FACULTY MEETING AGENDA  
Wednesday, May 8, 2013  
4:00 p.m. – Lovejoy 100

I. Report of the Secretary

II. Report from College Officers  
   A. President Adams  
   B. Lori Kletzer  
   C. Jim Terhune

III. Old Business  
   A. Athletics Advisory Committee Motion

*Intercollegiate athletic teams will practice no more than 16 hours per week and no more than three hours per day when classes are in session. Each day of competition will now count as three hours toward these limits. All required “athletically-related activities” as defined in the NCAA Division III Manual will now count toward the daily and weekly limits. Practices will not interfere with students’ academic obligations.* [NOTE: Colby rules continue to require a day off from practice or competition every seven days.] Please see attached document.

IV. New Business

V. Report from College Committees  
   A. Colby Writing Program – Stacey Sheriff

VI. Discussion  
   A. Demands on faculty time – Margaret McFadden

VII. Announcements  
   A. Museum tours (May 14 and 15 at 4:00pm) – Sharon Corwin

VIII. Adjournment
April 2013

To: Colby Faculty
From: Athletics Advisory Committee
RE: Proposed Change in Colby Athletics Practice Rule

Proposed Motion

Intercollegiate athletic teams will practice no more than 16 hours per week and no more than three hours per day when classes are in session. Each day of competition will now count as three hours toward these limits. All required “athletically-related activities” as defined in the NCAA Division III Manual will now count toward the daily and weekly limits. Practices will not interfere with students’ academic obligations. [NOTE: Colby rules continue to require a day off from practice or competition every seven days.]

The table at the end of this document illustrates the implications of the proposed policy. This proposed rule change will take effect during the 2013-2014 academic year and will be reviewed by the Athletics Advisory Committee in September 2014.

Background

Colby has had a rule in place for our intercollegiate athletic teams referred to as the “two-hour practice rule” since 1989. Colby is currently the only NESCAC school to have an athletics practice policy. The current rule (listed below) restricts teams to no more than two hours of practice per day with limited exceptions. However, these limited exceptions are not defined.

Current Rule

As a general guideline, demands upon any team or team member shall not exceed two hours of actual practice per day. Limited exceptions may be allowed only when the practices will not interfere with the student’s academic obligations. In this definition, practices are meant to include such things as film viewing and weight lifting or other conditioning. [Adopted by the Faculty in October 1989.]

Rationale for Proposed Motion

The Athletics Advisory Committee has discussed Colby’s current policy over the past two years. We believe that the above proposal provides a number of benefits over current policy.

First, the proposed policy is clearer and more transparent than current policy. For example, it now provides information about what represents required athletically-related activities. Additionally, the proposed policy eliminates all exceptions.

Second, the proposed policy will explicitly take into account competition days when calculating the number of hours each week.

Third, the proposed policy will provide coaching faculty with more flexibility to adapt hours and teaching methods to the particular needs of each sport; this is especially important for the endurance sports during certain periods of their training cycle.
Fourth, allowing teams to practice, for example, two-and-a-half hours one day and one-and-a-half hours the next day provides flexibility depending on that week’s contest schedule, the needs of the students, and students’ class schedules.

And finally, the additional flexibility will provide coaching faculty with a greater opportunity to use “practice” time for meetings with each team’s faculty liaison and to discuss non-athletic issues with their students (e.g. leadership initiatives, time management, the impact of alcohol use on academic and athletic performance, .. etc.).

The committee believes the current two-hour rule to be outdated and limiting. The proposed policy provides greater flexibility in teaching, captures the entire athletic experience (i.e., explicitly takes into account athletic contests), and gives coaching faculty a greater opportunity for non-athletic discussions with the students.

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<th>Number of Competition Days</th>
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