

Report of the Athletic Advisory Committee of the University Senate

January 2010

The committee meets twice during the academic year and more frequently if there are issues or questions brought to the Committee.

At the December 2009 meeting, Daniel Regan was re-elected a Chair of the Committee and Mary Quilter was re-elected as the secretary.

The Athletic Director Vincent Nicastro presented the following report to the Committee:

- “GSR (Graduation Success Rate) for Villanova Athletes is 95% and among the elite in the country.
 - Jim Emig noted that the new process regarding the program transfers works well
- Andy Talley, Head Football Coach has been recognized nationally for his accomplishments as a coach and also recognized for his community service for his organizing of the Bone Marrow Transplant project.
 - As a result of this screening, Villanova football player Matt Szczur was determined to be a match for a one year old girl and will go through the bone marrow transplant procedure at the end of the Fall semester.
- The football team is in the playoffs for the national championship.
- Villanova women's cross country head coach Gina Procaccio was named women's Division I National Cross Country Coach of the Year
- The Villanova University women's cross country team has won the 2009 NCAA National Championship.
-
- The Leadership Institute is in the third year of operation. All team captains and other team leaders participate in this program, which integrates both theoretical and practical components of leadership.
- About a dozen student-athletes participate in a week-long service trip which is scheduled in the Spring when the largest number of athletes is able to attend. The trip took them to Charleston, SC last Spring.
- The business of athletics has been good during the past year
 - Overall departmental revenues reached an all time high
 - The Annual Fund is up 10% - in a very challenging climate
- The Athletics Master Plan has been revised and is in line with the Strategic Plan. A few examples of projects on the list (not exhaustive):
 - Resurface the stadium
 - Renovate various team locker rooms
 - Renovate or relocate the boat house
 - Renovate West Campus athletic fields with soccer friendly surface
 - Reconstruct the Pike field for field hockey
- The staff of the Athletic Department participates in a service project during Fall and Spring breaks. They have renovated painted, cleaned, cleared debris, planted, and done maintenance at several sites in the Philadelphia area including St. Rita’s Parish, St. Agatha-St. James Soup Kitchen, St. Augustine Church, Kensington house, and other venues.

Copies of the “Department of Athletics 2008-09 Annual Report” were distributed. The complete report of the Athletic Director can be found on the website:

[Http://www.villanova.com/ot/annual-reports.html](http://www.villanova.com/ot/annual-reports.html)”

Since the Committee met in early December,

- The Football Team met Montana in the NCAA Championship Division 1 game and won that game to become national champions
- This is the first national championship for the Villanova football team and the 18th in the University's athletics history. The Wildcats won two team championships this fall season, with the other title coming in women's cross country.
- The Wildcats finish the season with a 14-1 (.933) record. The 14 wins are one of numerous single-season school records set this season. Villanova also set new school marks for rushing yards, rushing touchdowns, total offensive yards and most extra points in a single season.
- Andy Talley Named AFCA FCS National Coach of the Year
 - Villanova head coach wins the award for the second time in his career
- Osayi Osunde earned CAA Football Student-Athlete of the Year
- Villanova juniors Matt Szczur and Ben Ijalana each received first team All-America honors from the Sports Network. The pair was joined by junior linebacker Terence Thomas on the second team and senior defensive end Tim Kukucka on the third team.
- The Men's Basketball team was ranked #2 in national AP and
- Scottie Reynolds was named player of the week by the BIG EAST Conference, Philadelphia Big Five and the ECAC. This marked Reynolds' second BIG EAST player of the week honor this season and the third of his career in January.
- Maleek Wayns was named Third BIG EAST Rookie of the Week honor

At the December meeting, the Chair Daniel Regan brought to the committee, questions from faculty regarding the scheduling of tournaments during the last week of the semester. The scheduling of the tournament this year affected four freshmen basketball players.

- AD Nicastro advised that the tournament was scheduled by the sponsor a few years ago as are most tournaments.
- It was suggested that in the future, if tournaments occur during this last week of class, that tutors accompany the team to the tournaments which met with approval of the AD.
- AD Nicastro will meet with Bob Stites and address the problem raised by the faculty and attempt to allay this problem in the future.

A meeting of the Athletic Advisory Committee will be scheduled in late February, 2010 at 4PM. At that meeting, George Kolb, Asst VP for Athletics Development will make a presentation on the athletics fundraising plan.