

**UTK Faculty Senate
Athletics Sub-Committee**

Minutes for March 28, 2016 Meeting

Present: Dean Kopsell (chair), Ray DeGennaro, Jennifer Gramling, Cary Staples, Sally Hunter, Ashlee Boles (UT Student Athlete), guests: Brian Russell (Director of Academic Support Services - MBasketball/WBasketball), Andrew Donovan (UT Athletics – Compliance); Taylor Thomas, *Student Affairs Coordinator for Athletics*, and Sarah Beth Clark, *Director of Compliance UT Athletics*.

The meeting was located in the Thornton Athletics Student Life Center and called to order at 3:30 pm by chair Dean Kopsell. Guests were Taylor Thomas, *Student Affairs Coordinator for Athletics*, Sarah Beth Clark, *Director of Compliance UT Athletics*, and Brian Russell, *Director of Academic Support Services, Thornton Athletics Student Life Center*.

The guests discussed undergraduate admissions for student athletes, new compliance issues, and the continued involvement of the Thornton Athletics Student Life Center in the process. We were updated on the Special Admissions Committee (SAC) that can be contacted in the case of athletes, or any student applicant to the university, that is involved in eligibility and entrance standards set by the NCAA and the UT Admissions Office. There are updated standards for entrance into the university, and they are handled by the UT Athletics Compliance Office and Mr. Thomas, who is assigned to be the liaison between UT Athletics and UT Admissions. Guidelines set by SEC and NCAA continue to be: core GPA from a list of 16 courses at the high school level; college admissions test score (ACT, SAT); progression of courses in high school and the grades received in that progression (starting earlier in high school for prospective athletes); and letters of support or reference.

The meeting was very informative and provided an overview of the admissions process for student athletes to this university and updates on changes in admission policies.

Next meeting will be on the topic of RecSports for UT students and will be held at the TRECs Sports Fields on Sutherland Avenue in Knoxville. Our speaker/host will be Rex Pringle, *Director of RecSports*.