



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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F07-2

At its meeting of November 19, 2007, the Academic Senate passed the following Policy Recommendation presented by Senator Backer for the Organization and Government Committee.

Replaces F87-7

POLICY RECOMMENDATION
Athletics Policy

Whereas: San José State University is committed to facilitating student learning and to promoting academic excellence through activities both in and out of the classroom; and

Whereas: San José State University is committed to a strong athletics program that enables student-athletes to achieve both academic and athletic success; and

Whereas: San José State University is a member of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), and COIA supports “shared oversight of athletics between governing boards, administrations, and faculty;”¹ and

Whereas: the Athletics Board promotes academic excellence and ensures the integrity of the athletic program as well as compliance with NCAA and affiliated conference athletic rules; therefore be it

Resolved: that the attached policy be implemented, replacing F 87-7; and be it further

Resolved: that the Athletics Board continue as a Special Agency of the Academic Senate.

Approved October 1, 2007 Vote: 8-1-0

Present: Backer (chair), Hendrick, Kauppila, Vanniarajan, McClory, Hebert, Selter, Grabowski, Norton (non-voting)

Absent: Zhou

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

WORKLOAD: For faculty in general, there will be no workload changes. There might be a slight increase in the workload of the faculty on the Athletics Board

¹ Quotes and the foundation of this policy are from the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics, *Campus Athletics Governance, the Faculty Role: Principles, Proposed Rules, and Guidelines*, [cited September 12, 2005], available at <http://www.math.umd.edu/~jmc/COIA/Gov.html>

RATIONALE: The SJSU President and the Athletics Director are committed to providing a strong athletic program that enables student-athletes to achieve both academic and athletic success and one that focuses on the athlete as a student first. Thus, this policy is revised to provide a strong program so that the student athletes can achieve excellence in their academic work.

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS BOARD

Introductory Statement

San José State University is dedicated to helping its students achieve academic success. Such success derives from learning experiences and activities both in and out of the classroom. A broad range of co-curricular activities should be provided to address the needs and interests of all students. One of the University's co-curricular activities is its athletic program. San José State University is committed to a strong athletic program that serves the needs of all students, enables student-athletes to achieve both academic and athletic success, defines success in measurable terms, and is compliant with all NCAA, WAC, CSU, and SJSU rules and policies.

The Athletics Board has the responsibility to promote effective programs of athletics, to protect the environmental and educational rights of the athletes, and to insure the integrity of the athletic programs. It has the special responsibility of relating the programs of athletics to the objectives of the University. While the Athletics Board has these generalized responsibilities, the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics has substantial control of its programs through direct administration. However, the President of the University has final responsibility for the programs, and decisions related thereto.

The Athletics Board shall be one that works in cooperation with the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR)², the Academic Senate, and the University administration to insure outstanding athletic programs, and simultaneously to maintain the quality of education and environment for each individual within the Athletic program. Furthermore, the Athletics Board shall represent one part of a system of checks and balances necessary to insure the goals of the University community.

In order to enhance the visibility and effectiveness of the Athletics Board, membership should be based on a campus reputation unrelated to athletics, such as excellence in teaching, excellence in research, or an active history of involvement in campus governance or administration. Furthermore, members shall have an understanding and appreciation of the role of athletics in higher education. Their appointments shall be arranged so as to provide for continuing competency of the Board as a whole. The majority (voting) membership shall be full-time faculty. Board composition should meet the requirements of the athletic organizations of which the University is a member.

I. Membership of the Athletics Board

A. The nine voting members shall be:

- Five Faculty-at-Large -- at least three of whom are tenured
- Faculty Athletics Representative
- AS Director of Extracurricular Affairs
- AS President or Designee

² According to NCAA guidelines, the Faculty Athletics Representative "shall be a member of the institution's faculty or an administrator who holds faculty rank and shall not hold an administrative or coaching position in the athletics department." (NCAA division I Manual I, 2005-06)

- President, Spartan Foundation, or Designee

B. The non-voting members shall be:

- Director, Division of Athletics
- President's Designee
- The Director of Compliance

C. Conditions concerning membership:

Nominees for the Faculty Members-at-Large seats must submit a one-page statement to the Academic Senate Executive Committee indicating their qualifications and interest in serving. Nominations shall be reviewed by the Academic Senate Executive Committee and approved by the Senate. The Faculty Members-at-Large shall be appointed by the President after recommendation of the Academic Senate. They shall serve three-year staggered terms and be eligible for reappointment. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as appointments are made.

II. Responsibilities and Functions of the Athletics Board

A. The Athletics Board shall perform such functions as to enable it to carry out its responsibilities to ensure academic integrity of the athletic programs and compliance with NCAA and affiliated conference athletic rules. It shall recommend to the President and to the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate policies that promote a strong environment of rules compliance and provide a positive academic environment for all student-athletes; it shall act in an advisory capacity to the President and his/her designee and to the Director of Athletics; it shall carry out specific responsibilities and functions delegated to it by the President; it shall have an overall awareness of the athletic programs of the University and the rules, procedures and guidelines of the athletic organizations of which the University is a member, in order to make recommendations pertaining thereto and to act in an advisory capacity.

B. Once policies governing athletics have been approved by the President, the Board shall monitor them to ensure that they are followed and must report non-compliance to the President or the FAR as appropriate.

C. More specifically, the Board shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Statement of Philosophy: To develop and periodically evaluate a statement of philosophy regarding the role of intercollegiate athletics at San José State University.

2. Admissions and Eligibility of Athletes: To receive timely reports from the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Compliance Director for Athletics concerning policies and procedures on eligibility of student-athletes. To receive reports from the Academic Affairs Final Admissions Committee (AAFAC) on the special admit process, the results for the current year admissions, and the status of prior special admit student-athletes.

3. Scheduling:

- A. To consult with the Athletics Director on competition scheduling and scheduling policies.
 - B. To engage in periodic discussions devoted to team practice and other activities for each sport.
 - C. To provide recommendations for activities not a part of the regular athletic programs.
4. Sports Programs: To consider requests for the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics for the addition of new sports or for the deletion of existing sports. Such action shall require the formal consideration and a recommendation of the Board prior to Presidential decision.
5. Athletics Conferences:
- A. To act as consultant on any proposed change in membership in an athletics conference, and to make recommendations to the President.
 - B. To act in a consultative capacity in the event of any case of irregularity or violation of University or athletics conference regulations.
6. Finance:
- A. To be informed on proposed and final budgets of all aspects of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics.
 - B. To receive and discuss an annual financial status report and other financial reports as deemed necessary.
7. Personnel:
- A. At the request of the President, at least one faculty representative of the Board shall participate in a consultative capacity to make recommendations to the President and/or the Athletics Director concerning the appointment or separation of any head coach or of the Athletics Director.
 - B. At the request of the President, the Board shall conduct reviews of the athletics Management Personnel Plan (MPP) staff concerning renewal of their appointments.
 - C. To receive from the Athletics Director reports of yearly evaluations of Unit 3 coaches and make recommendations concerning renewal of their appointments.
8. Grievances:
- A. To establish a mechanism for considering grievances of student athletes (with the exception of financial aid) and to make such procedures known to the student-athletes; and to give initial consideration to such grievances as they arise. When the Board is unable to reconcile differences, it shall refer the case to the appropriate University committee.
 - B. To refer grievances of employees (coaches, staff, etc.) to the appropriate person or body. In general, the Board will not be involved in such grievances; the campus procedure in existence shall be used.

9. Campus Relations:

- A. To advise the Athletics Director on ways to improve awareness of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics among members of the campus community.
- B. To promote faculty awareness of the programs promoting academic success of student athletes.
- C. To encourage faculty to complete requested time sensitive academic reports for student-athletes.
- D. The Board shall consider and recognize the academic excellence and achievements of student-athletes and coaches.

10. Reporting:

- A. To submit to the University President a yearly report on the activities of the Athletics Board. A copy of the report shall be forwarded to the Chair of the Academic Senate.
- B. To report to the Academic Senate annually at one of its regular scheduled meetings. Such a presentation may be combined with the FAR's annual report to the Senate.
- C. To make special reports during the year, as appropriate, and when requested by the President.

III. Administration of the Board:

- A. The officers of the Board shall be a Chair (tenured faculty) and a Vice-chair (faculty). The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected at the last meeting of the academic year.
- B. Meetings shall be held regularly, at least once a month, and at such other times as deemed necessary.
- C. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the functioning of the Board except as stated policy, rules, or regulations contravene such provisions.

**ACTION BY UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT: Approved by President Don Kassing on
November 27, 2007**