

**University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee  
ATHLETIC BOARD  
2021-2022 Annual Report**

**Members:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Div</b>	<b>E/A</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
Michael Carvan	FAC	Freshwater Sciences	NS	E	2024
Nancy Rice	FAC	Curriculum & Instruction	PR	E	2024
Jim Cleary	-	UWM Alumni Association Member	-	A	2023
Barbara Meyer	FAC	Kinesiology	PR	E	2023
Dana Northrup	AS	L&S Student Academic Services	-	E	2022
Phillip Sink <sup>1</sup>	FAC	Music	AH	A	2022
AkkeNeel Talsma, <b>Chair</b>	FAC	Nursing	PR	E	2022
Kevin Keenan	FAC	Kinesiology (Fac Athletic Rep)	PR	A	2022
David Pate	FAC	Social Work (Chancellor's appt)	PR	A	2022
Amanda Braun	Dir	Athletics	x-o	o	2022
Kelly Haag	AS	Student Affairs	x-o	o	2022
Steve Mohar	Dir	Rec Sports & Facilities	x-o	o	2022
< >	-	Alumni Association President Rep	x-o	o	2022
Jakara Edwards-House		Student		A	2022
Benjamin Huynh		Student		A	2022
< >		Student		A	2022
< >		Student		A	2022

< > Yet to be appointed

\* Designated to call first meeting

o Serves by virtue of office

x-o Ex-officio

Students (4)

1 Repl K. Hartman <sup>2</sup> (2022-A)

2 Repl M. Thapa (2022-E)

**Charter:**

**Functions/ Responsibilities:**

**A1.5 Athletic Board**

- (1) Membership. Seventeen members as follows: five elected faculty members; one faculty member appointed by the Chancellor to a one-year term; the Faculty Athletic Representative appointed by the Chancellor for a term not to exceed five years; 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; one elected member of the Academic Staff; four students appointed by the Student Association; and, ex-officio: UWM Director of Athletics or designee, UWM Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or designee, President of the UWM Alumni Association or designee, Director of Recreational Sports & Facilities or designee.
  
- (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 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)

(Editorially revised, 8/25/06)

(Document 2612, 05/15/08; UWM Administration approval, 05/22/08)

(Editorially revised, 06/13/08)

(Document 2848R1, 03/16/17; UWM Administration approval, 03/22/17)

### **Meetings:**

#### **Fall Semester (2021)**

September 9, 2021

October 7, 2021

November 4, 2021

December 2, 2021

#### **Spring Semester (2022)**

February 3, 2022

March 3, 2022

April 7, 2022

May 6, 2022

The steering committee of the Athletic Board consisted of AkkeNeel Talsma (chair), Barbara Meyer (vice chair), Dana Northrup (secretary), Amanda Braun (Athletic Director, ex-officio), Kevin Keenan (FAR), and Luke Rapisarda (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 (Kevin Keenan) has a central role in UWM athletics. In this role, Professor Keenan:

- 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.

### **Athletic highlights during 2021-22**

Milwaukee Athletics continues to excel on and off the field and did so again during the 2021-2022 academic year. Highlighting the way has been a group of three teams to have claimed regular-season or Horizon League Tournament titles as well as four programs to finish as league runner-ups. The fall featured championship runs from two programs, starting with volleyball claiming its first Horizon League regular-season title since 2013 with a 16-2 mark, part of a 22-9 campaign overall. Ari Miller was named Horizon League Player of the Year and Offensive Player of the Year and became the program's first All-American since 2011. Rylie Vaughn earned Horizon League Setter of the Year honors, Madi Malone was named Freshman of the Year, and Carmen Heilemann also joined the trio on All-League First Team. The four Panthers on First Team marks the most for Milwaukee since 2011.

Women's soccer once again took the program to even bigger heights, finishing 19-2 overall while advancing to the second round of the NCAA Tournament before being eliminated in a heartbreaking 2-0 loss to No. 2 Virginia. The Panthers claimed their sixth regular-season championship in the past seven years with an unblemished 11-0 conference record and put together the best season in program history on both sides of the ball. The 19-2 record also finished second in the nation in winning percentage (.905).

Elaina LaMacchia was named the first All-American for the program since 2011 after leading the country with her 0.42 goals-against average. She was named Horizon League Goalkeeper of the Year, joining teammate Mackenzie Schill with top honors, as Schill was named the Horizon League Player of the Year, as well as the Offensive Player of the Year. Lastly, Rachel Phillipotts was selected as the Defensive Player of the Year. In all, seven different student-athletes were selected for postseason honors: Schill, Phillipotts, LaMacchia, and Gaby Schwartz were Horizon League First-Team members, Jelena Sever was named to the Second-Team, and Clara Broecker and Kat Van Booven were picked for the All-Freshman Team. Sever also made history when she broke the NCAA record and went viral when she scored on the opening kickoff against Youngstown State, hitting the back of the net just :03 after the whistle.

Schwartz and Schill were named members of the 2021 Academic All-America® Division I Women's Soccer Team, the highest academic honor possible in NCAA Division I women's soccer. The duo become the 24th and 25th Academic All-Americans in Milwaukee Athletics history.

Following an impressive undefeated dual season (7-0 overall, 3-0 in league) the Panthers women's swimming & diving team earned a runner-up finish at the Horizon League Championships. Overall, the two teams sent 32 to the A-finals along with 36 more to the B-finals over the course of the championships. For the women, McKenzie Sanchez took home a pair of second-place finishes on the boards while Makaila Scheiblein was runner-up in the 200 breaststroke. Bella Passamani recorded a trio of sixth-place finishes in the 200 butterfly, 100 fly, and 500 freestyle. On the men's side, Jared Kleczka recorded a third-place finish on the three-meter board and fourth on the one-meter. Jay Jensen put together a strong performance, finishing sixth in the 1650 free and adding two B-final runner-up finishes in the 500 free and 400 IM, while Ben Lorenz broke the freshman record in the 50 free.

At the Horizon League Indoor Track & Field Championships, both the men's and women's teams earned a runner-up finish. As a whole, Milwaukee claimed eight individual titles and 20 podium finishes. On the men's side, Austin Wallace was named Championship Outstanding Performer for the field events after collecting titles in both the heptathlon and long jump. Sam Conger won the 60-meter hurdles while Gracien Jules took gold in the shot put. For the women, Natalie Block earned Horizon League Indoor Athlete of the Year and Championship Outstanding Performer honors following a pair of titles in the pentathlon and 60-meter hurdles along with a runner-up finish in the 400-meter. In the field events, Kate Watson (pole vault) and Lauren Lietzke (shot put) earned individual titles.

This spring, the women's tennis program enjoyed a spectacular run to the Horizon League Championship, falling in a 4-3 nail biter in its first-ever title match appearance. This marked the third time in four seasons that Milwaukee – led by First-Team All-Horizon League selection Mayya Perova (19-5 overall) – made a tournament appearance, and the first time the Panthers made it to the Championship round.

### **Academic and Community Service highlights during 2021-22**

In the classroom, the Panthers posted a cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 or higher for a remarkable 42 consecutive semesters (the current spring semester will make 43).

- The Panthers averaged over 172 student-athletes on both the fall and spring league honor rolls during 2020-21. The cumulative GPA for all Panther student-athletes is 3.449 – also making it 42 straight semesters where the departmental GPA is above 3.0 as well as 13 consecutive semesters over 3.20.
- Graduation success rate was at 91%, well above the percentage for the general student population.

Success was not limited to the court or field, as Milwaukee student-athletes continued to participate in community service activities and have been working hard to grow those hours back to pre-pandemic levels.

- Student-Athletes log many hours of community service in Milwaukee and the surrounding area. Teams volunteer for community activities like Make a Difference Day, United Way, Junior Achievement, Team IMPACT, Operation Dream and the United Lutheran Soup Kitchen, among dozens of other agencies. The Athletics Department also partners with the Center for Community-Based Learning, Leadership and Research.

### **Financial Update**

- The end of FY22 (2021-2022) resulted in an operating deficit for athletics.
  - Ticket Revenue and Game Guarantees for Men's Basketball did not reach expected heights (-\$150,000 collectively).
  - All other revenues came in approximately where anticipated.
  - Expenses were higher than budgeted as a result of the change in men's basketball staff. This resulted in additional expenses (search expenses, transition expenses, severance, vacation payouts, etc.).
  - Athletics drew approximately \$600,000 from athletic foundation funds in an attempt to balance the budget but finished the year approximately \$295,000 over budget as a direct result of the men's basketball coaching transition.
- It is anticipated that the FY23 Budget will balance.

## **Facilities Updates**

- While fans returned to all venues, those sports that were played indoors did have a mask requirement for fans in attendance.
- Facility construction began in the fall 2021 on the Klotsche Annex project and as of right now it is still on track to open in late fall 2022.
- The women's soccer locker room received new flooring, while a bid went out to secure a vendor for new lockers and carpet within the men's and women's basketball locker rooms.
- The video production and broadcasting studio received a new replay machine to help with the streaming of events and in-game experience.