The meeting was called to order by Jo Kiernan, Special Assistant to the President. Present: Robert Lineburg, Robbie Davis, Don Samson, Susan Miller, Eric Vest, Josh Tessar, Daniel Testerman, Karen Valluri, and Betty Dore. Betty Dore was voted as Chair of the Committee.

Robert Lineburg – Robert reviewed the successes of the past year with numerous championships and winning teams. Many of the players and coaches were recognized as outstanding in their sport and in the Big South. Regarding Fall Sports for this year, Women’s Soccer is hosting the Big South Tournament in a couple of weeks with Stephanie Ballein coordinating and Robbie Davis will be coordinating the X-County Tournament to be held here in the near future. Mark Reeves, new head coach of Men’s Soccer is doing a lot for the team and working hard on community service projects, i.e. Boots for Brian whereby Brian Gwanzura is collecting cleats to send back to his hometown in Zimbabwe, and the Men’s Soccer team was on campus on Move-in Day to help new freshmen and returning students to move into their residence halls.

Baseball – a major donor stepped up and the new lights for the baseball field should be installed be the first home game. This is very important in that student athletes will no longer need to be missing afternoon classes to play their games. Part of our purpose in the IAC is to be sure student athletes are not making too many classes.

Softball – new grandstands are sorely needed. Trying to find donations to support this project.

Field Hockey – Radford University Field Hockey is only one of three teams in the country without an astroturf field. Also seeking private donations for this project.

Tennis – looking for funds for indoor facility.

Good news academically – student athletes were in first place in the Big South with 58.3% having a 3.0 or better for the second consecutive year.

How do we get better participation from the faculty? Good discussion. Several suggestions/questions: “Invite your favorite professor” Small amount of extra credit if students go to a sports event on campus which they have never attended before.

How to get off-campus students to attend games. Sandwich signs on Tyler and by Muse and Covington Center on sidewalks seem to be effective. Suggestion to put a couple of these signs by the clocks to catch traffic coming from either direction. Contact Kevin Ayers from ESHE to have his students do brainstorming/projects on getting more faculty involved.

Reported we are starting to get real interest from students wanting to do internships in Radford athletics.

Robbie Davis
Robbie said we had had some really good hires recently: strength and conditioning coaches (2), and one person who will serve ½ compliance and ½ learning enhancement center. All the hires bring a very positive light to their positions.

The NCAA released the results of the Graduation Success Rates (GSR) on Wednesday, October 27, 2010. This report is on the 2003-2004 freshman cohort. Using all students at the University, the GSR was 57% versus 66% for student athletes. The four-class average showed all students at 57% and 65% for student athletes. The student-athlete GSR is 87%.

In Men’s sports, Golf had 100% while Baseball and Soccer had 95%. Tennis was 83%, CC/Track was 71%, and Basketball was 50%.

In Women’s sports, Golf, Softball, Swimming, and Tennis had 100%, Basketball at 92%, and Volleyball and Soccer had 90%. Field Hockey was 89% and CC/Track was 88%.

Compared against all other schools in the Big South (excluding field hockey and swimming), Radford University student athletes were in first place six times, third place two times, fourth place two times, and fifth, sixth, and seventh places one time.

Don Samson

Two S-A who are in the golf tournaments are missing classes on Tuesdays. Need to talk to the coach about scheduling.

Susan Miller

Need to remind S-A class comes before practice time.

Went to Wake Forest for the Field Hockey game. Courtney Poole scored in the first minutes of the match. Good game. Proud of them and how they played. We are only one of three teams in the country without a turf field. Majority of student-athletes are very well in letting faculty know their schedules.

Eric Vest

Steven Harrison oversees all the fields and grounds. Has been promoted and now we need a replacement. Several new things with fields are happening. Still doing interviews for new supervisor to look over fields. Dugouts and fields for baseball-pretty happy with doing everything proposed. Players are pretty pleased with the facility’s lights and it is real good for the team. Facilities work on smaller projects with the athletic department. Work with capitol outlay on large projects. We like to take ownership and that makes our staff feel good. There is a group of small projects inside Dedmon. Have had some re-organization and Facilities is still trying to learn the processes which have been in place a lot of years. Robbie Davis noted, “these guys do an amazing job. The projects they have done are all top notch.
Josh Tessar

Trying to raise money for facilities, academic stuffy. Need more equipment. Working with Foster Ridpath and Mark Patterson.

Rhonda Mah - absent

Daniel Testerman

Several faculty members and alumni want to see a football team at Radford University. Proposing a small committee and talking to Division III head coaches, etc. Have a list of small colleges that have started up a football team. What they had to go through. Talking to local businesses. Don Samson suggested the group ask Robert Lineburg to attend one of their meetings. Susan Miller agreed and suggested making Robert a member. Daniel said the group was meeting tonight (Wednesday) in the SGA office. Robert stated it would take a minimum of $20 Million to start a football team. It would affect all the other teams and Title IX. Our budget is not big enough to support the teams we already have.

Karen Valluri

Just completed the new “Dread the Red” T-shirt contest with a new design. Working with Cary Durant to find WBB items. Working with Lindsy (ticket manager) to help with the BB meet and greet. New concession rules – Robert said you just have to be out of the stadium to sell concessions. Worked a tailgate last week. Men’s tailgate this weekend.

Betty Dore

Time ran out and people had to head to classes and other meetings. Next meeting will be on December 1 at 8 am. Place TBA.