



**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE  
ATHLETIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
2/1/23**

Attendees: AkkeNeel Talsma, John Gardner, Jim Cleary, Kevin Keenan, Michael Carvan, Katherine Watson, Anika Tylek, Amanda Braun, Cathy Rossi, Adam Schemm, Clare Faurote, Nancy Rice, Derek Handley, Kathy Litzau, Peter Baran

Guests: Andy VanSistine, Arica Halverson

- I. 8:03 AM – Call to order by Chair AkkeNeel Talsma
- II. Guests: Academic Staff – Clare Faurote, Andy VanSistine & Arica Halverson –
  - a. Mission is to enhance the S-A throughout all phases of their UWM experience by supporting their academic, prof and personal development.
  - b. History of academic success was provided, 3.43 semester GPA this past fall, 45<sup>th</sup> semester of a 3.0 or higher, 16<sup>th</sup> semester above a 3.2, 63 with a 4.0.
  - c. Shared what is incorporated in their advising, freshmen meet weekly/bi-weekly, upperclassmen once a semester, study hall based on team requirements, partner with college advisors for course selection and grad planning, certify NCAA academic benchmarks, refer student-athletes to on campus resources.
  - d. Ed Psy 102: Success in Academics and Athletics our advisors teach this required freshmen course. They provide professional and personal development programming.
  - e. Reviewed the [Panther Playbook](#), a plan for each year as a student-athlete.
- III. Approval of December minutes - Approved
- IV. Updates from the Athletic Department:
  - a. Report from Director of Athletics, Amanda Braun
    - i. Winter Sports Update
      1. Track and swim have a few weeks left before their championships.
      2. Basketball tournament begins 4 weeks from yesterday.
    - ii. Spring Sports Update
      1. Tennis started competition last week, baseball starts Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.
    - iii. OHOW Center should be open by the end of the month.
    - iv. [Transformation Committee](#) information was shared. There are 5 themes, a table at the end of the document details out the themes and what will be expected.
  - b. Update from Diversity & Inclusion Workgroup – Kathy Litzau
    - i. Events:
      1. School Day Game – WBB January 20<sup>th</sup>
      2. Mentor Greater Milwaukee: MBB January 21<sup>st</sup>
      3. National Girls and Women in Sports Day: WBB January 28<sup>th</sup>
      4. International Students Night: MBB February 6<sup>th</sup>
      5. UWM Men of Color: MBB February 9<sup>th</sup>
      6. Lawton Students Recognition: MBB February 23<sup>rd</sup>

- ii. Alberto Maldonado from the Roberto Hernandez Center will be our next guest.
  - iii. NCAA DEI Review – Kathy met with Dr. Chia Vang to review the NCAA best practices document and discuss a plan for a DEI review of athletics. She will be working on a similar review of Finance and Administrative Affairs with Robin Van Harpen and will do our review in the same process. Meetings will start in March and we will most likely need Athletic Board members to participate in the review, more to come.
- V. Updates from Student-Athletes
  - i. SAAC – Kate Watson and Anika Tylek
    - 1. First SAAC meeting of the semester is today. Will review what the plan of the semester is. Will ask for executive committee interest for next year, to shadow current officers. Schedule for the semester: March - Tim Halverson, Nutrition; April-Dr. Meyer and Green Bandana, Mental Health; May-Open House International Night.
    - 2. One Love facilitators are needed – healthy relationship training that is peer led.
  - ii. Horizon League SAAC – Clare provided the update
    - 1. January 9<sup>th</sup> was the last meeting. Mental health presentation. HL is doing a mental health series in March, SAAC is seeking topics.
- VI. Fiscal, Equity, Personnel – Cathy Rossi
  - a. Reviewed the notes from the last meeting.
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 AM