

# Student Athletic Advisory Committee

Minutes, March 12, 2009

DC202 – 5:00 pick up food, 5:30-6:30 meeting

**Attendance:** Alex Board, Charity Swenson, Kedra DeLozier, Rob Dupre, Jarid Lawson, Kristen Lloyd, Sam Prusak, Peter Struska, George Tagli, Ezekiel Leeds, Will Blanton, Ethan Rosen

**Absent:** Ben Hoover, Greg Taylor, Steve Thayer

**Excused Absences:** Lori Biastock, Colleen Goff, Julie Muse, Melissa Nichols, Samantha Pagel, Korinne Israel, Tim Manion, Rachel Steinhaus, Becky Dean

## Prayer Requests:

Women's Basketball team – Lost first round game. Next game on Friday, 2 pm

Baseball team's Spring trip to Tennessee, Wisdom about Missions trip to Dominican Republic

Softball team's Tournament – 2 days of triple headers

## Opening comments:

1. Minutes from last meeting were approved
2. Welcome of new members – Ethan Rosen (FB), Will Blanton (MS)
3. Nomination of Vice Presidents will be taken by e-mail once all the new members are selected. The following teams still need to get member information to Miss Bolton: Women's Soccer, Women's Basketball, Wrestling, Baseball, Softball.
4. President Kris Lloyd's challenge on Phil. 3:13-14 "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."
  - a. Paul's point was to "not focus" on the past, good or bad.
  - b. SAAC has had a rough year, but we need to forget the struggles of the past and focus on what can be accomplished in the future.
  - c. SAAC is about bringing glory to God and growing in our lives to be more Christlike.
5. Dr. Phelps shared the important Biblical principle - stewardship of our physical bodies which is important for every individual and how being involved in athletics is a great way to do this. He also shared his philosophy of Athletics: 1. Athletics are important because of character development. As a Christian, we should strive to be more Christlike. 2. Athletics can also be an evangelistic tool. Some questions Dr. Phelps answered:

**Q: What is the plan for Intramurals?** It didn't seem like as much was done this year as in the past.

A: This was the first year after things were reorganized. Next year, expectations will be better communicated and it is hoped that this will improve the program.

**Q: What can be done to improve the quality of the athletic experience as well as strengthen the Athletic program?**

A: Our competition in the NAC is very tough. However, it is the best option both geographically and economically. Some individuals see the amount of money spent on athletics at Maranatha as a sign of lack of support. This is not the case. When you compare the percentage of our budget spent on Athletics with other NCAA schools, we are in the same percentile. A program could have new everything and not have as much as we have here at Maranatha because of the quality of coaches that we have. We should not compare ourselves with other institution. As far as quality of our facilities, the cleanliness and upkeep are most important. We need to take care of what the Lord has given us. We need to be dedicated and prayerful that the Lord will continue to provide.

**Q: Can Teams/Athletes be sent out to represent the College?**

A: Coaches are encouraged to do Clinics and Missions trips. This is a very good recruitment tool.

**Q: Is there a better way to advertise what is happening in Athletics?**

A: Andy Call has done a great job with the College Website and making Athletics an important part of what is being seen. The trumpeter is also a great way to get the new out. The Watertown Paper has also been really good about putting in articles about athletics. Dr. Phelps is very careful to protect how time is used in chapel because it is so limited and he wants as much time as possible for the preacher. He is very careful about what announcements are made.

**Q: What do you see as the role of the SAAC/Athletic Program with Community outreach?**

A: The Dorm Societies are a strong, evangelistic outreach tool. Dr. Phelps would like everything to be done in coordination with them. SAAC/Athletics is welcome to partner with Flood to do sport clinics and things in Watertown.

**Q: How can we let the students know what SAAC is all about?**

A: Maybe SAAC could have a communications officer who is responsible for making sure information gets in the trumpeter after meetings and other accomplishments.

Dr. Phelps also commented that he likes to see how many athletes are also involved in other areas like Fine Arts. This reflects a good balance and building of life skills.

6. Fan Club organizers have been invited to the April meeting. It will be great to have their help in getting things accomplished next year.

**New Business:**

1. There was some discussion as to whether or not reorganization was needed. There following issues were discussed.
  - a. SAAC need to get things done, not just talk about it. We don't need more good ideas; we need to get things done.
  - b. Meetings need to be focused and things need to be accomplished.
    - i. Committees need a list of things that need to be accomplished.
    - ii. Committees need clear objectives.
  - c. Members need to take personal responsibility to see that things are accomplished. This will mean doing things outside of meetings.
  - d. The officers will work on getting this established for the April meeting and setting a calendar for next year.
2. The Athletic web page was discussed and the need for pictures to be updated. It was also asked that the Communications department be more aware of the pictures that are chosen that they reflect positively on the teams. Miss Bolton will also ask Mr. Call if he can do a "10 minutes with SAAC".
3. Jared Lawson and George Tagli volunteered to be the communications officers for the rest of this year.

**Announcements:**

1. ROTC will be doing "Tail Gating" at some of the Baseball games as a fund raiser.

**Committee Work:**

Sporting Events: Spring Fan ideas

Marketing: Next year's Crazies shirt design needs to be approved at the April meeting

Organization: Women of the year, Man of the year – work with Miss Bolton to get these letters out.

Fundraising: Work with Mr. Thompson & Mr. Maples for Advertising of Sports Media Guide/Crazies

**Next Meeting:**

April 9 – DC202 5:00 pick up food, 5:30-6:30 meeting