



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

May 15, 2023

To: Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee

From: Francie Julien-Chinn, Co-Chair

Re: Committee on Athletics (COA) - Spring Report 2023

The Chair thanks the following committee members and officers for their service: Kelley Withy, Co-Chair & COIA Representative, Deborah Merritt, Secretary, Erin Centeio, SEC Liaison, Scott Sinnett, FAR Representative, Hong-Mei Chen, Member, and Myungji Yang, Member.

The committee met on the following dates in Spring 2023: January 6th, February 16th, April 13th, and May 2nd. During the Spring 2023 semester, the committee addressed issues related to student mental health and wellness, name image likeness, and the current status of athletics.

Issue(s) Completed:

This semester we remained committed to understanding and advocating for student-athletes, particularly in regards to their well-being. We spoke with the team physician along with one of the new athletic departments LCSW's (therapists), the assistant athletic director, a senior student-athlete, and the UH Athletics Director. These guests helped us to understand the needs of student-athletes, and the committee was able to take concerns to appropriate levels for advocacy. The committee also sent the Co-Chairs to the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), where issues such as name, image, likeness, gambling, student-athlete mental health, and the current status of the NCAA were discussed.

Issue(s) Under Review:

Subject to further review by the 2023-24 incoming members, we recommend staying up-to-date on the athletic director search. We also recommend continuing to support the new therapists and approach to mental-health that the athletics department is taking. Previous recommendations still stand in that the committee continues to recommend that the incoming members tour athletic facilities and meet with SAAS Academic Advisors to see where COA may assist with Title IX or gender equity issues. Finally, COA should continue meeting with student-athletes to gain a better understand holistically of their needs.