



**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
ATHLETIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 5TH, 8:00-9:45 AM
Virtual – Microsoft Teams**

Attendees: Kathy Litzau, Adam Schemm, Barbara Meyer, Amanda Braun, Clare Faurote, Dana Northrup, Jessica Kumke, Jim Cleary, John Reisel, Jun Zhang, Kevin Hartman, Neal Pease, Steven Redd, Trevor Coenen, Cathy Rossi, Guest-Troy Fabiano

- I. Call to order at 8:03 AM by Chair, AkkeNeel Talsma
- II. Approved April minutes
- III. Updates from the Athletic Department:
 - a. Report from Director of Athletics, Amanda Braun
 - i. Congrats to John Reisel on being announced as Secretary of the University
 - ii. Coming off an exciting week of both our soccer teams competing in the NCAA Tournament in North Carolina.
 - iii. Track & Field has Horizon League Championships this weekend.
 - iv. Baseball has 3 weekends left in the regular season - 2 away , one home.
 - v. Shoutout to Adam and his staff on their work with all of our events. Plus Roar Report, and social media posts and video.
 - vi. 414 Campaign – 250 donors, \$45,000 donated. Last year had less than \$10,000, looking to continue to build on this in the future.
 - vii. Grateful for the work that Neal Pease has done as FAR. He will be missed.
 1. If you have ideas on a replacement Amanda is putting a list together to present to the Chancellor to assist him in the replacement.
 2. Neal shared that this has been one of the best groups he has worked with on campus. He is happy to chat with anyone that is interested.
 - viii. Advocacy and Messaging group – Amanda meets with Academic Staff May 11th.
 - ix. AkkeNeel discussed integrating athletes with students at the beginning of the fall for a welcome back.
 - b. Update from Diversity & Inclusion Workgroup – Kathy Litzau
 - i. Met last night for our 4th session– topic was Hard Conversations, Allyship and Anti-Racism
 1. Breakouts groups watched videos on 3 topics:
 1. Colorism, Xenophobia towards Asian Americans, Latinx American Immigration and Rights
 2. Those small groups focused on Awareness, Acknowledgement, & Accountability on those topics
 2. Big group came back together to continue the conversation and ended with testimonials from 3 student-athletes and 1 staff member. The testimonials were very impactful and supportive of the B.R.A.V.E sessions that have been held and shared the growth they have experienced and witnessed in others.
 - c. Athletics Report (written) discussion
 - i. Highlights of what was provided in report was discussed.

- IV. Guest at 8:15: Troy Fabiano, Head Women's Soccer Coach
 - a. Interesting season from last spring being canceled to fall being canceled, to are we having a spring? Wanted his players to have a college experience. They don't micro manage their time. Stressed focusing on the things they can control. They have a bullseye on their back, so the success they continue to have is incredible. Aaron did a great job, rolled up his sleeves and went to work down a staff member. Exciting to win an NCAA game and play the #1 seed and held them 0-0 in the first half. Defended well, but couldn't do much when they got the ball. All but 2 players return for us. Would have 40 on the roster, but are going through individual players this week and will be honest on where they sit. 9 freshmen coming in, most from WI some IN.
- V. Updates from Students
 - i. SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Council) – Clare Faurote
 - 1. Last meeting tonight.
 - ii. Horizon League SAAC
 - 1. NCAA mental health campaign this week.
- VI. April meeting update from Fiscal, Equity, Personnel, Kevin Hartman chair
 - a. Cathy Rossi reviewed the minutes
 - b. Amanda thanked staff for their work this year.
- VII. Voted on James Wright Award Winners
 - a. The board decided to award the 3 senior nominees – Kyra Arendt, Makenzie Mroczenski and Taylor Tabbert
- VIII. Closing announcements
 - a. May 14th Athletic Board and Panther Fund Council Social at baseball game – information was emailed on how to request tickets.
 - i. The group will meet in the Leinenkugel Hop Yard
 - b. THANK YOU to those whose terms are up: Neal Pease, Jun Zhang, Steven Redd.
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM