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CO-DIRECTOR OF THE DUKE WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS CLINIC

April 15, 2018

To: Don Taylor, Chair  
Academic Council

Re: Report of the Athletic Council's activities for 2017-18

The Council made a comprehensive report to the Academic Council in the fall of 2017, which included responding to numerous requests for information, a meeting with ECAC, and by presentations on specified topics to the Academic Council. The Executive Committee of the Athletic Council met with the President and Provost in the fall of 2017. The full Council met in the fall of 2017 and again in the spring of 2018. The Academic Committee of the Council met on March 28, 2018, to discuss the academic performance of student-athletes.

The Executive Committee of the Council had its annual meeting with the President and Provost on October 20, 2017, to discuss topics for the Council's 2017-18 agenda. One of the topics that the Executive Committee, President, and Provost agreed the Council should add to its agenda was the mental health needs of student athletes. There was a consensus that this is a matter of general concern among the university community. The Council included a discussion of this concern at its spring meeting. The Athletic Department also raised the question of allowing the sale of alcohol on a trial basis in Wallace Wade Stadium. The Council agreed to participate in the consideration of such a pilot policy. The undersigned Chair subsequently appointed a task force for that purpose, chaired by Linda Franzoni. After the task force's report, which raised a number of unanswered questions about a decision to sell alcohol at the football stadium, the Department decided to continue its consideration of the matter before putting forth any specific proposal.

The Chair of the Athletic Council and Martha Putallaz, the Faculty Athletic Representative, met with the Executive Committee of the Academic Council (ECAC) on October 25 and subsequently made presentations to the Academic Council on November 16, 2017. In advance of the meeting with ECAC, the Council provided documentary responses to several questions posed by the Chair of the Academic Council. Based on the conversation with ECAC, the Chair of the Academic Council identified several topics that he requested the undersigned Chair and Professor Putallaz to address at the November 16, 2017, Academic Council Meeting. The Academic Council prepared comprehensive minutes of those presentations and subsequent discussion, which are available.

The Council had its fall meeting on November 17, 2017. President Price attended the meeting and made brief remarks to the Council. Felicia Tittle, Executive Director/Recreation

and Physical Education, made a comprehensive presentation on the activities of the Duke Recreation and Physical Education Program. The members of the Council were impressed by the efficiency with which the Program touches so many members of the Duke Community with such limited resources. Dean Guttentag gave his annual report on the admission of student-athletes; there were no material changes. The Department provided an overview of the enrichment programs available to Duke student-athletes; presentations were made by Jacki Silar, Senior Associate AD/Senior Woman Administrator, Greg Dale, Director of Sport Psychology and Leadership, and Scott Yakola, Chair of Physical Education and Co-Director of Athletics Leadership Program.

The Academic Committee of the Council (faculty members, academic deans, and Faculty Athletic Representative) met on March 23, 2018, to discuss the academic performance of student-athletes. Dean Arlie Petters made a comprehensive presentation. He also reviewed systems and practices in place since 2008 to monitor the academic progress of student athletes during the academic year, including an enhanced early warning system to identify students who are having academic difficulties. As previously reported, these systems and practices have had a significant positive impact of student-athlete performance. There were no issues of significant concern.

Finally, the full Council met on April 13, 2017. The Department made several presentations, including an overview of the Athletic Department's budgeting process, including current pressures on the Department's budget from several sources. Hap Zarzour, Executive Director of Athletic Medicine, reported on the numerous ways in which the Department currently addresses the mental health needs of student athletes; he also informed the Council of the Department's plan to appoint a dedicated mental health specialist to assist with non-athletic performance related mental health needs of student-athletes. Brad Berndt, Senior Associate Director of Athletics/Academic Services, reported briefly on progress to develop a continuing education program for student-athletes who withdraw from Duke after one or two years to pursue professional careers in athletics. The Chair reported on this effort at the Academic Council's November 2017 meeting.

James E. Coleman, Jr.  
Chair, for the Athletic Council

cc: President Price  
Kevin White  
Martha Putallaz