

Athletic and Intramural Committee
Meeting Notes
April 27, 2009

PRESENT: Nancy Bentley, Phil Blau, Jeff Hamilton, Cindy Hopkins, Steve Rader, Jim Settle, Bob Trusz, Levanya Vemsani

GUEST: President Rita Morris

ABSENT: Heather Devoe, Megan Eubanks, Brenda Renfroe, John Valentine

Steve Rader called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Dr. Morris. Dr. Morris said she wanted to talk with this group regarding the changing of athletic conferences and hear recommendations from the committee. Dr. Morris gave a brief history of our current conference, American Mideast Conference which is breaking up and expressed concern the conference didn't have adequate insurance. She said she wants a conference affiliation that provides good, not mediocre, competition; she would like to minimize the number of classes our students have to miss; she would like to have tournaments on this campus; and would like a stable conference. Dr. Morris asked for a recommendation to announce to the AMC that SSU will be withdrawing at the end of the year and become part of the Mid South Athletic Conference. Bob Trusz said he thinks it is a move we have to make but has concerns about putting ourselves at a disadvantage with out-of-state students in Kentucky. Dr. Morris pointed out that by moving to division 1, we have the opportunity to increase the number of scholarships offered. Discussion moved to mission statement for athletics, serious limitations on recruiting with part-time coaches, correlation of athletics success to academic success and the expansion of scholarships. After discussion, Dr. Morris asked the group if they are comfortable with her announcing the move to the Mid-South at the end of the next academic year. No objections were voiced.