

**Crown Council Report  
May 2012  
From the Athletics National Advisory Board**

**Department/Program Overview**

*Staff:*

15 full time head coaches (cover 25 sports)

45 full time and part time staff in Athletics Department

4 full-time athletic trainers

1 full time equipment manager

1 full time sports information

5 full time administrators

Athletics Director and Facilities Manager of Lund Center

Assistant Athletics Director (Event Management, Club Sports and Compliance)

Senior Woman Administrator (Director of Student Athlete Services)

Information Desk Supervisor – Pool Scheduling / Lifeguards

Administrative Assistant for Athletics and Health & Exercise Science

*Physical space*

Lund Arena

Sq ft: 200,000

Facility contains: Gus Young court, Lund natatorium, cardiovascular center, gymnastic area, and the Lund forum.

Ice Arena completed in 1975, remainder of the facility finished by 1984.

Today, Gustavus has 500 more students (20% increase) using the facilities.

In 1984, Gustavus had 6 women sports, now there are 13.

The facility is housing 50% more sports within the same space that was crafted for 6.

*Programs offered*

25 intercollegiate sports (13 women's teams and 12 men's teams)

Large variety of club and intramural sports

*Involvement of students, alumni, community*

Over 600 (25% Student participation) varsity student athletes participate annually. Over 1800 student involvement when including intramural sports

**150 YEARS AND COUNTING**

**Athletics National Advisory Board Overview**

The group has met 3 times (November, January, May) in the Twin Cities and on campus.

Members

This group of people bleeds black and gold. Every group member has a strong connection to Gustavus Athletics as a student-athlete, parent of a student-athlete, athletic trainer, supporter, etc. (in some cases, all of the above).

Rick Hjelm, Co-Chair

Mary Ryerse, Co-Chair

Al Molde, Facilitator

Katie Aafedt

Brett Aamot

Susan Abraham

Susan Breckner

Tim Butorac

Marian Delaney

Brian Descheneau

Bob Gazzola

Erik Hendrikson

Dan James

Nicole Lavoie

Len Lundquist

Marc Miller

Stan Larson

**Summary of Discussion Topics**

November: Athletics Program

- Introduction to NAB
- Program Offerings
  - This topic began with Al Molde providing a summary of current offerings, underlying philosophy and tenets of Gustavus Athletics, organizational structure, Title IX compliance and student participation.
  - The group then discussed possible areas for expansion and potential need to reallocate money in the athletics department.

January: Athletics Facilities

- Review of Commission Gustavus 150 Goals
- Facilities Discussion
  - This topic began with Al Molde providing a summary of existing facilities, facilities-related needs, and an overview of the campus Strategic Framework.
  - The group engaged in an exercise to prioritize future needs.

May: Facilities Tour and Budget

- Conducted Facilities Tour
- High Level Budget Discussion
  - Demonstrated the challenge of funding rising costs of athletic programs and the need for additional funding.

## 150 YEARS AND COUNTING

- Factors include increase in transportation costs, increase in facility needs, addition of teams, popularity of club sports, and the increase in wellness awareness by the general student population.
- Began discussion on ways to increase revenue – initial ideas included increasing the line item(s) dedicated to athletics in the college’s operating budget and supplementing with fundraising.

### **Emerging Opportunities, Challenges, Future Discussion Topics**

#### Program Offerings

- Opportunity to add another sport, with the challenge of possible discontinuation of other(s). The sports most discussed for addition were lacrosse and men’s volleyball
- If a discontinuation were needed to meet budget requirements, the sport most explored was gymnastics.

#### Facilities

- Anticipate future discussion and recommendations regarding facility improvement and expansion – such a recommendation would likely include a new fitness/recreation area and expansion of locker room and office space.
- Need space to accommodate both varsity athletes and recreational needs of the students.

#### Budget

- Future discussion is needed to address funding challenge. Any efforts to that end (as well as for program and facilities) need to be aligned with philosophy, mission and objectives as indicated below.

#### Philosophy, Mission, Objectives

- With the transition to a new Athletic Director, there is opportunity to review the philosophy, mission, and main objectives relating to athletics at Gustavus to ensure the group’s recommendations are aligned with these items

### **NAB Operational Highpoints or Challenges**

- The support of the Gustavus staff and faculty has been fantastic. It is very helpful to have Al Molde as the content expert.
- A challenge can be fostering balanced participation of the group – to meet that challenge, we have utilized a combination of large group and small group (with reporting out) discussions.
- The group will be transitioning to a new campus facilitator next year as Al Molde retires and Tom Brown takes over as new Athletic Director.