Minutes of Meeting
February 20, 2004

Present: D. Morrison (Ex-officio) (Acting Chair), A. Cracchiolo, R. Goldberg, S. Hame, E. Sinclair, K. Garey (Graduate Student representative)

Absence: J. Riley (Chair), R. Ungar (Undergraduate Student representative)

Staff: M. Avila, D. Dang

Guests: Clifford Brunk (Academic Senate Chair), Betsy Stephenson (Associate Athletic Director), Bob Field (AAD and Sports Supervisor for Football), Karl Dorrell (Head Football Coach)

Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm

1. CONSULTATION WITH SENATE LEADERSHIP--Clifford Brunk, Senate Chair
   Duncan Lindsey, Immediate Past Chair

   Senate Chair Brunk discussed concerns about media leaks and the importance of keeping sensitive conversations within the committee confidential. He suggested that any contact between the media and the committee be channeled through the IAC chair. Acting Chair Morrison reviewed the procedures already practiced by the committee in relation to this matter.

   Past Chair Duncan Lindsey was unable to attend the meeting.

2. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

   The November 14, 2003 meeting minutes were approved with the following revision. By request, the following comments will be added to the last line of discussion item 4. “One member feels that the composition of the Committee should be talented, interested and hard-working individuals. Another member argued that the IAC should have more members who teach undergraduates as IAC’s primary mission should be to give student-athletes the best undergraduate education as possible”.

3. CONSULTATION WITH INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT--Betsy Stephenson, Associate Athletic Director, Bob Field, AAD and Sports Supervisor for Football, Karl Dorrell, Head Football Coach

   Chair welcomed the guests and provided a general description of IAC’s duties. With the recent decline in the grades of the football players and the growing concentration of student-athletes into three majors (history, sociology, political science), there is concern that the rising academic requirements and the new NCAA eligibility rules will make academic success and progress toward graduation even more of a challenge for student-athletes, especially for those in the TV sports where so much is at stake for UCLA. The basic goal is to admit student-athletes who have a reasonable chance to succeed academically.

   Comments:
   * Recruitment Strategy
Coach Dorrell is aware that today’s UCLA student is admitted with a higher GPA and SAT score than when he attended UCLA in the 1980’s. He noted that while some recruitment problems stem from the challenge of new academic regulations and higher minimum requirements, it was important to recognize that some could also be attributed to the lowering of special admission policies at the Cal State level, special programs for student-athletes at other Universities and the lowering of the “bar” for special admits at USC. These circumstances are forcing UCLA to expand their athletic search nationwide. The committee asked how the Athletic Department (AD) felt about red-shirting. The AD was not opposed to the idea.

**Academic Choices and Progress**

A number of reasons were identified as contributing to last year’s below average academic performance of athletes on the football team. Some reasons are unique and will be addressed more directly. Others are permanent conditions of the undergraduate academic environment and should be undertaken on a larger scale. Presumably, many student-athletes come to UCLA with different aspirations and are disappointed that they can not get into certain majors. Several departments have modified their major requirements for entering students, which may be the reason for the growing major concentration. After the academic reform, tighter guidelines on academic progress will be implemented. In order to better meet the needs of student-athletes, their interaction with faculty in support of getting them through to graduation will be extremely important. What steps should be undertaken to help these students? The idea of establishing a faculty outreach program where greater trust, communication and cooperation between student-athletes, faculty and the AD should be developed.

**Pressing Concern**

The most pressing concern for the AD is to get faculty to post grades in a timely manner. The new policy on continuing eligibility requires athletes to pass at least two courses every quarter to remain eligible to play at the start of the next quarter. Last fall, only 25 out of 700 athletes had their grades posted on time. Vice Provost Judith Smith was asked to intervene. The plan backfired causing a strong reaction by faculty. The AD would like to improve relations with faculty and is asking the IAC to assist them in getting faculty to cooperate on this matter.

**Action:** IAC members were in unanimous agreement that a faculty outreach program be established. It plans to hold some campus focus groups to discuss these issues and may seek the help of some resource people like Professor Frank Gilliam who have an athletic background and can assist in facilitating the process. AD was asked to identify problem areas in which the Committee can be useful. The discussion on this matter will continue at the May meeting with Ben Howland, Head Coach of Basketball, Ms. Stephenson and Kim Barger, Asst. Director, Academic Services.

4. **SCHEDULING THE SPRING MEETING**

Ms. Avila will get members availability to confirm the date of the spring meeting.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.