

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE FORMED

St. Bonaventure University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Michael Fischer, Ph.D., announced today the creation of a strategic planning committee on intercollegiate athletics.

“The creation of this committee is the next step in our University-wide strategic planning effort,” said Fischer. “Following the Board of Trustees June approval of the five-year financial forecast and strategic plan, *Becoming Extraordinary 2015*, we now have the framework in place that enables us to engage in an aligned planning initiative for intercollegiate athletics that supports the University’s priorities and vision for the future.”

The engagement of this University-wide group follows an independent assessment of the University’s intercollegiate athletics programs and operations conducted during the spring of 2011 by Carr Sports Associates. The charge to the intercollegiate athletics strategic planning committee is to now build upon the evaluation performed by Carr, as well as other available information, to develop a plan for the sustainable and vibrant future of intercollegiate athletics at St. Bonaventure University within the context of the goals, areas of strategic focus, and overall financial plan articulated in *Becoming Extraordinary 2015*.

The plan will clearly articulate the priorities for accomplishment by the intercollegiate athletics program during the next five years, and the strategies and tactics for their achievement. The committee was charged by Fischer on August 30 to establish:

1. a clear and compelling articulation of the mission of and vision for intercollegiate athletics at St. Bonaventure University;
2. a set of principles and commitments to compliance with NCAA and conference standards, and processes of assessment to ensure that compliance will be a central element of athletics planning, staff education, and evaluation of performance;
3. specific goals and objectives (linked to the institutional goals in the approved Five Year Financial Forecast and Strategic Plan), strategies and tactics, and the timetable for their execution;
4. annual revenue and expense projections, to include both operating and capital needs, and internal and external sources of funds;
5. recommendations regarding any necessary changes in organizational structures or staffing to execute the strategies and accomplish the goals; and
6. metrics for evaluating success, tied where applicable to the goals in the University Five-Year Forecast and Strategic Plan.

Chaired by Athletics Director Steve Watson and co-chaired by Vice Provost for Student Life Rick Trietley, the committee members include:

Marge Adamitis- Athletics Business Manager
Steve Campbell - Associate Athletic Director for Internal Operations
James J. Cattano, Member of the Board of Trustees
Fr. John C. Coughlin, Mt. Irenaeus
Mary Driscoll, Vice President for University Advancement
Monica Emery, Director of Recruitment, Office of Admissions
Mike Kasperski, School of Business, Faculty Senate representative to the Board of Trustees
Ann Lehman, Registrar and Director of Institutional Research
Steve Mest, Associate Athletic Director for External Relations
Tom Missel, Director of Media Relations and Marketing
Barb Questa, Senior Associate Director of Athletics
Julie Rodriguez, Associate Registrar
Lorraine Smith, Budget Director
Dr. Denny Wilkins, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Faculty Athletics Representative
Philip Winger, Associate Vice President for Facilities

Over the past two years, the University has conducted or commissioned reviews of its academic programs, Technology Services, Friedsam Memorial Library, the Quick Center for the Arts, Maintenance and Housekeeping, Advancement, and Enrollment. “All of these efforts have been designed to build a strategic planning process that is based upon solid data and that also considers the perspectives and ideas of the University community and stakeholders,” said Fischer. “Given our tradition of excellence and student engagement in intercollegiate athletics, we want to ensure that this critical part of our tradition and distinction is also incorporated into the University’s strategic plan by way of a careful and inclusive process.”

“I know I speak for the entire committee when I say we welcome this opportunity,” said Watson. “Athletics has played important strategic roles for the University over the course of its history, and we’ll create a plan that sustains and builds upon this valued part of the University’s brand and culture.”

The committee is asked to complete this work by June of 2012. Periodic updates on the committee’s work will be shared with the campus and external communities by Trietley and Watson.