

Association of Florida Colleges
FCS Council of Presidents
Special Teleconference Meeting
May 21, 2020
10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

- 1) Dr. Murdaugh, Chair, called the Teleconference to order at 10:01 a.m.
- 2) Dr. Murdaugh asked Michael Brawer to take roll. Mr. Brawer asked any media on the line to identify themselves. Rick Flagg from Florida Politics and Byron Dobson from Tallahassee Democrat announced they were on the call. Mr. Brawer took roll of the presidents on the call.

The following members of the Council were on the line: (proxy)

Greg Haile
Sarah Clemmons
Jim Henningsen (Jessica Kummerle)
Tom LoBasso
Jim Richey
Jeff Allbritten
Lawrence Barrett
John Avendano
John Holdnak
Ken Atwater (Eric Hall)
Ed Massey
Stanley Sidor
Rolando Montoya
John Grosskopf
Devin Stephenson
Ava Parker
Tim Beard
Ed Meadows
Angela Garcia-Falconetti
Georgia Lorenz
Thomas Leitzel
Carol Probstfeld
Joe Pickens
Tonjua Williams
Jim Murdaugh
Sandy Shugart

3) Ratify, FCSAA Council of Athletic Affairs and FSCAA Executive Committee Policy Approvals

Dr. Murdaugh asked Dr. Sidor to present the items for ratification. Dr. Sidor shared that there are three items that need to be ratified and a discussion item regarding an NJCAA request that an FCS president join the NJCAA as a non-voting member on their Board of Directors. Dr. Sidor asked Kelly Warren to present the items for ratification. The items were presented individually.

Item #1: Baseball Roster Limit:

"For the 2020-21 academic year, the FCSAA will adopt the current NJCAA roster limit of 30 participants for baseball due to the COVID-19 pandemic."

Council for Athletic Affairs: Passed (17 yes, 7 no, 1 abstain)

FCSAA Executive Committee: Passed (16 yes, 4 no)

Note: Per NJCAA and FCSAA policy, there is no roster limit for softball, thus this only addressed baseball. Current FCSAA baseball roster limit is 26.

Dr. LoBasso asked to clarify if the Council was to choose one of the three items presented or if all three items were to be ratified. Ms. Warren clarified that all three items will need to be ratified.

President Pickens asked if this would apply only to the 2021 academic year. Ms. Warren confirmed it will only apply to the 2021 academic year.

Dr. Probstfeld asked about the concerns from the "no" votes that are noted on the submitted items for ratification. Ms. Warren replied that they were mainly stemmed around costs and competitive advantage.

Action: *Upon a motion by President Joe Pickens and a second by Dr. Ed Massey, the Baseball Roster Limit was ratified by a majority of the Council, there was one opposed.*

Item #2: Non-Counters and FCSAA Baseball Scholarship Limits:

"For the 2020-21 academic year, the FCSAA will allow the non-counters from 2019-20 to extend the 18 & 6 LOI limits as long as they were signed to the same or reduced scholarship for the 2019-20 year, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, not to exceed 28 LOIs."

Council for Athletic Affairs: Passed (19 yes, 6 no)

FCSAA Executive Committee: Passed (17 yes, 3 no)

Note: This policy is only addressing baseball because FCSAA policy already allows 24 full scholarships for softball. Softball LOI are not split 18-full/6-tuition books and fees like baseball is.

Dr. Massey asked if the students who were receiving the scholarships again would receive the same scholarship, they were awarded for the 2020 academic year. Ms. Warren replied that they would receive the same or a reduced scholarship for the 2021 academic year. No returning student would receive a scholarship for an increased amount. Ms. Warren shared that Matt Enith, CAA chair, was on the call and could answer any questions.

Action: *Upon a motion by Dr. Carol Probstfeld and a second by Dr. Devin Stevenson the Non-Counters and FCSAA Baseball Scholarships Limits was ratified by a majority of the Council, there was one opposed.*

Item 3: Adopt NJCAA's policy on non-counters for 2020 Spring:

"If a second-season student-athlete was enrolled at a NJCAA member college for the Spring 2020 season and was signed to a Baseball, Beach Volleyball, DI Golf – Men's or Women's; DI Tennis – Men's or Women's, DIII Tennis – Men's, Golf, Lacrosse, Softball, or Outdoor Track and Field NJCAA LOI prior to March 16, 2020, for the Spring 2020 academic term, the student may receive a scholarship at that same institution for the 2020 – 2021 academic year and not be a counter. The student-athlete must be signed to an LOI."

Council for Athletic Affairs: Passed (22 yes, 3 no)

FCSAA Executive Committee: Passed (20 yes, 0 no)

Action: *Upon a motion by Dr. Rolando Montoya and a second by Dr. Angela Falconetti the adoption of NJCAA's policy on non-counters for 2020 Spring was ratified by a majority of the Council, there was one opposed.*

Dr. Tonjua William proposed that the FCSAA go back and look at the rules set by the state on suspension and team discipline and compare them with the rule of the NJCAA. Ms. Warren shared that the CAA will be having a June meeting and she will ask that the group adds that to the agenda.

4) Other Business

Dr. Murdaugh shared that Lynn Powers will be hosting a webinar on the CARES Act Funding. He shared that college presidents or a representative should plan to join the webinar.

Dr. Sidor shared that the NJCAA has requested that a member of the Council of Presidents join their board in an ex-officio role. President Pickens shared that he had spoken previously with Dr. Sidor about the role. Dr. Sidor stated that he would not be able to take on the role. President Pickens stated that he would be willing to take on the role but would be happy to open it up to other member of the Council if there was interest. Dr. Tom LoBasso shared that someone has reached out to him about the role and is willing to take it if the Council was in favor. President Pickens asked how long the commitment of the ex-officio role would be. Ms. Warren was not certain, but shared the NJCAA board typically meets six times per year. President Pickens stated that he would discuss this further with Dr. LoBasso and would plan to bring it to the Council for a vote soon.

Dr. Murdaugh reminded the Council with Dr. Massey set to retire soon, the Council would need someone to take over the Articulation Coordinating Committee. He asked Dr. Massey for guidance in selecting someone for the role. Dr. Massey explained the role and encouraged anyone interested to contact him. He stated that within a month he would like to share a name with Chancellor Hebda who would then take the nomination forward.

President Parker asked if the Council was working under the impression that decisions that are made about fall athletics will be from NJCAA or from each individual

institution. Ms. Warren shared that the NJCAA plans to have some sort of petition out by June 15. The CAA is currently working to put out some contingency plans. They will be sent out to the Council after a meeting on June 18.

Dr. Lorenz asked about the June Council of Presidents meeting. Dr. Murdaugh has been in talks with President Pickens about plans. President Pickens shared that the hope was to have an in person meeting in July or early August. However with the way things are going it may be best to move forward with a Zoom style meeting so that roles may transition to new chairs. He asked the Council for thoughts on an in person or virtual meeting. Several presidents shared that they would like to meet in person however waiting until August would be too long as elections need to be made for Steering Committee as well as Policy and Advocacy Chair. Many presidents were willing to meet through Zoom or a conference call. Dr. Murdaugh suggested a Zoom meeting in late June. Dr. Larry Barrett shared that the Council needs to review and adapt the bylaws to accommodate meeting virtually. Dr. Murdaugh will work with Mr. Michael Brawer to coordinate a date for the Zoom. President Parker asked that President's Professional Development be added to the agenda.

5) Adjourn

Dr. Murdaugh adjourned the May 21, 2020 Council of Presidents Special Teleconference Meeting at 10:44 a.m.