## SPECIAL FACULTY CONGRESS MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2020 *Architecture Auditorium (ARCH 205)* *4:30 PM - 5:00 PM*

| Preparing for this Zoom meeting  * Use cabled ethernet, not wifi, if possible. Otherwise, sit very close to your wifi router. * Use a headset with a microphone if possible * If you don’t have [Zoom installed](https://zoom.us/download), it will download when you join the link below * If a computer is unavailable, join from your smartphone; or by calling in   + To join the meeting by telephone only, please see<http://tiny.cc/join-by-telephone-only> for instructions. Use 142 015 147 as your Meeting ID.   + Note: a web browser is required for voting  Join the Zoom Meeting <https://coehawaii.zoom.us/j/91231878378?pwd=a0pvWHh1ZTQ5TDZydXA3ZHFqQlZLQT09>  Password: uhmfsmay20 During the Zoom Meeting  * Request to speak: Open the participants panel and press the “Raise Hand” icon   + Wait to be recognized   + Un-mute your microphone while speaking * Vote: the URL for our voting form will be shared in the chat window, and read aloud |
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**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chair T. Conway.  
**2. MINUTES:**

[October 16, 2019 Congress *(DRAFT)* Minutes](https://drive.google.com/open?id=16NfR4zIyETADTTqLRXQmCL-1Vg1JFvs4_iB6QBMJoC8)

Senator P. McKimmy motioned to approve the Minutes. Senator R. Paull seconded. Hearing no objections, the Minutes were approved by acclamation.

**3. CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Welcome** - Chair T. Conway welcomed the Congress to the Special Meeting due to the March meeting’s cancelation. He then welcomed and introduced the guest speaker, UHM Athletics Director David Matlin.

**4. BUSINESS**

**Guest Speaker: UH Director of Athletics David Matlin  
Annual Report to Senate**

Director Matlin thanked the Congress for the opportunity to speak.

1) Core Values for Decision Making  
 1. Health and safety of student-athletes, staff, the university community, and fans.

2. Keep education and scholarship intact for the student-athletes.

Finances are a critical component in delivering the two but every decision made is based on the above values. They are not looking at competing at the highest level. The emphasis remains on these two core values.

2) Athletic Services during COVID-19  
 Currently, we have about 100 student-athletes in campus housing or not living at home. Lots of students were not able to go home. So services need to be provided. Training rooms are still open by appointment and rehab services are continued in the safest manner possible. They provide two (2) meals/week for students that are here. These services follow social distancing rules and Sodexho has been managing this responsibly as a grab-and-go, and at a reasonable price.

3) NCAA   
 NCAA recently came up with the 5th year eligibility policy since the spring semester was canceled, and sports ended prematurely. This new policy allows UH to bring back students in their fifth year. The challenge to this is that it would cost the UH an additional $625K in scholarship costs. This is not a year for additional costs when cuts are being made to the budget. They can get the athletes back within the current scholarship limits or if the incremental money is fundraised. Not all athletes chose to return. They also needed to make sure that it did not drain the support services.

Dr. Hainline is the Chief Medical Officer for the NCAA said the NCAA is working on best practices for return to play, which Matllin expects to receive by early next week. UH would develop a test for specific athletic return to play. Karl Clapp would lead this with the A-team composed of associate athletic directors that have been meeting at least every Thursday.

4) Mental Health Initiatives  
 Shortly after Matlin mentioned the mental health initiatives to Congress last year, the services commenced. The Athletics department pays for 8 hours of counseling per week to UH counseling services, triaged by the team doctor. Matlin thinks it made an impact and is part of a solution, but not the whole. A private foundation donated $75K for supplemental health services support. To maximize the benefits, they are considering online support and additional counseling hours. He is grateful to JABSOM, which has extended support. Coaches call athletes every day on ZOOM so they can see the athletes and how they are doing.

5) Academics  
 Academic performances are moving in a positive direction, and athletes have cumulative semester GPAs >3.0, and in fact, last semester, it was at the highest at 3.11. Matlin acknowledged Dr. Ron Cambra and his team for their amazing work, which includes distance tutoring.

6) Finances  
 Matlin continues to update scenarios for finances daily, e.g., best case, middle case, worst case. The financial situation will be contingent on when they go back to play. TV revenues, ticket sales, sponsorship revenues, and donations are tied to events.

7) Return to Competition / Practice  
 They need to follow federal/state/county, NCAA, conference, and university guidelines. The virus determines the timelines. Their job is for the UH to be prepared to start on time and adjusting timelines accordingly for a safe return.

8) Aloha Stadium  
 The UH and the Athletic department are stakeholders of the New Aloha Stadium Economic Development (NASED) and were interviewed last year by the consultants. Matlin provided a 10-page document last year that included what he was looking for in the Stadium.

9) Conferences - Big West / Mountain West  
 The Big West includes all sports, except for football. Matlin served on a search for the Big West commissioner because the current commissioner Dennis Carroll will retire on June 30 after 28 years. The new commissioner is formerly from Mountain West. President Lassner was also involved.

He is also on bi-weekly calls with Mountain West, which is a football conference only. The main focus is to have football athletes return safely. Youth camps for June have been canceled and probably the one for July as well.

Matlin ended this report by expressing his appreciation to the faculty.

**Senator K. Withy** thanked Athletic Director Matlin for being so upbeat during these challenging times and keeping the student-athletes healthy. She noted that if students or anyone on the ZOOM wanted a free mental health session to visit mentalhealthhawaii.info.

**Senator M. Cooney** mentioned his concerns on how athletics can continue in Fall given the cost of a testing system to be in place since athletes need to be tested before each practice and asked Matlin for his thoughts.

**Athletic Director D Matlin** said those types of discussions are being held. They are trying to prepare but it is based on when the athletes can return.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further discussion, Chair T. Conway made a motion to adjourn. Senator C. Stephenson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ann M. Sakaguchi, MFS Secretary

Approved on October 21, 2020.