

Jay,

Here are two articles about COIA/SAC from the U-Times. The first link is from 2006, the 2nd is from 2004.

<http://www.utimes.pitt.edu/?p=3042>

<http://www.utimes.pitt.edu/?p=415>

Lori

Lori Molinaro, Director

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From: Irrgang, James [mailto:irrgangjj@upmc.edu]

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2013 3:30 PM

To: Spring, Michael

Cc: Frieze, Irene H; Smitherman, Thomas; Mclaughlin, Kevin Joseph; Irrgang, James J; Sanft, Donna; Frank, Linda Rose; Smitherman, Thomas C; Molinaro, Lori Ann

Subject: RE: Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate

Thank you. I think the best course of action is to indicate that the proposal from COIA has been referred to the SAC and the SAC will review the proposal this fall with a report back to the Faculty Assembly.

Also, after doing a bit more searching of my files, I was able to locate the final recommendation from the prior review that was sent to Nicholas Bircher in May 2005 – see attached.

Jay

James J. Irrgang PT PhD ATC FAPTA

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University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

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From: Michael Spring [<mailto:spring@pitt.edu>]

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2013 3:26 PM

To: Irrgang, James

Cc: 'Frieze, Irene H'; Smitherman, Thomas; Mclaughlin, Kevin Joseph; Irrgang, James J; Sanft, Donna; Frank, Linda Rose; Smitherman, Thomas C; Molinaro, Lori Ann

Subject: Re: Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate

Professor Irrgang:

Thanks for taking the time to review this and provide such a thoughtful answer. It is exactly what I had hoped for. I think the time frame you suggest makes great good sense, and I do believe the SAC should take another look 8 years later to see if anything has changed. Again, if you are confident nothing has changed, I would take your word on that. I will mention that the communication was received at the next faculty assembly meeting. Would you prefer that I not respond to the email at all until you make a recommendation or would you like me to respond indicating it has been referred to the SAC for consideration. I am comfortable either way, but tend to like to let people know their communication has been received.

With best wishes,

Michael

Michael B. Spring
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On 8/28/2013 2:44 PM, Irrgang, James wrote:

All:

I apologize for the delay in responding, however as was stated in the e-mails below, the Senate Athletics Committee has previously reviewed a request from COIA for the University of Pittsburgh to join the coalition. According to my records this was most recently reviewed in 2004-2005. In the 2004-2005 academic year, the SAC did a comprehensive review of the COIA and based on the structure of the Athletics Department within the University of Pittsburgh and the checks and balances that were in place, the recommendation of the SAC to the Faculty Senate was that the University of Pittsburgh not join the COIA. I have attached a memo that was written by Bill Zamboni and myself who were the chair and vice chair of the SAC at that time (please note that the version I have was a draft, but I do not think the final version changed much).

If it is the wish of the Faculty Assembly and Senate that the SAC once again review the proposal from COIA, we would be happy to do so within context of the organizational structure in place at the University that promotes institutional control through significant and ongoing oversight of the Athletics Department by appropriate authorities outside of Athletics including the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor, Office of the Provost, Office of Internal Audit and the University Athletic Compliance Committee.

The topic that is already planned for the October SAC meeting will be an overview of the compliance procedures in place at Pitt as well as an overview of the University Athletic Compliance Committee. I would recommend that we review the proposal from COIA after that meeting in order to give all members of the SAC the background and context necessary for the review of the proposal from COIA.

Thank you for involving the SAC in this discussion. Best wishes for a successful academic year.

Jay

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From: Frieze, Irene H [<mailto:frieze@pitt.edu>]

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 5:13 PM

To: Smitherman, Thomas; Spring, Michael; Mclaughlin, Kevin Joseph; Irrgang, James J; Sanft, Donna

Cc: Frank, Linda Rose; Smitherman, Thomas C; Molinaro, Lori Ann

Subject: RE: Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate

The committee probably should discuss this again, but it might be helpful to review any notes we can find about the previous review.

Irene

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Irene Hanson Frieze

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frieze@pitt.edu

From: Smitherman, Thomas [<mailto:smithermantc@upmc.edu>]

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 3:28 PM

To: Frieze, Irene H; Spring, Michael; Mclaughlin, Kevin Joseph; Irrgang, James J; Sanft, Donna

Cc: Frank, Linda Rose; Smitherman, Thomas C; Molinaro, Lori Ann

Subject: RE: Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate

It would be helpful to know the details of the last consideration. If there is nothing or little new, then I withdraw my prior recommendation.

Tom

From: Frieze, Irene H [<mailto:frieze@pitt.edu>]

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 11:22 AM

To: Spring, Michael; Mclaughlin, Kevin Joseph; Irrgang, James J; Sanft, Donna

Cc: Frank, Linda Rose; Smitherman, Thomas C; Molinaro, Lori Ann

Subject: RE: Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate

Lori can probably provide the details if we want them. This was discussed by the Athletics Committee during my previous time on the Executive Committee. They recommended against joining, seeing no benefit to Pitt at that time.

Irene

.....

Irene Hanson Frieze

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frieze@pitt.edu

From: Michael Spring [<mailto:spring@pitt.edu>]
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 10:05 AM
To: Mclaughlin, Kevin Joseph; Irrgang, James J; Sanft, Donna
Cc: Frieze, Irene H; Frank, Linda Rose; Smitherman, Thomas C; Molinaro, Lori Ann
Subject: Fwd: Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate

Colleagues:

I am seeking your input on the note below. I will read it more carefully, but I understand there is a relatively long history to this organization and their requests to Pitt to join. I would appreciate your advice as to whether we respond and if so how we respond and why.

With best wishes,

Michael

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----- Original Message -----

Subject:Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the University of Pittsburgh University Senate
Date:Sun, 25 Aug 2013 13:15:41 -0400
From:Bowen, Mike <mbowen@usf.edu>
To:spring@pitt.edu <spring@pitt.edu>

Dear Professor Spring,

I'm contacting you on behalf of the leadership of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA). The Coalition is an alliance of faculty senates and councils at schools in the NCAA's Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS, formerly Division 1A), devoted to addressing major problems in college sports through faculty engagement at local and national levels. COIA was founded in 2002 and has grown to 61 member senates, half of the total number of FBS school senates, with faculty representatives from all conferences serving on its national Steering Committee.

Over the past year, COIA has been responding to an NCAA request to offer a blueprint to increase engagement of FBS faculty senates in athletics governance. Although the Pittsburgh University Senate has not yet voted to join the Coalition, we are anxious that all FBS senates be aware of COIA's work and have a chance to provide input. We understand that you will be serving as your senate president, and the purpose of this letter is to provide you with information about our current proposals and to invite you and your senate to let us know your thoughts.

I'm attaching COIA's 2012-13 annual report, sent to our membership by the Coalition Steering Committee in March. It provides context for our proposal to the NCAA for engaging faculty governance more effectively in oversight of intercollegiate sports on campus (the complete proposal appears as Appendix 3). At the heart of our vision is the creation of an NCAA-recognized Senate Athletics Representative at each school, appointed by and reporting to the Senate, who would join the current presidentially appointed Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) in coordinating faculty oversight. With the NCAA's encouragement, we will be pursuing these ideas through discussions with the national association of Division 1A FARs in September.

While COIA is a national-level alliance of faculty senates, we recognize that every campus is unique in its history and culture. We don't seek a unity of opinion on intercollegiate athletics, but we do believe that faculties, as independent stewards of the academic missions of their schools, are in a unique position to play a constructive role in addressing the challenges that athletics governance presents for individual campuses and as a national enterprise that American universities have undertaken. We believe that well regulated athletics programs can offer wonderful opportunities to students and strengthen campus cultures, but that the current state of college sports falls far short of this ideal, and may be undermining the primary mission of our universities. Our objective is to raise the engagement and capabilities of faculty governance in this area to better mobilize the constructive role that faculties can play on campuses and as a national voice in ensuring that the role athletics plays is a positive one.

Earlier this summer, the leadership of COIA asked its member senates, in consultation with their campus FARs, to comment on the current engagement of faculty in athletics governance on their campuses and their readiness as senates to undertake the type of role our proposal to the NCAA envisions. While COIA does not pretend to represent senates that have not voted to join the Coalition, it does try its best to consider and act in light of the interests of all FBS schools, and we are always anxious to hear the views of senates that are not Coalition members and learn more about the situations on their campuses.

If you and your senate or senate executive committee would be willing to convey to me your perspective on COIA's proposals for increased faculty engagement, or information about your specific campus situation, your views would be very welcome. They will help ensure that our interactions with the NCAA and the national FBS FAR association are constructive and informed by as broad an understanding of the views and roles of faculty as possible. As we have recommended to our member senates, we would encourage you to consult with your campus FAR, Professor Matz.

We don't believe that faculty have perfect vision or all the answers to the problems of intercollegiate athletics, but we do feel that the perspective of faculty can provide a unique

contribution, and that we as faculty bear a responsibility for learning more and conveying our perspective more effectively.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. For more information about COIA, I hope you will consider looking over our website at: <http://blogs.comm.psu.edu/thecoia/>. Apart from information about our membership and current activities, you may find some of the Coalition's white papers and best practice guides on campus athletics governance of use. I might add that if your senate did wish to consider becoming a member, I'd be glad to provide more information – membership involves no fee or other obligation. In addition, I'd like to let you know that we are planning to hold our 2014 Annual Meeting at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida, February 28 - March 2, 2014. If you or a representative of the Pitt Senate were interested in joining our meeting to share your views with us, you would be most welcome.

With best wishes,

Mike Bowen

Michael G. Bowen, Ph.D., COIA Chair

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