



MIDDLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

VOTING DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES

March 28, 2012

Lebanon Valley College, Mund Campus Center
Annville, Pennsylvania

PARTICIPANTS:

Brett Adams (Stevenson University), Ken Andrews (MAC), Heidi Birtwistle (Eastern University), Staci Brennan (Hood College), Katie Cirilo (MAC), Mike Clark (Lycoming College), Jack Cole (Messiah College), Chuck Edkins (Misericordia University), Rick Ferry (Albright College), Brad Fields (Eastern University), Julene Fisher (Manhattanville College), Lauren Frankford (Lebanon Valley College), Laura Gingrich (Alvernia University), Marie Godwin (MAC), Stacey Hollinger (Lebanon Valley College), Cheryl Ish (King's College), Jon King (Alvernia University), Bill Klika (FDU-Florham), Greg Krikorian (Lebanon Valley College), Nancy Latimore (Elizabethtown College), Matt Levy (Delaware Valley College), Shirley Liddle (Arcadia University), Janice Luck (Albright College), Steve MacDonald (Lebanon Valley College), Addy Malatesta (Wilkes University), Dave Martin (Misericordia University), Brad McCarty (Messiah College), Adrienne Mullikin (Hood College), Jenn Noon (FDU-Florham), Rob Nydick (Arcadia University), Gracia Perilli (DeSales University), Gib Romaine (Hood College), Jack Shafer (Widener University), Bill Stiles (Alvernia University), Frank Wolfgang (Delaware Valley College)

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Ken Andrews.

DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT MACDONALD:

1. Academic Report. President MacDonald noted the academic report shows athletic participation usually improves academic performance and should be shared information – it gives FAR's the ability to approach faculty and dispel any negative myths about student-athletes. Ken Andrews noted that 13 of 16 institutional reports are conducted by Institutional Research departments and are most likely using consistent data criteria. The group believed the use of the academic report for a conference ranking served no purpose; the main intent is for faculty to use data to compare student-athletes with non-athletes at their own institution.
2. Academic Recognition. The group debated possible options for academic recognition within the conference. There was some opposition to the FAR proposal to honor a team from each sport with the top GPA (compiled from academic report) because it may not be comparing schools/teams equally. Ken Andrews will work out details of a proposal with the MAC Executive Committee and bring topic back for discussion at the next meeting.

3. Video Streaming. President MacDonald reported that while a majority of presidents in the conference supported the idea of live video streaming of contests, there was not strong support to mandate it. President MacDonald encouraged the practice to be pushed at the conference level because it is something that is expected from student-athletes and their parents and would elevate the level of professionalism in the conference. A majority of schools have committed to hosting video streaming in the next academic year.
4. Campus Gender Equity Visits. It is proposed that a visit should be scheduled every three years with the goal to have the athletic department on an external review sequence. Pre-existing campus reviews may be suitable to replace a campus gender equity visit.
5. MAC Forum: May 2013. Integrated with the conclusion of the MAC 100, a forum is tentatively scheduled with senior staff members to collaborate about enhancing the student-athlete experience. President MacDonald solicited ideas from the group about who to bring to the forum and topics for discussion. It was suggested that members of campus student affairs and advancement offices would benefit from a collaborative conference forum.
6. Expectations of MAC programs. Ken Andrews collected information from the Fact Book along with several other suggestions to draft a list of expectations for MAC programs. The list has potential to make sure campuses are compliant and may give leverage for positive change.

The group recessed at approximately 10:25 am and reconvened at 10:35 am.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The December 6, 2011 minutes were accepted (**16-0**).
2. MAC 100.
 - A. Kick-off on May 1, 2012 at FDU. Ken Andrews reviewed several awards to be presented (MAC Inaugural Hall of Fame, Sorrentino Award, and Kauffman/Trapp Retirement Recognition) as well as MAC 100 promotions (floor decals, temporary tattoos, uniform patches, and t-shirts) that will be distributed.
 - B. Events. Ken Andrews reviewed upcoming events including: Golf Tournament, NCAA Reception, Basketball senior game, week of service, and wrap-up Forum.
 - C. Summer 2012 and ongoing for 2012-2013 academic year. Schools will include “Memorable Moments in the MAC” in advancement publications, receptions will be held for MAC alumni at individual championships, Century Teams selected by

era will be awarded a commemorative coin and each school should utilize materials provided from the conference office.

3. A contract with HUDL for video exchange and editing software was approved (16-0). Ken Andrews will pay the upfront cost and invoice each institution \$2,240.
4. Video Streaming. All institutions verbally committed to video stream some athletic contests next year. Ken Andrews encouraged that all home basketball games be broadcast as a minimum expectation. Schools have the autonomy to choose vendor and pay-per-view versus free options. Schools should notify Ken Andrews as to which vendor they are pursuing for video streaming no later than Monday, April 16, 2012.
5. Noisemakers. The group decided to maintain current conference regulations on noisemakers.

The group recessed for lunch at approximately 11:26 am and reconvened at 12:02 pm.

6. Revision of Gender Equity Visit guide. The group reviewed the Gender Equity Visit guide and made recommendations. Jack Shafer offered assistance to other institutions as Widener just completed an institutional review focusing on Title IX using the gender equity manual from the NCAA. Ms. Liddle suggested that an athletic department review would be strong with gender equity as a subset assessment.
7. Revision of expectations for MAC programs. Ken Andrews noted that a majority of expectations were taken directly from the *MAC Fact Book*. It was clarified that passing the NCAA rules test required a minimum score of 80%.
8. Cross Country Championship start time. Bill Klika suggested delaying the start time of the conference cross country championship due to extended travel time leading to overnight expenses. The group decided to maintain start time for next year and table the issue to revisit with cross country coaches in their upcoming meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The group accepted Jenn Noon (FDU) and Jack Shafer (Widener) as Operations Committee members in the Class of 2015 (16-0).
2. Financials.
 - A. 2011-2012 Winter Championship Accounting Review. Ken Andrews reviewed the winter championship events budget. The swimming championship brought in about \$1000 more in gate receipts, the track & field championship maintained about the same level of revenue, and the basketball championships made money

at every venue except Widener. It was noted that the ECAC increased charges to cover mileage for officials.

- B. NCAA Initiatives Grant Budget. Ken Andrews reviewed Tier One, Two, and Three NCAA Conference Grant items noting an increase in participation by schools requesting Tier Two grants. Ken will reevaluate requests to see if they fit in other categories than “Student-Athlete Well Being” (such as Sportsmanship, Diversity & Gender Equity, or Identity and Integration).
 - C. 2012-2013 Proposed MAC Budget. Ken Andrews indicated that notification of selection for the NCAA Internship or Matching Grants in April could influence several MAC budget items.
- 3. Manhattanville Tennis Courts. Ken Andrews reviewed the dilemma of playing conference matches at Manhattanville’s tennis courts because they are not approved for NCAA play. The group approved **(8-0-8)** providing an additional year grace period for Manhattanville to find hard courts to play on for conference competitions.
 - 4. The group approved **(16-0)** deleting the stipulation that only 12 cheerleaders may attend a championship event for free from the *Fact Book*.
 - 5. The group opposed **(0-14-2)** pursuing Wells College as an affiliate member in Commonwealth Conference field hockey.
 - 6. Sport Committee Reports.
 - A. The group discussed a motion made by the Operations Committee for any student-athlete who receives a vote in all-conference selection will be named Honorable Mention. It was approved **(9-7)** to refer the motion to the Sports Information Directors.
 - B. Men’s Basketball. Dave Martin reviewed the men’s basketball coach’s conference call on March 5, 2012. To ensure favorable pricing in the next cycle, the conference will solicit RFP’s from four coordinators of basketball officials. The group approved this motion **(16-0)**.
 - C. Women’s Basketball. Janice Luck reviewed the women’s basketball coach’s conference call noting that similar issues from the men’s basketball coach’s conference call (increase in all-conference team size as well as increase in playoff bracket) were discussed.
 - 7. Ocean City Meeting. Ken Andrews reviewed the Ocean City meeting schedule:
 - A. On Wednesday, conduct the meeting from 10 AM – 1 PM.

- B. Wednesday at 2:30 PM, Ken Andrews and a couple of athletic administrators meet with Hood and Stevenson to review policies and procedures.
- C. Wednesday night: reception at 6 PM with dinner together in one space at 7 PM.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Wrestling. Jack Cole notified the group that a motion to bring wrestling back as a MAC championship event might come up in the next meeting, as the NCAA will be moving to a regional qualifier format. Ken Andrews noted that *all* six schools would need to approve the addition to add it to MAC Championships.
2. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 pm as the group met to discuss the performance review for Ken Andrews.
3. The committee will next meet May 1, 2012 at FDU-Florham.

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