

SAAB MEETING

November 14, 2005

Attendance

Grady Renfrow, M. Soccer; Richard Kornacki, M. Swimming; Lori Havrilla, W. Lacrosse; Lauren Bryan, W. Lacrosse; Linsey Shea, W. Lacrosse; Shari Maslin, W. Lacrosse; Matt Gaines, Cheerleading; Christa Clemson, W. Track; Diana Bruch, W. Track; Lindsay Guenter, W. Track; Braellee Foerschner, W. Track; Heidi Nadeau, W. Track; Matthew Cohen, M. Gymnastics; Matthew Bowman, M. Gymnastics; Chad Buczek, M. Gymnastics; Corissa Pirkel, W. Gymnastics; Jen Orlando, W. Gymnastics; Greg Pieczynski, M. Golf; Jean Rettig, W. Soccer; Adam Stanowick, M. Track; Jenny Shular, W. Tennis; Tara Berardi, Dance Team; Kelly Silvis, Dance Team; Jen Miller, Field Hockey; Christine Dudek, Field Hockey; Jen Long, Field Hockey; Destinie Chavez, Softball; Kari Lucas, Softball; Rachel Ahrenhold, W. Swimming; Claire Hawley, W. Swimming; Andrea Wine, W. Fencing; Katie Cook, W. Fencing; Laura Hillstrom, W. Fencing; Sophie Hiss, W. Fencing; Brian Cantalupi, Wrestling; Katie Stauffer, Softball; Kristen Miller, Field Hockey; Meg Boyd, W. Lacrosse.

Speaker

Tim Curley – Our Athletic Director was kind enough to take the time out of his busy schedule and keep SAAB updated on the latest activities going on within the Penn State Athletic Department and to solicit our needs and feedback. Keeping in line with some of the goals we have for SAAB this year, he encouraged us to get involved with other PSU student organizations, liaison with 3-4 student-organizations as a start. He also congratulated us on a great start to the year!

Mr. Curley spoke about a few of the more relevant NCAA proposals that might impact us at both the Conference and National levels. Some of those issues include increasing standards for recruits and students on campus, changing the way that the graduation rate is calculated, and drug testing discussion, in relation to sports-enhancing drugs.

Mr. Curley noted some general issues on which he spends a lot of his time. Penn State Athletics is currently in the second year of a five-year fundraising campaign called, "Success with Honor." This campaign is aiming to raise \$100,000,000 to go towards facilities, sports medicine, endowed scholarships and the Morgan Center. It is the goal to keep all 29 sports and to be competitive at a Conference and National level across the board.

He also talked of facilities that are on the radar screen to be improved and make Big Ten and National standards:

- White Building and Rec. Hall training rooms
- Softball field/setup
- 50 meter pool and diving well
- Indoor tennis facility
- Golf clubhouse and courses
- Outdoor fields (team rooms under Jeffrey Field)
- Rec. Hall in general
- Multi-sport weight room
- Ice facility
- Continual maintenance of all facilities

Despite some challenges, Mr. Curley affirmed to us that he is committed to increasing (not merely sustaining) opportunities for student-athletes such as allowing teams to travel nationally, modernizing facilities around campus, and continuing to be an advocate for issues pertaining to student-athlete welfare. He and Brian have a very good working relationship, so if any issues arise, bring them to the Executive Board's attention so our voice can be heard!

SAAB Updates/New Business

Campus Collaboration Committee (CCC) – Forming to act as a networking system to unite SAAB with different organizations on campus. We will have a representative/liason to attend monthly meetings of different organizations on campus such as USG, LBGTA, CCSG, Blue and White Society, to name a few suggestions. The purpose is to unify the athletic community with the rest of the University to have consistent communication. If SAAB is interacting with other students this committee may act as a support system as well. Bring possible organizations in which we want SAAB to be a part of to the December meeting or email Brian (bac245) with any ideas.

Paw Print – A new Issue will be distributed this week. Check it out on the website! <http://www.mascsa.psu.edu/saab.html>. Rachel Ahrenhold gave an overview of the types of articles she would like to see in the Paw Print, a large focus on human interest articles. It is important to take this information back to the teams, collaborate, come up with some creative stories and ideas for the next few issues. If you want write an article or want to give ideas for an issue of Paw Print, contact Rachel (rma151). The time commitment is small; meetings are once or twice a month. Try to get your team involved in reading or bringing new ideas. We also discussed bringing some of these ideas to the Collegian.

75-Hour Rule – Katie thanked people for feedback on this issue. She spoke with Dr. Kretchmar who is working on our behalf. Faculty Senate gave him some leeway for teams that this may be affecting.

Holiday Food Drive – The State College Food Bank is in dire need of food! This was a great success last year so lets do it again! Drop off items to the Morgan Center or the box in your locker room. For pick-up, please email Sarah (seg143) or drop off your items at the Morgan Center by December 8.

Holiday Party – SAAB will partner with The Second Mile to offer a holiday party for 25 local children. Teams are asked to donate \$25 to purchase gifts for the kids and also to attend the holiday party to present the gifts on Sunday, December 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the Football Letterman's Club. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Sue (src122).

THON

- a. Canning was a success! – Last weekend at the Men's and Women's Soccer games we raised \$430. We are canning again this weekend at the Women's Volleyball game. If interested, contact Sarah (seg143).
- b. Auction Items – Needed by Wednesday, November 16! Auction will run from November 20 to December 3 on-line at www.pennstateauction.org.
- c. Solicitation Letters/Pledge Books – Available in the Morgan Center.
- d. Dancer Guidelines – SAAB has 6 dancers for THON this year. You must raise a minimum of \$250. If interested, contact Sue (src122) or Sarah (seg143).
- e. Cookbooks – On sale soon in the Morgan Center. Great holiday gift idea.

- f. T-Shirts – Design looks like the issued shirts, but in the box, it says “For The Kids” and then on the back our family names. To order, drop off money (\$12) at the Morgan Center.

Get 60 – Opportunity for student-athletes to visit kids in elementary schools to help them with goal setting and getting them physically active. (Get 60 means get active for 60 minutes a day.) This program will take place over a 6-week period, in which you are required to attend at least 3 of the 6 weeks. The schools will be within 15-25 minutes of Penn State. Information session will be on November 30, at 8:00 p.m. in 136 EALR. If interested, attend this session or contact Sarah (seg143).

Champs Cup – Reminder to turn in your forms to the Morgan Center or submit them on-line at www.mascsa.psu.edu/nagle.html with any volunteer/community service projects your team has participated in.

Big Ten Issues – Brian attended the Big Ten Conference last week and came back with some issues and ideas.

- a. Fan Behavior at Events – This is an issue at most schools. We discussed sportsmanship and how student-athletes can help with this issue (e.g., unruly fan behavior is not a student-athlete problem but we can address it as a student-athlete body), possibly producing a radio blurb, writing an editorial article for the Daily Collegian, or making a video with kids to present before events.
- b. Transferring – There are a number of different reasons why student-athletes choose to transfer but what happens if your coach chooses not to sign off on request to transfer? (Must sit out a year but you won't lose a year of eligibility.) Issue was discussed, context of every situation is different, and consensus of group is the student-athlete should have voice in the matter.
- c. Things that other Big Ten schools do:
 - i. Screen savers on campus to advertise sporting events. We are going to work on getting this done and having our events advertised on the TVs around campus.
 - ii. Professor Shadow Day – A professor shadows a student-athlete for the entire day, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Banquet – Discussed entertainment, length and award ideas. Decided to keep the slide show, but will we try to improve the setup so everyone can see it. Any input on other entertainment options; having someone sing or play an instrument? Any more award or entertainment ideas, contact Laura (lih105) or Katie (klc272).

NEXT SAAB MEETING
Monday, December 5, 2005, 8:00 p.m. in 137 EALR
Note the meeting time of 8:00 p.m.