

Committee on Athletics Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Meeting #6 - Zoom

Present: Chris Karadjov, Gary Metzker, Michael Solt, Ulices Pina, Jane Fogaca, Andy Vaca, Corrinne Garthoff, Ehsan Barjasteh, Jose Raya Perez, Xitclalli Ramirez, Sandra Adams, Milton Ordonez, Portia Resnick, Sandra Shirley, Brenda Vogel, Richard Loza, and Loren Edwards.

- I. **Call to Order at 15:03.** Agenda approved by Brenda. Seconded by Andy.
 - II. **Approval of minutes from Feb. 16, 2022:** Minutes approved by Jane. Seconded by Andy.
 - III. **Announcements:** Gary added a link to a story about the women's NCAA basketball tournament. Ulices wrote a piece for the Washington Post on soccer in Los Angeles.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2022/02/25/los-angeles-soccer-is-thriving-thanks-latino-fans-it-wasnt-always-so/>
- IV. **Agenda**

Item A: Brenda Vogel (NCAA faculty athletics representative) – presentation on the process for special admissions of our student athletes.

The DAAC reviews requests from coaches who seek admission to the university for prospective student-athletes (PSAs) who are not eligible to gain admission to the CSU overall or CSULB specifically. Current CSULB admission criteria can be found here. DAAC's goal is to recommend for special admission only those PSAs who have a reasonable expectation of academic success leading to graduation.

DAAC Membership includes:

- Two faculty members (voting)
- Two members of the athletics department (voting)
- The FAR (voting)
- Representatives from the Bickerstaff center, athletics compliance, and admissions to provide information (non-voting).

Criteria for considering special admission applications include:

- Admission requirements for each prospective applicant;
- Subject deficiencies (for both first-time freshman and transfer applicants);
- Grade-point deficiency (for both first-time freshman and transfer applicants);
- Athletics commitment to ensure academic success through tutoring, mentoring, summer school and/or winter session;
- Major specific degree requirements (for transfers);
- Residency status (to determine minimal CSU requirement standards); and
- The coach's prior academic success based upon
 - o Their past performance regarding the academic success of previous special admits, and

- o Additional standards and/or principles as deemed necessary or appropriate by the department of Athletics.

DAAC considers each PSA's case independently and holistically.

The process:

- 1) All PSAs apply to the university, like all other applicants, through Cal State Apply.
- 2) Enrollment Services (ES) notifies athletics that the PSA does not meet CSU or CSULB admission criteria.
- 3) ES prepares a special admission packet and sends the packet to athletics; athletics sends it to the coach.
- 4) The coach chooses whether or not to pursue special admission for the PSA.
 - If the coach chooses not to pursue the PSA, then ES sends the PSA a denial letter.
 - If the coach chooses to pursue special admission, the process continues.
- 5) The special admission packet includes:
 - A cover sheet, letter from the coach requesting special admission, student athlete review worksheet from admissions, transcripts, and a letter to the PSA notifying them of the process.
 - Also included, if applicable, are test scores, current grades, verification of AA degree, other pertinent information.
- 6) The DAAC meets to consider the merits of the application and votes to either recommend admission or deny admission. Recommendations are forwarded to ES for final review and consideration. DAAC recommendations may include conditions (e.g., passing a course, earning a specific grade or GPA, etc.). If DAAC does not recommend admission, the coach may appeal. See below.
- 7) At this point, ES puts recommendations into two groups:
 1. Group 1: Includes PSAs who are CSU admissible, but not CSULB admissible
 - a. ES notifies DAAC, Athletics, and Bickerstaff of their decision to admit (with or without conditions) or deny.
 2. Group 2: Includes PSAs who are neither CSU nor CSULB admissible
 - a. Per AB 1383, these PSAs must move to a second review by Admission by Exception Committee (AEC). The AEC must include a "minimum of three senior campus administrators" In our case, it includes AVP Enrollment Services (Donna Green), AVP of Undergraduate Advising (Kerry Johnson), and Director of Athletics (Andy Fee).
 - b. The AEC decides to either admit or not admit the PSA.
 - c. AEC notifies DAAC, Athletics, and Bickerstaff of their decision to admit (with or without conditions) or deny
 - d. The decision of this group is final.

Appeal Process of DAAC Decision

- 1) If the DAAC recommends that the student's application be denied at step 6 above, then the head coach may appeal the decision ONLY if there is new information beyond what was included in the original special admission packet.
- 2) The appeal must include a letter from the student, a professional letter of recommendation, an academic plan that includes past academic success, and any other supporting materials.
- 3) The DAAC will re-evaluate the student's application and review the admissions appeal. The coach may attend the appeal meeting and identify academic success tools to be used in aiding the student towards graduation.

4) If the DAAC's recommendation is unchanged, the coach may appeal in writing to the Director of Athletics for further review.

Commitments/Conditions for the Coach and the PSA who are involved in this process:

- If the Coach brings in a specially admitted student then:
 - The Coach must commit a roster spot for a minimum of one year to the student-athlete and financially commit to all academic support for the student-athlete (as determined by the BAC) until graduation, including if the student-athlete quits the team.
 - If a coach wants to remove a specially admitted student-athlete from the roster, the removal must be approved by the Sport Supervisor and Athletic Director.
- If the PSA accepts special admission to the university then:
 - The PSA must satisfy the admission requirements set out by the DAAC or the AEC during the established timeframe or their admission may be rescinded.
 - Once school starts, the student must remain a member of the team for at least one year or their admission may be rescinded.

CSU eligible mean 2.0 GPA. Plus all the A-Gs classifications completed.

Item B: Richard Loza (assistant athletics director for marketing and creative strategies) – presentation on athletics program marketing.

Loza started in September and had been at UCSB for 21 years. This a period of assessment going on right now. The wise thing to do is figure out what things need correcting and what does work right now.

Loza had a staff of students, but not workers. He has hired three people and is at full-speed ahead. He tries to look at the situation being half-full in regards to Covid. Things were a bit tricky especially with indoor events. One of the things being done to increase attendance is working with Biggest Fan. They work with Grand Canyon University. Essentially it is a giant, loud party. Their mentality is to create a party atmosphere, but be respectful to season ticket holders but want to create a great atmosphere for the students.

But why spend so much time and money on students when they don't pay? From the biz standpoint, the fans drive the environment, that college environment. It's a different feel to the games. The fans bring in the corporate partners. It drives in revenue and the recruits. Everyone wants to play in front of their peers.

How to get the students to come and watch basketball; come and watch baseball. It's the marketing. Get them to come and sample the product. Nationwide, the mindset is give them a bunch of stuff, but it's really only a Band-Aid; it's not a solution. Loza wants to get students to buy into the team. Students he talks to say they wish they had gone to more sporting events.

He wants his videographers to get lots of crowd reaction. That will create excitement with students and the fan base. Video helps sell tickets and gets students excited about Beach athletics.

Advertising in local media and student media: member of Chamber of Commerce. What's the best way to spend a tight budget. They do target marketing. Loza said they have social media accounts that help get out the word: @LBSUathletics. Videos are unique and show views that no one else can see.

Item C: Sandra Shirley / Loren Edwards (Bickerstaff Academic Center for Student Athletes) – presentation on academic support for student athletes.

Sandra: fall 2021: 373 students served. 19 teams with 19 schedules. 5 academic advisers that work with specific sports teams. The goal is to build a rapport with the student-athlete. The goal is a good campus experience. They advise as to sports practice conflicts and scheduling. In fall 2021, GPA of 3.19. 82% of student-athletes that received tutoring passed the class they received assistance in. 32 athletes in spring 2021 earned a 4.0. In fall 2021 46 earned a 4.0 and 74 were placed on the President's List.

During Covid, a virtual study hall was offered and they have stayed. Study halls offered to traveling teams. BAC is actively recruiting tutors.

V. **Adjournment: Meeting ended at 4:22. Next meeting is April 20, 2022**

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

Recurring Zoom link: <https://csulb.zoom.us/j/84001105418>