

Annual Report of the Athletic Council for 2015~~2016~~
June 8 2016

Committee Membership, 2015~~2016~~

2016	Mark Huibregtse, Mathematics and Computer Science, Chair
2017	Amon Emeka, Sociology
2018	

Other business:

NCAA Self-Study: The NCAA requires that member institutions conduct a self-study of their athletic programs every five years. The self-study consists of a long series of questions for the institution to consider, in consultation with various offices (e.g., admissions, financial aid, academic advising, health services, etc.) with connections to athletics. This year Skidmore completed its self-study under the aegis of a broadly representative steering committee chaired by Megan Buchanan and including representatives of the Athletic Council. At its last meeting of the year, the Athletic Council endorsed the self-study and forwarded it to President Glotzbach for his signature. Interestingly, the NCAA doesn't actually look at the self-study; it only requires presidential certification that it was rigorously and honestly completed. As one might expect, this year's study highlighted both things we can be proud of and areas in which we need to improve. Those interested can request to see the report in the Office of the Athletic Director.

Physical Activity (PA) class grading issue: Corey Freeman Galant recommended that PA courses be changed from letter graded to "all S/U" as one means of moderating collegewide trend of grade inflation. (High grades predominate in non-credit courses in PA courses. "A's" currently constitute 93% of all grades.) The committee considered this recommendation in parallel with consideration by the PA instructors. As of this writing, no final decision has been made. This issue is connected to the possible awarding of academic credit for varsity athletics participation (see the next item); such credit would almost certainly be on an "S/U only" basis, making it likely that a consistent policy would be adopted for PA classes.

Academic Credit for Intercollegiate Athletic Participation: The student members of the committee had raised this issue during the academic year 2014, and the committee had given it preliminary consideration.