

**Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Lock Haven, PA – March 19-20, 2016
MINUTES**

Attendance – Day 1: Robert Lenahan, Julia Gantz (BU); Jason Capco, Emily Berry (Cal); Brendyn Van Demark, Brandon French (Chey); Ian Lindsey, Katie Querciagrossa (Clar); Emily Howell, Kaitlyn Casciole (ESU); Micah Cattell, Tommy Scales (Edin); Chris Pike, McKenna Shives (Gan); Katie Miller, Gabby Egler (IUP); Suzanne Selman, David Johnson (KU); Jack Felt, Alexis Palfey (LH); Danielle Lentz, Sarah Nezelek (Mans); Joey Gabor, Hannah Tombaugh (Mer); Savannah Hall, Katie Deluca (Mill); Jacob Laravie, Levi Masua (UPJ); Christian Carter, Emily Hutsko (SH); Gabriella Brackett, Caleb Bartlett (Ship); Dean Ketterer, Mallory Heinle (SR); Sarah Garner, Wyatt Dungan (WC); Carlin Chesick, Nick Moller, Steve Murray, Laura Flynn (PSAC) **Day 2:** Same

Informal Session: Prior to the formal meeting, SAAC members participated in a Campus SAAC presentation presented by Jill Willson that covered the student-athlete voice, best practices, and social media. In addition, Derrek Schell spoke with SAAC and FARs regarding LGBTQ issues as a Division II student-athlete who came out to his peers while attending college. In the evening, SAAC participated in a Community Engagement Challenge.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 2015 PSAC SAAC meeting were reviewed and approved.

PSAC Update: Nick Moeller updated the group on the PSAC Social Media efforts, including the introduction of “Day in the Life” on Snapchat. SAAC reps were encouraged to like/follow the PSAC. Moeller also spoke briefly about the PSAC Network, a web streaming service that the league and its members have been working on throughout the year. The Presidents will review this at their May Board meetings. Another item of note to SAAC reps was the league’s updated Sportsmanship policies. This policy has not been updated since 2003 and did not include coaches due to the coaches’ union. The Presidents will also review this proposed policy in May. **Selection of West Chair:** Katie Miller, Volleyball, IUP.

PSAC Controversial Item Review: Divisional Soccer Schedule for 2017- There is no divisional alignment in the sports of men’s and women’s soccer. Other sports such as men’s and women’s basketball, football, volleyball, baseball, softball and women’s tennis, compete divisionally. SAAC reps were not in support of the proposal, as they did not feel it was the right way to have the best teams represented in the PSAC Tournament. SAAC continues to believe that we are one conference and therefore should play everyone. Long road trips build team comradery and provide opportunities to improve time management skills and grow as young adults. **0-36-0**

NCAA DII SAAC Update: Chris Pike is the PSAC National SAAC representative. He spoke about the first ever SAAC vote at the NCAA Convention in January. National SAAC also affirmed their formal partnership with Team Impact. **Make-A-Wish:** There were 37 wish reveals, with at least one in every conference. **Foundation for the Future:** National SAAC submitted proposals to the committee and were interested in establishing a SAAC Conference and utilizing the Helper Helper App, a community service tracking application. **Faculty Mentor Award:** Due May 6 to the conference office and September 1 to NCAA.

Rebranding Campaign: “Make It Yours”

NCAA Strategic Grant Program: The Division II Strategic Initiative Grants were distributed and reviewed. All schools will receive their \$500 grant for 2016-2017. The academic grants will remain at \$3,500 in the coming year. The group was also updated on the grant committee’s recommendations for future grant spending. The SAAC and Academic Grants will remain in place.

SAAC Strategic Initiatives: Conference Sportsmanship Award - encouraged everyone to speak about this at every campus meeting. Submissions are due May 6, 2016.

Conference SAAC Projects: MAW and Team Impact are the Conference SAAC projects.

Future Meetings: Tentatively, the fall PSAC SAAC call will take place Sunday, October 2. Ideas for Professional Development for the spring meeting included: Mental Health Issues and Diversity Training on Social Issues.

Campus Issues Discussion: SAAC discussed the following items and shared items on: SAAC participation at campus meetings, issues between teams, promoting the good things on campus and faculty involvement.