2-8-12 SAAC Meeting

* Today we are brainstorming for the trustee meeting this Friday. It’s Friday at 4:30 in CC 200.
* At the meeting on February 22 we are going to be having the panel for the people who want to be on the SAAC executive board next year. They will have to say why they are running for their position, answer questions, etc..

-It’s possible to run for a position if you are abroad now but if you are going to be abroad next year you can’t run.

-If any members of your team are interested in running make sure they know they don’t have to be a SAAC rep to run and they just have to come to the SAAC meeting on February 22.

-Talk to the current executive board if you have questions about running.

-We are holding elections so early to train the new board because the current board is graduating.

-Please relay this information to your teammates, remind them to come to the meeting on February 22nd if they are interested in running.

* Board of Trustees Meeting:
	+ Outline of what we are going to talk about: On Friday, Adit, the athletic liaison from the Board of Trustees is going to meet with us. We want to give her a sense of what’s going on in Bryn Mawr Athletics. We want to share with her why it is that we love Bryn Mawr Athletics and why we like the experience so much and what we get out of it, but also what struggles we face.
	+ Ideas of good things: community, time management, exercise, learning how to communicate with people
	+ Ideas of difficult things: challenges of Bryn Mawr athletes. Lack of competitiveness with other teams, for some teams on this campus, there is a competitiveness gap with other teams in the conference. How does this make you feel as an athlete? How does this make you feel Bryn Mawr is represented?
	+ Some discussions that can arise are visibility: we don’t have a lot of fans—visibility around campus is a hardship. Some teams also have small rosters but we’ve seen an increase in amenities and incoming freshmen numbers have increased (i.e. soccer, field hockey)
	+ Adit was not an athlete, she was a dancer. We need to make her understand the commitment of athletics and why we do it and just how important this commitment it is. We need to convey just how important are athletic commitment is to us.

What you guys had to say:

* Phoebe: Good things are team atmosphere and camaraderie (social life and everyday life) discipline and time management. Challenges: size of team, retention of athletes, visibility of teams (crew doesn’t practice on campus so they don’t feel recognized as much).
* Karina: When I was looking at Bryn Mawr, someone told me the 4-6 window was a protected hour (athlete’s time) but now scheduled classes are starting to push into that hours
* Rachel: Good things—feeling of belonging in the athletic community (the gym, we all see each other in the training room). Challenges: Manya talked about not feeling at home when playing at home because the visiting team has more fans. Bottom of conference, lowest in the Seven Sisters
* Jessica: Swimming couldn’t host Seven Sisters this year even though it was our turn because we don’t have enough spectator seating for the pool
* Zoe: Tennis does not host Seven Sisters either because we don’t have indoor courts. You need indoor courts because of weather and how many matches we need to host.
* Manya: When Field Hockey hosted Seven Sisters…
* Kristina: We hosted Seven Sisters for XC at Haverford. We had a good time getting to know each other. We really wanted to host it on a home course but we didn’t have the amenities to do so but we will be able to host it next time it’s our turn on our new home course in Media, PA. But this year we hosted the banquet and everyone hadn’t been to our campus were in awe of it so it was cool to share that with them.
* More on positives…Why is it despite these hardships you are committed
* Melina: The strongest friendships I have maintained are those on my team.
* Meredith: The study that athletes at Bryn Mawr have the highest retention rate and are happiest on campus. Bryn Mawr athletes’ willingness to talk about Bryn Mawr and recommend Bryn Mawr post-graduation was much higher than non-athletes.
* Elizabeth: Athletics keeps me sane. Taking a break and going to practice.
* Kristina: XC/T&F have finally gotten to the point where the Tri-Co teams are all cheering with each other and socializing with each other outside of campus. This tri-co union is neat.
* Karina: We all appreciate the nice facilities—the turf allowed us to practice during the hurricane this year.
* Zoe: The fact that we show up to practice everyday just feels right.
* Alyssa: Customs groups are helpful but my team was the community that I had connected with first. I didn’t think I was going to play tennis at Bryn Mawr but I just got swooped up in it and it was a strong base and grounding.
* Katherine: The sports I played in high school are not at Bryn Mawr so I picked up lacrosse. I think we can tap in to students at Bryn Mawr who might not have their sport on campus and getting them to pick up a new sport since they are athletic.
* Tonja: Customs is great but I connected better with my teammates, the athletes in my Customs group and the other athletes on campus more.
* What we will share on Friday:

-Meredith—Classes during 4-6 hour. (Something we should talk to Kathy about)

-Zoe—There is a hardship of athletes’ time on campus being respected.

-Manya—Drastic improvement of teams because of turf. Then Rachel will lead in about the track.

-Jessica—Hardships of not being able to host Seven Sisters. Will also talk about Kristina’s story on XC Seven Sisters.

-Tonja and Alyssa and Marian—Coming in as a freshman and feeling more connected to athletes and teammates. For Marian, story about being from the West Coast and having to adjust to college and new environment and counting on teammates.

-Alyssa—Coaches are levelheaded. Understand what it’s like to be a Bryn Mawr athlete. Tennis coach helps us on and off the court. She’s a mentor. You want to do well for her.

-Manya—My coach knows me best

-Karina—The entire Athletics staff is really supportive. We can go to any of them.

-Athletics staff actually listens to what we say. We asked for streaming of games and they did (basketball and swimming)

-Elizabeth—concerns about visibility (crew is off-campus). Swimming has trouble with visibility (minimal spectator seating).

-Rachel—good alumni connections. They come to games. The alumni games.

-Karina—Positive influence of the amenity campaign of “Smart Women Strong Woman”

**Order of Speaking**

Tonja

Marian

Rachel Hager

Rachel R.

Alyssa

Karina

Manya

Liz

Jess

Meredith

Owl of the Week:

* + Kristina Kronauer: Broke the school record in the 5K by 17 seconds and her previous PR by 53 seconds and now she is nationally ranked.
	+ Nicolette Parmese: 4 consecutive double-doubles. During the Rutgers game she fought hard and played aggressively.
	+ Tonja Nixon: 2 PR’s in the 200m and the 60m and she qualified for Conferences.
	+ Kim Wiley: PR’d and qualified for Conferences in 3K last weekend at Haverford at the