Meeting Opened and Roll Call

Dr. C.B. Akins, Sr., chair of the University Athletics Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.

The following members of the University Athletics Committee were present: C.B. Akins, Sr. (chair), Sheila Brothers, Bill Gatton, Kelly Holland, Terry Mobley, community members Vickie Bell, Paula Hanson, Davis Marksbury and faculty representative Joe Fink.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Akins welcomed the committee members and said that the minutes of September 5, 2014 had been distributed and asked for any corrections or comments. Seeing none, Trustee Mobley moved that the minutes be approved. Trustee Brothers seconded the motion, and it carried without dissent.

President’s Remark

President Capilouto was looking forward to the presentation of materials by the Department, as it demonstrates UK’s commitment to the student-athlete and the integrity that UK strives for every day within the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Departmental Report

Deputy Athletics Director DeWayne Peevy presented the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics report.

Football finished the season with a 5-7 record, exceeding the win total from the two previous seasons combined. Two of the five wins included victories over Southeastern Conference opponents. UK is currently No. 25 in the recruiting rankings, signing day in February.

He continued that women’s soccer, men’s soccer, and volleyball all reached the post-season. Women’s soccer advanced to the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history. Volleyball made it to the NCAA tournament for the 10th season in a row; UK is one of 10 schools nationally that have made the tournament 10 years in a row. Men’s soccer ended in the first round of the NCAA tournament. Coach Johan Cedergren was named Conference USA coach of the year. Junior goalkeeper Callum Irving was named Conference USA Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year.

The cross country team concluded the fall season at the NCAA Southeast Regionals. Men finished No. 9, the women’s team finished No. 12. Men’s golf and women’s golf concluded
successful seasons. The men’s basketball team is the unanimous number one team in the nation in the Associated Press Poll, now 9-0 including wins over two top 10 teams.

Women’s basketball is now ranked No. 8 in the Associated Press Poll after wins over top ranked teams including a victory over the University of Louisville. The rifle team is tied for fourth after a victory over top five ranked Nebraska. Men and women’s swimming have picked up seven school records so far this season.

Deputy Director Peevy continued that off the field, construction of the New Commonwealth Stadium continues with the stadium set to open in for UK’s 2015 season opener. Reseating of the stadium is complete and 92 percent of current season ticket holders selected new seats for the 2015 season. UK football was awarded for the first time a Thursday night game on October 15, 2015.

Baseball alumnus and Lexington businessman Jim Host was honored by the National Football Foundation as the recipient of its award for Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football. Football junior punter Landon Foster was named an Academic All-American, with a 4.0 GPA and with a double major in finance and marketing. Women’s basketball has been selected to host three NCAA Tournament Regionals in Rupp Arena starting in 2016.

Deputy Director Peevy reported that John Cropp Stadium, home of the University of Kentucky softball team was named the collegiate softball field of the year by the Sports Turf Management Association. Kentucky’s sports turf director Marcus Dean was named Winfrey P. Bunton II Man of the Year by the Kentucky Turfgrass Council.

Trustee Akins asked Deputy Director Peevy to comment on women’s soccer player Arin Gilliland. Ms. Gilliland is one of the most decorated soccer players in the history of the program. She was honored as one of the top collegiate women in all of sports and she sets an example to all athletes at the University of Kentucky.

Trustee Akins expressed concern about season ticket holders losing their seats with the renovation of Commonwealth Stadium and how the University is handling those situations. Deputy Director Peevy reported that 85 percent of season ticket holders are pleased to have the opportunity to select new seats. It is expected that season ticket holders will understand this is the best process to grow the football program.

Sandy Bell updated the committee on the University of Kentucky student-athletes’ most recent federal graduation rates and success rates. The NCAA Graduation Success rate for the freshman classes of 2004-05 through 2007-08 was 81 percent.

Trustee Grossman asked how the athletics department ensures students who are going on to professional careers finish their studies. Ms. Bell stated that student-athletes are obligated to the institution to finish their studies before they leave. In return, the university will pay the tuition and fees of students who wish to return.
Vice Chair Young asked for an overview of the majors in which student-athletes are enrolled. Faculty Representative Dr. Joe Fink monitors independently from the Athletic Department the majors to ensure there is no clustering. Student-athletes are in 69 different majors, the most popular being Undergraduate Studies, Kinesiology, and Community and Leadership Development. Dr. Fink added that students have the full university spread before them to choose the major that is best for them.

Trustee Grossman suggested that when revenue sports undergo their regular academic review committee that an external review take place. President Capilouto explained that Dr. Fink exercises additional measures in real time every semester with direct access to the President about any concerns he may see.

Trustee Hawpe asked how the university monitors the directing of students to individual courses. Student athletes have and academic counselor in the athletic department and an academic counselor through their college. Academic counselors from the athletic department maintain daily to weekly contact with student athletes. Trustee Akins commented on the diversity of majors which should give a sense of balance and ease.

Sandy Bell informed the committee of ways in which the athletic department educates, communicates, and monitors its student-athletes and other groups to facilitate rule compliance in the academic area. From individual meetings with student-athletes, to a confidential compliance hot-line, to invited high school education sessions, to exit interviews, to re-educating CATS tutors the office continually reaches out to educate NCAA rule compliance. Dr. Fink added that he attends the launch of season compliance meetings where he offers his contact information to all student-athletes.

Business Items

The Committee was updated on the 2013-14 Audited Financial Statements and the Independent Auditors’ Report on Financial Statements and Supplementary Information for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Susan Krauss, Interim Treasurer, reviewed the Management’s discussion and analysis of the statements of net position. This included assets, liabilities and operating revenues and expenses.

Secretary Brothers noted that a loan for the track and field facility was paid back to the University by UK Athletics and asked if there are any other outstanding loans. Ms. Krauss reported there are no other outstanding loans. Trustee Brothers asked where student fees are located on the financial statements. Ms. Krauss reported the fees are located under operating revenues.

Trustee Brothers moved for the acceptance of the 2013-14 Audited Finance Statements and Independent Auditor’s Report as presented. It was seconded by Trustee Mobley and it passed without dissent.

Ms. Krauss reviewed for the Committee the interim financial statements of the Department for the three months ended September 30, 2014. The information included the statement of net position, the statement on revenue and expenses, and the change in net position.
Trustee Akins noted that when comparing 2013 and 2014 totals for operating revenue one must consider that basketball revenues are just being received.

Community Advisory member Davis Marksbury asked if there is any clarity of the impact of the SEC network revenue. Deputy Director Peevy stated that final numbers are not yet available and ratings will not be available for a full year but publicly it has been very well received.

Trustee Mobley moved acceptance of the Interim Financial Report as presented. It was seconded by Trustee Holland and it passed without dissent.

Other Business

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. C.B. Akins, Sr.