

**Senate Athletics Committee Meeting  
March 6, 2009**

<b>Members:</b>	<b>Present</b>	
	X	Timothy Averch
	X	David Brienza
		Jean Ann Croft
	X	Lou Fabian, Chair
	X	Donna Nativio
		Jamie Pardini
	X	Leonard Plotnicov
		Patrick Smolinski
	X	Dennis Swanson
<b>Staff Association Member:</b>		Carol Hodgkiss
<b>Pro-Tem Members:</b>	X	Dan Bartholomae
		Toby Chapman
		Tony Eichelberger
		Nat Hershey
	X	Jay Irrgang, Vice Chair
		Don Martin
	X	Kevin McLaughlin
	X	Ken Metz
		Donna Sanft
<b>Chancellor's Liaison Appointments:</b>	X	Susan Albrecht
		Robert Pack
		Steve Pederson
<b>Senate Liaison Appointments:</b>		John Baker
		Lisa Bernardo
		Lori Molinaro
<b>Student Members:</b>		Rosey Natale
		Chris Wermerson
	X	Max Greenwald

Irene Frieze attended the meeting in place of Lisa Bernardo as a Senate Liaison Appointment. Penny Semaia, Director of Life Skills, and Abbi Terveer, Career and Life Skills Coordinator for Student-Athletes, were also in attendance.

Lou Fabian welcomed everyone in attendance and requested approval of the 2/13/09 meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved. Lou then introduced Abbi Terveer to present on the 2009 Student-Athlete Career Development program.

**2009 Career Development Overview.** Abbi reacquainted the committee with her role and the duties assigned to her position, noting that she was just completing her first academic year as the Career and Life Skills Coordinator for Student-Athletes. Abbi explained that her position dual reports between the athletic department and the career services office, providing a bridge between the two offices. Abbi noted that on a day to day basis, she assists students with career development areas such as resume building, job placement assistance, networking and simply allowing new student-athletes to begin thinking about possible career interests and the opportunities available to assist them in gaining experience.

Throughout the year, Abbi has met with student-athletes one-on-one both on a mandatory and voluntary basis to provide in-depth discussion on attacking their career challenges, and outlining a “game plan” for their career goals.

On a broader level, Abbi has organized a “Career Carnival” for all freshman and sophomore student-athletes, providing interactive career development workshops hosted by professionals on campus and throughout the city of Pittsburgh. The exercise is provided to give student-athletes the tools and foundation necessary to successfully begin networking and pursuing career opportunities later in their college careers.

For junior and senior student-athletes, Abbi planned a Career Series, inviting successful professionals in several career fields to provide an informal look at a day in the life of each professional, as well as the steps they took to get to their current position. These professionals, many of the former student-athletes, gave helpful advice to each junior and senior in attendance.

In addition to these events, the Panther Game Plan has also increased and enhanced their assessment and evaluation of the current programming and the career interests of Pitt student-athletes. This enhanced assessment will provide for programming tailored to the ever changing career challenges and interests our student-athlete face on an annual basis.

**Update on Scholar-Athlete Breakfast and Recognition.** Penny Semaia distributed the gold Panther Pride card to the committee which outlined the academic highlight of 2008. Penny reviewed the Scholar Athlete Breakfast presented by the Alumni Association, as well as the Scholar-Athlete recognition that took place at a home men’s basketball game.

**Legislative Update.** Dan Bartholomae reviewed the NCAA’s legislative process as well as the proposals previously discussed at the October 24, 2008 meeting. Dan noted that some proposals were passed, some defeated, and some were still under review and would be voted on in April. Dan noted that proposal 2008-9 passed, proposals 2008-13B, 2008-34, and 2008-45 all were forwarded for comment (and therefore would be voted on in April), and proposals 2008-35A and 2008-35B were defeated. Dan also introduced

proposal 2008-79, which would shorten the time period an underclassman in men's basketball would have to withdraw their name from a professional draft once they have declared. Currently, a student-athlete can withdraw their name in mid-June to avoid being drafted. The proposal would require a student-athlete to formally withdraw their name from consideration by the day before basketball's April signing period to retain their eligibility. The committee unanimously supported the proposal.

Lou Fabian adjourned the meeting, and noted that the April meeting had been rescheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>.