

UHM Committee On Athletics Final-year Report April 2013

Members: Martha Crosby; Richard Nettell; Ashley Stokes; Peter Nicholson (FAR); Ian Pagano (MFS Liaison); Linda Cox; Jennifer Matsuda; Raymond Panko; Kari Ambrozich; Williamson Chang; Garrett Clanin.

Meetings: the first Wed of the month 3:00 pm Hemingway Hall Room 204 during the fall semester and Hawaii Hall Room 208 during the spring semester.

Committee leadership:

Chair – Ashley Stokes

Vice-chairs – Jennifer Matsuda/Martha Crosby

Secretary – Linda Cox

AAB – Athletics Advisory Board – Raymond Panko

Gender Equity Committee – Ashley Stokes

COIA meeting representative – Martha Crosby

Issues that the committee addressed:

a) Internet access is still a concern for student-athletes as they travel for school-sponsored events. In 2011, the committee made a motion to the Athletic Department that each student athlete needs to have internet access while traveling. We still adhere to this request that it be honored.

b) A few faculty are inflexible regarding student athlete travel and we ask that all faculty be supportive of our students when they are required to miss classes for athletic endeavors; it should also be stated that students should miss as few classes as possible to participate in athletic endeavors. It is also suggested that students have designated time for study that does not coincide with other activities. In 2011 the committee made a motion to the MFS, MFS SEC, and Chancellor that all faculty be reminded to be supportive of our students when they are required to miss classes for athletic endeavors; and all athletic department personnel should be reminded that students should miss as few classes as possible to participate in athletic endeavors. This is an ongoing problem since the motion was presented to the MFS. The UH Manoa Catalog clearly states that faculty should not penalize students for university-sponsored activities. p 566 in 2010-2011 catalog “Excused Student Absences for Official University-Sponsored Events”. There is a continued need to remind faculty.

c) In 2011, the committee made a motion that all majors should be declared open to student athletes and all majors should work to accommodate student athletes. A survey completed in Spring 2012 found that student-athletes were generally very happy with their major. However, student-athletes reported the change in required hours to graduate has been a problem, esp for transfer students. They are having trouble getting the courses they need at times that work with their schedules.

d) The student athletes provided feedback that attendance of students at various games has increased due to new initiatives by the Athletic Department.

e) Ongoing review of grades, major availability, and compliance with Committee On Intercollegiate Athletics. No marked concerns at present. Reports presented by our FAR representative were very helpful as we evaluated student-athlete performance and concerns.

f) When the new admissions director is in place, we would like to extend an invitation to attend one of our regularly scheduled COA meetings during fall 2013. The COA met with Stacy Price, Director of Student Athletic Affairs and Ryan Yamaguchi, Assistant Director of Admissions during our March meeting.

g) We have asked our MFS-SEC Liaison to issue an invitation to the Athletic Director during the early part of the fall semester 2013 to speak with the MFS. The Chancellor-approved budget for the Athletics Department should be in place by then. We would like to request that a once-a-year visit always occur by the Athletics Director to the MFS. The COA met with Ben Jay, the new Athletics Director, during our February meeting.

h) We were able to send a COA member to the COIA meeting this year. Martha Crosby represented us and provided her report (see March minutes).