

## **Athletic Committee Final Report**

### **Stated Goals for 2018-2019**

Examine issues related to student-athlete free speech rights; work to create more academic mentoring opportunities for student-athletes; examine concussion issues in contact sports; work with COIA; and highlight student-athletes and faculty members' academic partnerships.

### **Committee Accomplishments**

As a committee, we had the opportunity to highlight student-athletes majors at sporting events. Our committee had an opportunity to serve as guests to our executive athletic board meeting and to attend a baseball game and discuss future goals. The athletic marketing team designed videos to highlight the collaboration and interactions among faculty and student-athletes. Faculty senate has continued to fortify relationships with the athletic department. Our committee was represented at the COIA meeting that UT hosted, giving us an opportunity to address issues of concussion and the psychological impacts of competing in collegiate athletics.

### **Next Year's Expectations**

We will attempt to explore student-athletes' transition from sports to the civilian sector. We will explore mental well-being initiatives be used and promoted to assist our student-athletes when they must conclude their sport. We will discover ways to bridge this gap on campus, involving ideas from faculty, staff, students, coaches, advisors, administrators, and all invested stakeholders. We will also continue to foster productive and trusting relationships with athletics, so we can build on our All Vol vision. We also plan to solicit ideas from faculty senate members on how to continue improving relations with the athletic department.

Sincerely,

James A. Williams, Ph.D, DM, CHE, CC

Athletic Chair, Faculty Senate