

**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

SECTION: 10

DATE:

11/17/2007

**RECOMMENDATION**

**ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Working agenda for November 27, 2007 and the September 21, 2007 minutes to be received and placed on file.

**STAFF SUMMARY**

The agenda for September 21, 2007 was first and foremost focused on the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Goals and Objectives: Integrity, Academic Success, Fiscal Integrity and Fundraising, Opportunity and Diversity and Increase Actual Attendance for Football. Good news from athletics, Becky Reenders from volleyball was selected the MAC Scholar Athlete and MAC West Division Player of the Week Awards, for the week of September 16, 2007. The volleyball team received, for the seventh time the American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award. And in football; Daniel Holtzclaw was named MAC Player of the week with thirteen tackles and one interception against Northern Illinois.

The agenda for the November 27, 2007 will include an update on the Fall Sports, Graduation Rate/APR. There will be discussion on contract approval for Nelligan Sports.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.

Derrick L. Gragg, Ed.D.

November 15, 2007  
Date

**Eastern Michigan University  
Board of Regents  
ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
Minutes of September 21, 2007**

**MEMBERS**

**Regents:** Regent Floyd Clack (Chair), Regent James Stapleton and Regent Roy Wilbanks

**Athletics:** Derrick Gragg, Director of Athletics

Regent Clack convened the meeting of the Athletic Affairs Committee at 12:50 p.m.

Hearing no objections, Regent Clack approved minutes of the June 19, 2007 meeting.

**Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Goals and Objectives – Derrick Gragg**

*Handout to Committee: Eastern Michigan University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics 2007-08 Goals and Objectives (attached).*

Derrick Gragg commended Melody Reifel Werner and Mike Malach for their time and knowledge completing the goals and objectives of the athletics department.

**Integrity:**

Melody Reifel Werner and her staff in compliance and SASS meet regularly with coaches and student-athletes regarding NCAA and MAC rules and regulations. Athletics will comply fully to all rules and regulations to avoid major infractions and monetary penalties that they could entail.

**Academic Success:**

Intent of the department is that all student-athletes should graduate within five years of first enrollment. The graduation rate of EMU student-athletes is 62%, above the EMU general student-body of 56%. 530 student-athletes had an average GPA of 3.074.

EMU's placement for men's sports was 3<sup>rd</sup> and the women placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the MAC standings. Although 2006-07 was an outstanding year, expectations are for both the men's and women's teams to be consistently in the top 1/3 – 1/2 of the standings. This past year there were eight (8) MAC Championship teams, and six (6) MAC Coaches of the Year. Athletics looks forward to increase number of teams/individuals to compete on the regional and national levels.

**Fiscal Integrity and Fundraising:**

Athletic programs will operate responsibility within the University and Foundation fiscal policies and procedures. All athletic programs will operate within their approved budgets and develop methods to increase their endowments.

Craig Fink, Associate Athletics Director for Development, told the committee about upcoming efforts for fundraising.

- The Lucy Parker Women's Athletic Endowment, primarily funded by the Lucy Parker Golf Outing. The next and final outing will be June 20, 2008 and the goal for this event has been set at \$100,000.
- The Track and Field endowment goal is in the seven figures so that much needed improvements can be made to their facilities. This is very significant so that our student-athletes can have the resources to compete nationally.

- Still establishing target groups for construction of the Student Performance Enhancement Center.
- The athletics donor base has increase by 52% over last year at this time. Goal is to look for larger gifts from individual donors.
- Next year the first-ever athletic annual report will be printed.
- Overall goal is to increase the number of donors.

Regent Stapleton stated that a great resource for contributions may be from past student-athletes who have gone on and started a business.

- Create a newsletter for EMU athletic alumni

Derrick Gragg commended Craig Fink, as he is a "one-man show."

Regent Wilbanks suggested a club for all former athletes.

- Craig Fink stated that the "E" Club was still very active and included letterwinners.

#### **Opportunity and Diversity**

EMU athletics has made great strides towards complying with Title IX. Derrick Craig stated that he is proud of this continuing progress in athletics.

#### **Increase Actual Attendance for Football**

A University-wide committee was formed to discuss ways to increase football attendance. There are several marketing strategies in place for this season. Tickets sold for this week's Howard University football game is at 7,000 and Derrick Gragg stated that several thousand more will be sold day of game.

#### **Updates on Departmental Strategic Plan – Derrick Gragg**

Derrick Gragg thanked Melody Reifel Werner and the University-wide athletic strategic plan committee.

In the last 7 years there have been no sanctions against EMU Athletics concerning Title IX compliance. Derrick Gragg also thanked Dr. Elizabeth Broughton, Faculty Athletic Representative and Professor in Leadership and Counseling, for her tremendous contributions to athletics.

#### **Departmental Budget Issues**

Athletics has trimmed budgets just as the rest of University has done, with a 14% cut and thirteen (13) positions eliminated. \$640,000 was added to the athletic budget distribution of money was to softball to comply with Title IX, expenses for all programs, to football to maintain Division I status, to men's and women's basketball and remainder to all sports.

Regent Stapleton stated that athletic education is a part of the University. Athletics is a marketing tool for other educational programs on campus. The Board supports athletics and education.

**Good News from Athletics**

Recently Dr. Myles Brand, President, NCAA visited the campus and it was the first time a NCAA President has ever been to EMU. Dr. Brand made a presentation to the Board of Regents and the campus community. Also, he was a speaker at the festivities for the Celebration of Champions that evening.

Volleyball:     - Becky Reenders was selected to receive the MAC Scholar-Athlete and MAC West Division Player of the Week Awards.  
                  - The team received, for the seventh time, the American Volleyball Coaches Association team Academic Award.  
                  - Currently 3-3 overall and play Ball State at home tonight.

Football:       - Daniel Holtzclaw was named MAC Player of Week with 13 tackles and 1 interception against Northern Illinois.  
                  - Howard University game this Saturday.

Men's Cross Country:   - Picked to win MAC championships

Regent Stapleton asked what the guidelines are for a pregnant student-athlete.

*Handout to Committee: Guidelines for the Pregnant Student-Athlete (attached).*

Derrick Gragg stated that this set of guidelines is not final. It still needs further review and will again be presented to the Board.

Athletic Affairs Committee adjourned by Regent Clack at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Carrico  
Administrative Secretary, Intercollegiate Athletics

**BOARD OF REGENTS  
ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
Thursday November 27, 2007  
Welch Hall**

**AGENDA**

- A. Approval of September 21, 2007 Minutes
- B. Fall Sport Update
- C. Graduation Rate/APR updates
- D. Nelligan Sports – Contract approval discussion
- E. Good News from Athletics