

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

ATHLETIC BOARD

2019-20 Annual Report

Members:

Kevin Keenan, Chair	FAC	Kinesiology
Neal Pease, FAR	FAC	History
David Allen, Vice Chair	FAC	JAMS
Dana Northrup	AS	L&S Student Academic Services
AkkeNeel Talsma	FAC	Nursing
Kevin Hartman	FAC	Music
Al Ghorbanpoor	FAC	Civil & Environmental Engineering
Liam Callanan	FAC	English
Jim Cleary	Alum	Alumni Association Member
Wendy Heintz-Joehnk	Alum	Alumni Association President or Appointee
Amanda Braun	Dir	Athletics Director
Steve Mohar	Dir	Rec Sports & Facilities
Kelly Haag		Student Affairs
Alyssa Fischer		Student
Allison Grzebien		Student
Trevor Coenen		Student
Tyler Behrendt		Student
Kathy Litzau*		Sr Assoc. Athl. Dir./SWA
Cathy Rossi*		Deputy A.D.-Finance
Clare Faurote*		Assoc. Athl. Dir.-Acad. Services
Jessica Kumke*		Assoc. Athl. Dir.-Compliance
Adam Schemm*		Sr. Associate A.D. – External

* Athletic Department members attending but not members of the Board

Charter:

Functions/ Responsibilities:

A1.5 Athletic Board

(1) Membership. Seventeen members as follows:

- a) Five elected faculty members;
- b) one faculty member appointed to a one-year term;
- c) the Faculty Athletics Representative appointed by the Chancellor;

d) one member of the UWM Alumni Association, appointed by the Chancellor from a list of candidates submitted by the President of the UWM Alumni Association;

e) one elected member of the Academic Staff;

f) four students appointed by the Student Association, at least two who are/have been UWM student-athletes;

g) ex-officio (non-voting):

a. UWM Director of Athletics,

b. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs,

c. The President of the UWM Alumni Association and

d. The Director of Recreational Sports & Facilities, or their respective designees.

(2) Functions.

a) Develops and reviews university policies relative to intercollegiate athletics in conjunction with UWM faculty, administration, students, alumni, and controlling regulations, and oversees the implementation of such policies. Reviews the Athletic Department budget through the work of the Fiscal and Equity subcommittees, respectively.

b) Recommends to the Athletic Director assignments of personnel to head coaching and all other senior athletic administrative positions, consistent with University and State of Wisconsin Personnel practices.
The Athletic Board will constitute a minimum of 40% of the overall Athletic Director Search and Screen Committee.

c) Monitors policies and practices pertaining to equity and nondiscrimination within the Athletic Department pursuant to NCAA and UWM expectations.

d) Oversees Athletic Department systems for providing student-athletes with academic services and monitoring their academic progress. Rules upon questions of eligibility of students under institutional and conference regulations.

e) Provides oversight and advice to ensure adherence to NCAA and UWM policies concerning athletic scholarships and tuition remissions.

f) Recommends to the Chancellor candidates for the position of Faculty Athletics Representative.

g) Reviews the annual performance review of the Faculty Athletics Representative, as conducted by the Chair of the Athletic Board and the Athletic Director, and

University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee Faculty Document No. 3315, November 12, 2020 communicates the results of this review to the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Chancellor.

h) Maintains liaison with intercollegiate athletic organizations and conferences through the Faculty Athletics Representative.

i) Recommends to the faculty changes in policies that relate to intercollegiate athletics and that appear to be in keeping with the long-term development of the University.

(Document 1137, 3/15/79; UWM Administration approval, 3/20/79)

(Document 1441, 5/7/85; UWM Administration approval, 6/5/85)

(Document 1808, 4/23/92; UWM Administration approval, 4/28/92)

(Editorially revised, 4/26/02)

(Revised October 2007)

(Revised March 2012)

(Revised March 2017)

Meetings:

Fall Semester (2019)

September 11, 2019

October 2, 2019

November 6, 2019

December 4, 2019

Spring Semester (2020)

February 5, 2020

March 4, 2020

May 6, 2020

The steering committee of the Athletic Board consisted of Kevin Keenan (chair), David Allen (vice chair), Dana Northrup (secretary), Amanda Braun (Athletic Director, ex-officio), Neal Pease (FAR), and Alyssa Fischer (student)

There are three working sub-committees: Academic Integrity; Equity, Personnel, Fiscal; and By-laws, Governance/Compliance, Student Athletic Appeals. Each sub-committee has members of the Athletics department staff who provide and summarize the detailed information reviewed by the committee.

In addition, the Faculty Athletic Representative (Neal Pease) has a central role in UWM athletics. In this role, Professor Pease:

- Serves as the representative of the Board, the Chancellor, and the UWM Faculty to the Horizon League and intercollegiate athletic associations and activities,
- Works with the Director of Athletics and the Board in monitoring policies and procedures and the student-athlete experience.
- Is the connection between the student-athlete and the student-athlete's faculty when academic issues arise.

Major Athletic Department Developments in 2019-20

The COVID-19 pandemic closed campus in mid-March, the Horizon League postponed all competition and eventually with the cancelling of the NCAA championships all sports were cancelled for the remainder of the academic year. Campus was closed which included all of our athletic facilities and students moved home to complete the academic year online. Our coaches and strength coaches were able to provide volunteer workouts for them to complete at home and our athletic trainers did what they could with virtual rehabs. Our academic advising went virtual and we provided regular information on campus resources that were available to assist our student-athletes.

Athletic highlights during 2019-2020

- The Women's Soccer team won the Horizon League regular season championship for a fifth consecutive season, and also won the Horizon Tournament which gave them an NCAA First Round opponent against #10 Wisconsin. Coach Troy Fabiano was named HL Coach of the Year, also for the fifth straight season.
- Jessica Kumke was selected to NCAA Committee on Academics for 4 years.
- Amanda Braun was selected to the NCAA Competition Oversight Committee.
- Horizon League announced Purdue-Fort Wayne is a new member to the league starting in 2020-21.
- Hall of Fame Ceremony on Nov. 9th inducted the following athletes and former staff: Molly Finn (swimming), Tenia Fisher (track & field), Scott Gillitzer (baseball) and Clay Tucker (basketball), as well as athletic trainer John Ochsenwald.
- Fall sports were 29-2-1 at home.
- Path to Prominence strategic plan was released publicly in December.
- Ashley Melvin was named Horizon League Indoor Athlete of the Year.
- Amanda Braun earned the honor of NACDA Athletic Director of the Year.
- Panther Playbook was created to help guide student-athletes throughout their career with personal, academic and professional development. (www.mkepanthers.com/pantherplaybook)
- Alyssa Fischer earned the Horizon League Bobby Fong Award

Academic and Community Service highlights during 2019-20

Fall 2019

- 52 student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA
- 100 student-athletes earned a 3.8 GPA or higher
- 7 Milwaukee teams achieved a 3.4 GPA or higher
- Overall, student-athletes carry a cumulative GPA of 3.36
- 142 student-athletes were placed on the Horizon League Fall Academic Honor Roll

Spring 2020

- 68 student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA
- 121 student-athletes earned a 3.8 or higher
- All teams were above a 3.0, with 12 above a 3.4
- Semester GPA of 3.581
- Cumulative GPA of 3.428
- 146 student-athletes were placed on the Horizon League Spring Academic Honor Roll

Community Service 2019-20

- UWM student-athletes, spirit groups, and staff participated in 2,189 hours of community service in 2019-2020 (with many volunteer activities canceled in March, April & May).

Facilities Updates

- The UWM baseball team played 2 fall games at their new facility, Franklin Field, in Franklin. Unfortunately the spring season was cancelled due to COVID.
- Klotsche Annex was approved, a 6 year process; \$2.1 million from OHOW (Orthopaedic Hospital of Wisconsin) for naming rights to the Annex.

Financial Update

- Worked through FY20 Budget Projections which were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 situation.
 - Savings incurred from not completing competitions for the Spring (Baseball, M&W Track, & W. Tennis). Projected \$250k.
- NCAA Revenue for the athletic department will be down \$300,000 collectively over two fiscal years (\$132k in FY20; \$168k in FY21).
- Several cost savings measures are being explored for the FY21 season, knowing that segregated fee support will likely be down even further than projected in the initial budget request.