



Athletics Report
September 15, 2023

Agenda Item #1: Athletics Dashboard

Information

Action

Discussion

Purpose:

To review measurable activities within the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

Background:

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics remains committed to the education, development and overall life preparation of student-athletes. Educational achievement remains a top priority for the department. For the spring, 2023 semester, Laker student-athletes performed exceedingly well in the classroom. The department posted a 3.256 overall grade point average. The academic performance of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics remains strong.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Lake Superior State Univ.	2.97	2.99	3.06	3.11	3.15	3.2	3.148	3.218	3.256

Suggested Action/Motion:

N/A

President's Recommendation:

N/A



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Agenda Item #2: New Coaches and Staff

Information

Action

Discussion

Purpose:

To provide an update of the Department of Athletics staff.

Background:

- Mike Collins Named Head Men’s and Women’s Tennis Coach
 - Mike has been serving most recently as the varsity boys’ and girls’ tennis coach at Garber High School in Essex, Michigan
 - Started at LSSU on August 28.
 - Link: <https://www.lssulakers.com/sports/m-tennis/2023-24/releases/20230824f18xhn>
- Kathryn Hills Named Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Internal Operations
 - Kathryn has been serving as a nutrition facilitator for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District since 2014
 - Started at LSSU on September 5
- Maggie Corbett Named Head Athletic Trainer
 - Corbett has been serving in the Athletic Training Department at Arizona State since 2018.
 - She was a former collegiate hockey player at SUNY Cortland
 - Started at LSSU on Sept. 11
- LSSU Athletic Director Dr. Dave Diles Announces Upcoming Retirement

- Moved to working remote from Sept. 1-Oct. 31.
 - Link: <https://www.lssulakers.com/general/2023-24/releases/20230808onr1gi>
- Abbie Laajala is serving as Interim Deputy Athletic Director during this span while the search for the next Athletic Director is in progress.

Suggested Action/Motion:

N/A

President's Recommendation:

N/A



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Agenda Item #3: Loft holders and wait list

Information

Action

Discussion

Purpose:

To provide information about the current loft holders and the wait list for lofts.

Background:

1. All 16 lofts are sold for the entire 2023-24 season
2. The wait list for the lofts is up to 15 people
3. In addition to lofts being sold out, architectural drawings have been completed for the addition of two new lofts. The next step in the process would be an RFP for construction. We will wait to re-evaluate this proposal in Spring 2024.

Suggested Action/Motion:

N/A

President's Recommendation:

N/A



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Agenda Item #4: New Corporate Sponsors and Promotions

Information

Action

Discussion

Purpose:

Reporting the Department of Athletics Corporate Sponsors and Promotions

Background:

1. LSSU Athletics has two new sponsors for the 2023-24 year:
 - U.P. State Credit Union will become the primary sponsor of the Student Section, sections A-C, in Taffy Abel Arena. U.P. State Credit Union will have signage, giveaways, and promotional events for LSSU students
 - LSSU Athletics sees this as a great addition to our sponsor list with hopes it will draw more LSSU students to home hockey games as well as giving individualized attention to our LSSU student body. U.P. State Credit Union will be kicking off this sponsorship during Great Lake State Weekend with giveaways specific to the LSSU student body.
 - Autore Oil & Propane

2. Returning sponsors:
 - Albert Heating & Cooling
 - Bay Mills Resort & Casino
 - Central Savings Bank
 - Cloverland Electric
 - Domino's Pizza
 - Joshua MacDonald, Edward Jones

- Freshwaters Real Estate Advisors
- Fudge Du Locke/Zak & Mac's
- GFL Environmental
- Guido's Pizza
- H&R Block, Steve Papineau
- Kewadin Casino
- Meijer
- Northern Electric Supply
- Rodenroth Motors
- SCCU Insurance
- Soo Builders
- Soo Co-op Credit Union
- Wendy's Restaurant
- Wicked Sister

Suggested Action/Motion:

N/A

President's Recommendation:

N/A



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Agenda Item #5: Sports Medicine at LSSU and the NCAA

Information

Action

Discussion

Purpose:

Status of Sports Medicine at LSSU and the NCAA

Background:

1. LSSU

- Recently hired Maggie Corbett as Head Athletic Trainer.
- Recent LSSU Athletic Trainers (AT).
 - Maggie Corbett (Head AT 2023-pres.)
 - Becky Nason (Head AT 2020-23)
 - Claire Meyer (Assistant AT 2022-23)
 - Meagan Briant (Assistant AT 2021-22)
 - Patrick Sarni (AT 2019-20)
 - Natalie Reynods (AT 2017-19)
 - John Teasley (AT 2017-19)
- Corbett marks the seventh athletic trainer at LSSU in the past five years
- Joe Susi, Dept. Chair of the School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences, volunteered to ensure that fall sports could practice while the newest A.T. was being selected.

2. NCAA

- Collegiate athletics has realized 48% turnover rate in the past two years, almost twice as high when compared to the corporate and higher-education two-year turnover rate.
- According to a survey disseminated by the National Athletic Trainers Association Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine in collaboration with the NATA Compensation Task Force, salary, culture, value, burnout, increased work responsibilities and demands were major themes that came out as a result.
- The AT marketplace is becoming more competitive as other professional settings, such as hospitals, sports medicine clinics, industrial settings, physician offices,

and medical sales may offer signing bonuses, along with competitive market rate salaries and flexible scheduling.

- Collegiate environments who are slow to respond to these changes will continue to have challenges hiring and retaining athletic trainers.
- Source:
https://www.nata.org/sites/default/files/collegiate_athletic_trainer_labor_crisis.pdf
- Report from the June 2023 athletic training stakeholder meeting to discuss issues related to the collegiate workforce:
https://ncaaorg.s3.amazonaws.com/ssi/other/SSI_ATWorkforceStakeholderMeetingReport.pdf
 - Meeting participants included representatives from the National Athletic Trainer's Association, the Board of Certification, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, and from each of the three NCAA divisions.
 - The purpose of the meeting was to share information and discuss the collegiate athletic training workforce and related issues of interest and concern to the NCAA membership.
 - Issues addressed at meeting:
 - Workforce implications of athletic training, credentialing, and credential holders.
 - Workforce implications of athletic training education.
 - State of athletic training collegiate workforce and other medical and industry workforces.
 - Ideas for addressing athletic training collegiate workforce issues.

Suggested Action/Motion:

N/A

President's Recommendation:

N/A



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Agenda Item #6: NCAA Multi Divisional Review

Information

Action

Discussion

Purpose:

NCAA Multi-Divisional Review

Background:

1. Lake Superior State University is up for a NCAA Multi-Divisional Review of compliance standards. This review will be conducted by Collegiate Consulting as an outside review; the primary scope of the work will be on compliance review of Division 1 Men's Ice Hockey. Collegiate Consulting will review current academic and compliance policies and provide an analysis and any recommendations to the university. Collegiate Consulting will meet with a variety of departments on campus including, but not limited to Director of Athletics, Compliance Officer, Coaches, Student-Athletes, Senior Woman Administrator, Ticket Manager, Faculty Athletics Representative, Registrar's Office, Financial Aid, and Admissions.
2. The process will begin in mid-September and should be complete by early 2024. Lake Superior State University needs to submit the results and report to the NCAA by June 2024.
3. This is a common routine set in place by the NCAA. This occurs once every 5 years; during the last report done by Collegiate Consulting at LSSU, there were no significant findings or cause for concern.

Suggested Action/Motion:

N/A

President's Recommendation:

N/A