Committee Members Present:
Linda Heath
Nelda Hislop-Lawrence
Jane Neufeld
John Planek
Hannah Rockwell
Brian Stanko, Chair

1) Previous Meeting Minutes Approval.
   a) The Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee unanimously approved the December 6, 2007 meeting minutes.

2) Sports Program Update - John Planek.
   a) Spring sports are in full swing and the Ramblers have faced some of their toughest competition in recent years. Under the direction of Yvette Healy, the Loyola softball program has played five games against nationally ranked teams and has rolled up 11 total victories this season, including wins versus in-state rivals Bradley and Northern Illinois. In February, the Ramblers gave then No. 2 Arizona State all it could handle, before falling, 8-6. Loyola, the preseason pick to claim the League title, will host the Horizon League Softball Championship, May 8-10.
   b) Likewise, the men’s volleyball squad has played a daunting schedule that has featured nine matches against ranked opponents. Loyola is hosting No. 1 Penn State tomorrow night, then holding senior night festivities before Saturday’s game versus Saint Francis (Pa.). MIVA Tournament action commences next weekend.
   c) The Rambler golf teams have also played in some challenging tournaments this spring and both squads are hosting meets next week (April 14-15) at Pine Meadow Golf Course in Mundelein, Ill., as a final tune-up before the Horizon League Championships at the end of the month.
   d) Loyola’s track squads are also gearing up for the Horizon League Outdoor Championships, which will be held May 8-9 in Youngstown, Ohio. Sophomore Jackie Vera also earned the opportunity of a lifetime in March as she was invited to train with the Mexican Women’s Soccer National Team for a week.
   e) On an unrelated note, John Planek mentioned that the University has been working with the Athletic Department in order to insure that students with
University-related conflicts would be able to attend alternative graduation ceremonies. The consensus by the senior leadership is that any student representing the Institution at a University-sponsored event has the option to attend an alternative graduation ceremony in order to not miss a sponsored extracurricular activity.

f) John also indicated that the Athletics Department was currently administrating exit interviews to student athletes and was seeking incentive based plans to insure that the surveys were filled out by graduating seniors. Committee members suggested that a set-aside time by the coaches be used to have all graduating team members complete the questionnaire. Incentives could also be provided to the student-athletes to complete the questionnaire by a designated date.

3) FAR Update – Brian Stanko
a) Academic All-Horizon League Ballots – Winter Sports
i) Voting was just being completed for the Winter-Sports All-Academic Team and Loyola University Chicago was represented with many excellent candidates. Sixteen Ramblers were a part of 4 winter-sport groups. The quality of the candidates was once again evident as 54/147 student-athletes held a 3.70 GPA or higher.

b) APR Report.
i) The NCAA recently released Loyola University Chicago’s Division I 2006-07 Academic Progress Rate Institutional Report. The APR is a metric established by the NCAA to measure the success or failure of collegiate athletic teams in moving student-athletes towards graduation and was instituted in February of 2005. A perfect score is 1000. In 2006-07, eight sport teams from Loyola University Chicago had an APR score of 1000 with the remaining seven teams compiling a score of 957 or better.

c) Television Committee Update.
i) The Horizon League Network (HLN), after its re-launch in mid-October, has seen exceptional growth in activity. Statistics show that since the re-launch, 638,952 pages have been viewed by visitors and 20,570 people have registered with site. A total of 375 live sporting events (including 218 basketball games) have been shown during the 2007-08 season with many still to come. And while the cost to televise only 14 basketball games was $350,000 in 2004-05, the HLN has a projected cost of $213,000 in 2007-08.

d) Study on Sports Wagering: Men’s Soccer and Women’s Volleyball.
i) Over the next few weeks, the NCAA Study on Collegiate Sports Wagering will be administered to two Loyola Sport Teams – Men’s Soccer and Women’s Volleyball. The data will be summarized by the NCAA with a fall, 2008 release.

4) SAAC Update.
a) The SAAC website has been created and now provides information and photos regarding past events, ongoing events and future activities planned by the organization. The website can be accessed through the Loyola Athletics Website.

5) Other Business.
a) A sincere thank you was extended to all members for serving on the Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee.
6) Future Meeting Date.
   a) The Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee plans to hold its next meeting in October, 2008.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00pm