

**Committee on Athletics Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 15, 2023 Meeting #5 – In-Person/Zoom**

**Present:** Chris Karadjov, Maga-Jui Marape, Brenda Vogel, Samar Needham, Jana Fogaca, Xuan Huang, Brian Coriaty, Emyr Williams, Ted Kadowaki, Arline Walter, Andrew Vaca, Michael Solt, Sandra Shirley, Milton Ordonez, Madeleine Liseblad

1. **Call to Order** at 3:05 p.m.
2. **Meeting agenda approved.**
3. **Approval of minutes** from Feb. 15, 2023: Minutes approved.
4. **Announcements**
  - a. **FAR** - Brenda Vogel announced she has been re-appointed as the Faculty Athletic Representative. The COA congratulated Brenda. Chris Karadjov thanked the COA for their service in the FAR appointment process. Chris briefly discussed potential changes to the process next time. Brenda volunteered to ask other FARs in the conference about their selection process. We need to update the description for the FAR role for next time.
  - b. **Excused absences** - Brenda asked the COA to please remind faculty that athletes have excused absences when they are representing the university. They cannot be docked for missed quizzes, missed participation etc. Andrew Vaca asked if we should reach out to our chairs so they can remind their faculty. Brenda said that was a good idea. The issue tends to come up primarily with part-time instructors who are not familiar with the rules.
5. **Report from Mark Edrington**, Senior Associate Athletics Director/Capital Enhancements, Facilities, Operations and Event Management

Mark Edrington thanked the COA for the opportunity to come and speak. He talked about the damage caused by recent storms to the Walter Pyramid and how they have taken steps to repair it. The Pyramid was built in the early 1990s. Usually buildings have a lifespan, have wear and tear. The building is now approaching the end of its “usable life.” The roof is experiencing issues - has contractions/expansions, leaks etc. – and it’s a unique roof. We can have many leaking points after storms and the university has invested in ongoing repairs. It requires skilled people to fix and issues are inconsistent/irregular and include leaks caused by rain and by heat/air conditioning. We’re at a point where extreme weather is impacting the interior of the building.

To replace the roof would cost an estimated \$55 million because it’s a unique structure. CSULB hired consultants/contractors to come up with a plan. Their estimate includes a new roof, bringing the building up to code, performing deferred maintenance, etc. Beach Building Services is now getting a second opinion due to the large estimate.

To date, \$670,000 has been invested to fix items in the building. The issues are inconsistent; there were no issues during last night's storm. We have people working on issues on a regular basis. There is no timeline available for the roofing because there is no state funding available.

Milton Ordonez said the Luxor in Las Vegas has had similar issues. It's the design that creates an issue. Milton asked if there's a plan to move forward. Mark Edrington said the university is evaluating if we fix the issues or if it is best to build a new arena.

Ted Kadowaki said safety is always going to be the top priority, for athletes and spectators. We don't want anyone to get hurt. So far we've only had to move two events because of building issues.

Mark Edrington said if we commit to playing a game, and the roof starts leaking, we risk forfeiting games.

#### 6. **Report from Mauricio Ingrassia, Women's Head Soccer Coach**

Mauricio Ingrassia gave the COA an update on training, recruitment, and strategy for the women's soccer program. The team had a very successful season coming out of covid. They had a couple of injuries after the inactivity, but the team is doing well. The program has a history of winning games, including several Big West championships.

CSULB soccer has had two players drafted to the pros; we're the only non-power 5 to have had that. The players are Lena Silano and Kaitlin Fregulia. People are still talking about Lena's kick that went viral. Lena signed with the Washington Spirit. Kaitlin is playing in Tijuana, Mexico.

Mauricio Ingrassia says they are trying to get the team to focus on goals – daily goals and weekly goals – so they always strive to become better. The squad is young and high energy. They played Seattle Rain and a Japanese All Star team recently.

Arline Walter asked who our main competitors are. Mauricio Ingrassia said Fullerton, Irvine, and Cal Poly.

Sandra Shirley asked how the transfer portal has affected us. Mauricio Ingrassia said we've picked up players and it hasn't really affected us losing players. We recruit far ahead. If we bring in a transfer, it has to be the right fit for the team.

Maga-Jui Marape said Lena's kick was amazing. Mauricio Ingrassia reiterated it's still shown everywhere.

#### 7. **Adjournment:** Meeting ended at 3:51 p.m. The next meeting is **April 19.**

COA: <https://www.csulb.edu/academic-senate/committee-athletics-coa>

Recurring Zoom link: <https://csulb.zoom.us/j/84550458692>