AAD Manin responded that they are trying to provide training for coaches and staff as part of the master plan, with the goal of implementing the plan in fall 2019. Committee Chair Portnoy requested the athletics department provided a status update on the master plan in fall 2019.

UHH Associate Athletic Director (AAD) Kula Oda provided an update on health and wellness, including concussion statistics by sport and the proactive collaborative efforts being undertaken by athletic trainers and on-campus medical and counseling services, and motivational speakers to address the mental health needs of student-athletes. He noted that there have been extensive discussions with coaches and athletics department staff about the mental health of student-athletes who spend more time using technology and less time interacting with others which, when combined with the pressures of athletics and body image, has contributed to mental health issues.

Committee Chair Portnoy asked if there was a physician on Hawai'i Island that dealt with concussions. AAD Oda explained that Dr. Edward Gutteling is the team physician, but there are no physicians on staff. UHH performs baseline cognitive evaluations at the beginning of the year, with doctors and nurses from the community who volunteer to assist with baseline testing and physical examinations about three times per year.

Committee Chair Portnoy asked if there were adequate resources at UHH to handle the concussion protocol and mental health issues. AAD Oda responded it would help student-athletes to have a physician on-staff, but they do the best with what they have and the relationship between the athletics department and the community is critical in getting student-athletes the services they need.

## **2. Update on Time Management Plan for Student-Athletes**

AAD Manin provided an update on the time management plan implemented in response to Big West conference legislation that went into effect August 2017. The NCAA identifies countable, required, and voluntary segments of time for athletically-related activities, which vary by sport. The plan provides adequate days off and time off for student-athletes, and properly notifies them in writing of any changes to the calendar so they can plan accordingly. Annual reviews of the plan are performed and adjustments made to institutional policy as needed.

Committee Chair Portnoy asked whether the time management rules were Big West or UHM rules. AAD Manin clarified that UHM was following the NCAA guidelines on time management. AD Matlin explained that the Mountain West has not opted into the time management rules, so there is no formal policy, but the athletics department has similar expectations for the sports in the Mountain West Conference. He added that the football team does an excellent job of time management.

## **3. NCAA Rule Changes**

UHM Associate Athletic Director for Compliance/Eligibility Amanda Paterson provided an update on NCAA legislation related to men's basketball, increasing the number of independent members of the Board of Governors, supplemental meals and academic changes, and active legislation to be voted on in April 2019, all of which could challenge UHM both financially and logistically.

Regent Moore commented that if the legislation was adopted, it appears that it would cost universities more money, so he asked if the legislation was driven by the handful of universities that make money on athletics. AAD Paterson affirmed and explained that the universities with revenue-generating athletics programs have the ability to pay for more scholarships.

UHH AAD Koa provided an update on NCAA rules changes for 2019-2020, including online NCAA recruiting certification for coaches, adequate time off for students, provision of medical services, and better-defined rules relating to academic misconduct. Division II will be conducting a student-athlete health and safety survey that will gather four years of information to provide baseline information.

#### **4. Status Update on Student Athletic Fee**

Committee Chair Portnoy explained that last year the committee decided to review and consider an adjustment to the student athletic fee.

AD Matlin explained that stakeholder meetings have been held with the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i and are being scheduled with the Graduate Student Organization. A collaborative survey is being developed regarding the student athletic fee. The athletics department expects to come back to the committee with a proposal after concluding the stakeholder engagement.

#### **5. Association of Governing Boards Statement and Articles on Governing Boards' Responsibilities for Intercollegiate Athletics and Regents Policy 7.208, Intercollegiate Athletics**

The committee reviewed possible revisions to RP 7.208, including language or sections in the current policy that may be more appropriate in executive policy. The committee discussed the athletic budget and possible mechanisms for philanthropic contributions to the athletics department. The committee also reviewed and discussed several AGB publications and questioned whether the board should have a statement of commitment and accountability or whether policy needs to be developed.

Regent Wilson left at 1:37 p.m.

Board Vice Chair Higaki left at 1:42 p.m. Quorum was maintained.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Regent Yuen moved to adjourn, and Regent Westerman seconded, and with unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Kendra Oishi  
Executive Administrator and Secretary  
of the Board of Regents