

**Council on Intercollegiate Athletics (CIA)**

***Meeting Minutes***

**Wednesday, January 22, 2014**

Meeting called to order at 3:15 PM in the Board Room of University Union.

*Present:* Christopher Kovacs (Chair); Jim Olsen, Matthew Thomas, Jason Franken; Thomas Cody; Tommy Bell (ex-officio); Matt Tanney (ex-officio). *Absent:* Jimmy Holtschlag (football student-athlete; SGA rep.)  
-athlete rep.)

1. Purpose of meeting to solicit feedback from CIA as a faculty subgroup for two topics:
  - a. Potential re-branding of the athletics department
  - b. Potential development of faculty mentorship program with athletics teams
  
2. Branding & Marketing Feedback
  - a. Bell discussed on-going review of athletics department branding and marketing plan
  
  - b. Each individual provided with a survey of potential options and asked to vote on preferred phrase (currently *There's Only One Leatherneck Athletics*)
  
3. Faculty Mentorship Program
  - a. Cody discussed similar programs presently implemented at Princeton University and University of Denver, whereby faculty are assigned to specific teams to serve as another resource/reference point for the student-athletes; members of group were emailed web links, prior to the meeting, from the Princeton and Denver websites
  
  - b. Cody believes the program is good opportunity for faculty and other university entities to have greater ownership of athletics program at Western; also offers positive cross-educational opportunity for coaches & student-athletes and the designated faculty members
  
  - c. sorts would be required
  
  - d. Franken liked the idea and noted greater faculty involvement with athletics teams can help combat any perceived negativity for supporting athletics programs
  
  - e. Kovacs noted if the program were developed, it would be important for the faculty to  
- athletes for a worthwhile investment for both groups;  
cited involvement in previous mentorship programs with varying levels of success

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4. Other Business

- a. Jimmy Holtschlag, senior football student-athlete, has been nominated for an NCAA post-graduate scholarship.

Meeting adjourned at 3:56 PM.