Athletics Committee Annual Report  
Academic Year 2015 - 2016  

1. Name of Committee Chair: Paul Caster  

2. Committee membership, Voting Members: Paul Caster, Shannon Gerry, Audra Nuru, Sila Alan (Fall), Iman Nadiri (Fall) Giovanni Ruffini (Fall and Spring replacement), Scott Hiller (Spring), Michael Cavanaugh (Spring), Brie Tancredi, FUSA rep, and Nick Cannone, Athletics student/rep. Invited Guests: Gene Doris, Athletic Director, Chris Huntley, NCAA representative, Pat Poli, Stags Council, Phil Palumbo, Recreation.  

3. 5 meetings were held (3 Fall, 2 Spring). Faculty representatives attended all meetings, Brie Tancredi attended all but one meeting, Nick Cannone attended Fall meetings only.  

4. Meeting Dates: 9/2/15, 10/7/15, 11/4/15, 2/10/16, 4/20/16  

5. List of principal topics considered by the committee:  
   A. Faculty Fellows program - - the committee agreed to take this over from Stags Council  
   B. Club Sports rules - - John Paladino reported on how Club Sports work  
   C. Triennial Survey of Athletes - - Giovanni Ruffini and Iman Nadiri volunteered to serve on a sub-committee with Chris Huntley to revise the survey instrument. They will analyze the results for next year’s committee.  
   D. Strategic Plan - - Zach Dayton from Athletics Chairs this committee. Shannon Gerry, Scott Hiller, and Brie Tancredi volunteered to attend meetings and report back to the Athletics Committee, but no meetings have been held to date.  
   E. Rutgers coach incident - - discussed per request of MAAC schools in New Jersey. Incident involved a Rutgers coach pressuring a Rutgers faculty member to change the grade of an athlete. No action needs to be taken at this time since Fairfield already has rules in place forbidding such conduct by a coach.
5. List of principal topics considered by the committee, continued:

F. Athletes request for recognition at graduation - Graduation Committee rejected the request.

G. Complaint regarding a member of a spirit team - “contract” is being revised by Athletics.

H. Final exam conflicts - see below, item 6.

6. List of the decisions taken by the committee:

A. Strong recommendation to Athletics Department to not schedule any non-conference games during final exams, including on reading days.

B. Recommendation to Graduation Committee to recognize graduating athletes in some way. Graduation Committee rejected the request.

7. Anticipated effects of these decisions:

A. Gene Doris took the recommendation under advisement.

B. Stags Council is going to look into National Honors Societies for student/athletes and they will probably try to start a chapter at Fairfield.

8. Unfinished business - triennial survey results.

9. Future agenda items - discussion of Athletics Department strategic plan, discussion of triennial survey results, plan for dissemination of triennial survey results, revisions to triennial survey instrument for the next time it will be administered, with consideration of adding questions regarding the Faculty Fellows program.