

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Athletics Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

8:30am – 9:20am

Hazel Conference Room

Merten Hall 1201

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**
 - I. Minutes for Meeting on April 30, 2026
- III. New Business**
 - I. Head Coach Spotlight – Vanessa Blair-Lewis
 - II. Intercollegiate Athletics + Compliance Update – Marvin Lewis + Malcolm Grace
 - III. Athletic Council/FAR Annual Update – Dominique Banville
- IV. Adjournment**

Reports:

Fall 2026 Competitive Update

Academic Results - Spring Semester

Academic Progress Rate (APR)

The September 16, 2026 Athletics Committee meeting of the Board of Visitors will be in-person. Members of the public are welcome to observe in person or may view the meeting live at the following link: <https://bov.gmu.edu/live/>. Overflow gallery seating is located in Merten 1204. Please be aware that agenda timing is for planning purposes only, the formal meeting could conclude before or after the time noted so participants should plan accordingly.

Written comments will be accepted until the full board meeting adjourns on October 1, 2026. To submit a written public comment, please complete the form at the following link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/yFV6VKFck3>. Written comments will be entered into the public record of this meeting.

No oral public comment will be taken at this meeting.

**BOARD OF VISITORS
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

**Athletics Committee Meeting
April 30, 2026
Merten Hall 1201**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Trevor Montano, Vice Chair Jim Moran, Visitor Shawn Purvis, Visitor Greg Scindler, and Visitor Jennifer Taylor

ABSENT: Visitor Tom Davis (Virtual), Visitor Jon Peterson.

ALSO PRESENT: Vice Rector Michael Meese, Secretary Armand Alacbay, Visitor Anne Altman, Visitor Bruce Caswell, Visitor Paul Misener, Visitor Delbert Parks, Visitor Jeffrey Rosen, Visitor, Sumeet Shrivastava, Visitor Sean Spence, Visitor Jennifer, Taylor; Faculty Representative Domonique Banville, Faculty Representative Ali Weinstein; Staff Representative Marvin Lewis; Graduate Student Representative Nilima Hakim Mow; Undergraduate Student Representative Jonathan Dubois; President Gregory Washington; University Counsel Anne Gentry; Interim Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Dan Stephens; and Jay Highsmith, Secretary pro tem.

I. Call to Order

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

II. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

Chair Montano asked if there were any questions or comments in regard to the February 26th BOV meeting minutes. Noting no comments or corrections, the minutes stand as written.

III. New Business

Chair Montano noted that there was a hard copy of the current NIL Policy that was printed and distributed for reference for the NIL discussion as part of New Business, and mentioned that it would be included in the full packet update that Friday.

Head Coach Spotlight – Tony Skinn, Head Men’s Basketball Coach

The Athletics Committee convened under the leadership of Chair Montano, who welcomed Assistant Vice President and Director of Athletics, Marvin Lewis, to speak on new business. Marvin recognized the board and recalled that Athletics was called the “fun committee” at the previous meeting, noting that they’d have fun due to having the Men’s Basketball head coach, Tony Skinn. Marvin provided a brief overview of the morning’s discussions. He highlighted that Tony exemplifies competitive and sustained excellence. Marvin noted Tony’s success and conveyed that he has quickly become one of the most competitive and successful coaches in college basketball. Marvin invited Tony to share his story.

Tony expressed his excitement for sharing the scouting report of the men’s basketball team. He called the team the front porch of the university. He shared that the team has had the best 3 year stretch in the team’s 60 year history. He noted a big part of their success is due to Dr. Washington and Marvin Lewis. He noted the team’s attendance record, and that the 16 nationally televised games. Tony mentioned there’s still a lot of work to do and close the gap with real investment. He conveyed that the day to day of the student athlete is not as efficient for their overall experience, and shared how the Basketball & Academic Performance Center (BAPC) will be transformational. He stressed the buy in has to grow in order for our teams to grow and be successful.

Questions

Visitor Taylor congratulated Tony on his “huge success” and said that she found his presentation inspiring.

President Washington asked Tony what should we look forward to in this rendition of the men’s basketball team. Tony spoke on the challenges of having great success, then losing the team to graduation and transferring. He spoke of what the team is bringing and how we’re recruiting the right people.

Rector Meese asked if there’s anything the school, the board, the Athletic’s committee can to encourage students to remain at George Mason so they don’t leave. Tony spoke of the overall athlete experience and how the BAPC will be a one stop shop that will be enticing for students to stay.

Visitor Parks asked if all of the Assistant Coaches stayed. Tony spoke of the team’s success and they’ve largely retained their coaches.

Visitor Moran asked where Tony searches when he targets for recruitment. Tony acknowledged the strength of the basketball scene in the DC, Maryland, and Virginia (DMV) area. He mentioned targing guys that do want to be here.

Visitor Schindler acknowledged how difficult it is to lose 90% of production and still have great success. He asked what’s next on Tony’s wish list. Tony spoke of the team’s growth and believe that we’re moving in the right direction.

Visitor Taylor asked what percentage of players going into the professionals or athletic types of roles verses the workforce. Tony shared that half of the guys have an opportunity to play professionally once they graduate, and reality hits the other half, causing them to enter the workfoce within the first 18 months of graduating. Visitor Taylor asked if the players have interests learning about the economy and job opportunities. Tony shared that it’s part of the team’s holistic development that they challenge guys with. Visitor Taylor shared that she leads the Northern Virginia Technology Council and that they’d be happy to come and speak to the players.

Marvin asked Tony what is “Patriot Pressure” and what he would like to see going forward. Tony shared that it’s the attitude they play with and that they’re always defensive minded. He also mentioned it’s the importance of the support for the team, mentioning the students and the fans.

Athletics Director Update

Assistant Vice President and Director of Athletics, Marvin Lewis, opened his report by noting the success of the women’s basketball team and success across the 22 sports as a whole. He provided a highlight of the revenue and engagement, most notably raising Athletics raising over 2 million dollars for giving day. He acknowledges we still have work to do and discussed some of the emerging initiatives. Marvin provided an update on the capital projects happening within Athletics. He also discussed the medical model review, with feedback provided by the U.S. Council for Athlete’s Health.

Marvin acknowledged the mixed perspective on NIL and shared thte Board should be proud of the approach for GMU Athletics, led by Ashton Henderson and Janard Estell. He shared that we’re taking an educational approach to it, and showed a quick video starring Women’s Soccer player, Madison Taylor. Marvin noted that she didn’t talk about money, spoke about how Madison and the business both benefited, and how we want to protect our student athletes.

Marvin shared his absence and time on the Women's NCAA Basketball Committee. Rector Meese asked if anyone had been on this committee before. Marvin shared that the previous Athletic Director, Tom Connors, served on the men's committee.

NIL Policy Update

Marvin invited Deputy AD, Compliance & NCAA Governance, Malcolm Grace to the podium. Malcolm shared that the NIL policy was put into effect in the summer of last year to ensure we are compliant. He mentioned necessary updates were made to account for the new requirements in the house vs NCAA settlement. Malcolm shared that the policy has been excellent in protecting "us" from a compliance standpoint, and positioning our student athletes for success as well.

Questions

Visitor Moran asked if Women's Basketball Coach, Vanessa Blair-Lewis was in the room. After Marvin shared that she wasn't in the room, Visitor Moran gave a shout out to her team and said the team was "phenominal" and "outstanding". Marvin shared the plan is to have her come speak to the board in the fall.

Rector Meese highlighted the competitive success from the fall and spring sports in the board book. He acknowledged that the baseball games start at 2pm in the afternoon because there are lights on the baseball field, and the board needs to work towards getting a new baseball field.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 9:19am.

Presentation Forthcoming