

Boulder Faculty Assembly
Intercollegiate Athletics Committee
2018-19 Report
June 28, 2019

The IAC met as a full committee on 9/25/18, 10/30/18, 11/27/18, 1/25/19, 2/22/19, & 4/26/19. We met in executive session (faculty-only; more on this below) on 10/9, 11/13, 12/11, 2/8, & 3/8. Here are a few topics that figured centrally in the committee's work, followed by some brief notes from various meetings.

1. Faculty-Only IAC Meetings

Much of the monthly IAC meetings are devoted to checking in with (and providing feedback to) the various resource members (Department of Athletics, Herbst Academic Center, Compliance, Faculty Athletic Director, COIA Rep). This AY, we decided to hold monthly faculty-only IAC meetings in order to have more time to discuss other issues of faculty interest in the academic/athletic intersection. These meetings were held in executive session so faculty could discuss specific (sometimes sensitive) issues. Topics included looking at major/course clustering (no issues of concern were raised), practice/travel time (more could be done in this realm to limit "time creepage"), student-athlete GPA compared to general student body (no concerns but hard to compare apples-to-apples), GSR/FSR/APR numbers (CU in the middle/above-average for Pac-12).

2. Scheduling Optional Athletic Competitions

We spent a good deal of time discussing the issue with potential athletic competitions scheduled during CU's reading/final exam period. While the previously passed BFA resolutions *allows* faculty to accommodate these conflicts when they arise, there is no University recommendation/policy to the Athletic Department and/or coaches specifically prohibiting scheduling these types of competitions. While some competitions may be unavoidable (conference/national championship tournaments, bowl games, etc.) others (regular season games, optional invitationals) could be avoided with minimal impact. After drafting a BFA resolution on the topic, Senior Vice Provost Eggert recommended that this issue could be better implemented as a University policy. This issue is currently ongoing with a decision to be made in the 2019-20 AY.

3. First-Year Student Faculty Recognition Award

This award was implemented in 2017-18 and, while the nominations were very high quality, there was significantly less student-athlete submissions than planned/hoped. The committee discussed ways to increase the participation (expand to more than just first-years? Simplify the nomination process?) This award, while dormant for 2018-19 will be restructured and re-implemented in 2019-20.

4. Faculty Involvement in Athletics

How to get faculty more involved with student-athletes as well as athletics in general? This topic came up at several meetings throughout the AY. From enhancing the student-athlete-to-faculty connection (mentoring (both individual and small group), lunch

sessions, best practices for student-athletes in the classroom) to getting faculty out to athletic competitions (better/more faculty-only incentives).

5. Student-athlete health/well-being

This topic came up frequently throughout the AY as well. So much is being done in the Athletic Department that the faculty senate are unaware of. From conference leading policies to grant funded research on mental health. While slightly related to the previous topic (faculty involvement in the Athletic Department) this only includes dissemination of information to faculty. A series of brown-bag discussions hosted by the Athletic Department (and organized, perhaps moderated, by the IAC) will be scheduled for AY19-20.

Other meeting notes follow.

9/25/18

- Nathan Dudzik led a discussion of how to encourage faculty involvement at athletic competitions.
- The BFA Events Center Case has been moved to the Concourse level. BFA Excellence Award recipients will be invited to display their work the year after they win the award.

10/30/18

- We discussed the upcoming BFA Faculty Senate survey and how to best use it as an annual feedback mechanism for faculty opinion on the athletics program.
- E-sports: Should CU have a role in this growing trend? Will it affect eligibility/Title IX? Is this an avenue faculty would condone? Use as a marketing gimmick or as a serious venture (Scholarships, competition venues, etc.)?

11/27/18

- Looked at Athletics budget and how it gives/takes from the University.
- Revised the IAC Committee Charge.
- Discussed the suggested Grade Replacement Policy

1/25/19

- Most of the discussion time of this meeting was spent discussing the Athletic Scheduling Conflicts discussed in #2 above.

2/22/19

- Most of the discussion time of this meeting was spent discussing the specifics of a Best Practices document mentioned in #4 above.

4/26/19

- Discussed the upcoming student-athlete GPA success (overall GPA>3.0) from the HAC perspective and how to get that information out.
- Most of the discussion time of this meeting was spent discussing the specifics of #5 above.