

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS MAY 20-21, 2025, MEETING

KEY ITEM.

• Two-year college athletic associations discussion. The NCAA Division I Committee on Academics met with the leadership from three two-year college athletic associations: National Junior College Athletic Association, Northwest Athletic Conference and California Community College Athletic Association. The discussion centered on the two-year college community's interest in updating two-year college transfer legislation. The committee will continue to discuss the issues raised by the two-year college associations at future meetings. [Informational Item No. 2]

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Update on NCAA Graduation Passport. The Committee on Academics received an update on the Graduation Passport, including the goals of modernizing the way student-athlete graduation is tracked, the ability to develop new graduation metrics, observing how transferring affects graduation and informing future policy and legislative changes. Previously, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors directed the committee to create the Graduation Passport to help inform future academic metrics. The committee discussed the potential framework for the operationalization of the Graduation Passport. Additionally, the committee discussed several operational issues, including cohort definitions, length of time to track a student-athlete, and types of institutions from which to collect data. The committee also reviewed feedback collected from membership focus groups that has been helpful as development of the Graduation Passport continues. The committee will continue to receive updates and provide direction to the staff as the Graduation Passport is being developed.
- 2. Two-year college athletic associations discussion. The committee met in person with the leadership from three two-year college athletic associations: National Junior College Athletic Association, Northwest Athletic Conference and California Community College Athletic Association. The two-year college athletic associations are interested in partnering with the NCAA to update two-year college transfer rules. The committee had the opportunity to ask questions and react to the issues presented by the two-year college athletic associations. The committee agreed to continue its discussions regarding potential modifications to the two-year college transfer legislation and noted that data will need to be collected in order to make data-informed changes to the two-year transfer legislation.
- 3. NCAA Accelerating Academic Success Program update. The committee received an update on the Accelerating Academic Success Program (AASP). It was noted that the 2025 AASP Summit will be held September 28-October 1 in Indianapolis. More information will be provided at a later date on the schedule and programming.

- 4. Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) update. The committee received an update regarding the FARA annual meeting, which will be held November 20-22 in Indianapolis. The sessions are currently being developed, and more information will be shared over the summer, including registration and hotel information.
- 5. Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals. The committee received an update from the Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals regarding the teams potentially subject to NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program penalties and/or loss of access to postseason competition based on the submission of NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate data in fall 2024. The subcommittee will continue to review and update the waiver directive for next year's submission of APR data. It is anticipated the APP waiver directive will be presented to the full committee for review and approval at its summer videoconference.
- 6. Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Data. The committee was provided with an overview of initial discussions on potential updates to the APR cohort definition in anticipation of changes resulting from the House Settlement. The subcommittee will continue to discuss this topic and other operational issues related to the settlement over the course of the next several meetings. The committee also was provided an update on a referral from the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics to consider including emerging sports in APR data collections.
- 7. Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics. The committee received an update on a blanket waiver request from an institution with a unique calendar that may impact full-time enrollment for student-athletes. The request for a blanket waiver was denied; however, the subcommittee recommended the institution file individual waivers for the affected student-athletes. The committee also heard an update on the results of the changes to the progress-toward-degree waiver directive updated in May 2024, including the number of cases that were cancelled due to institutional policy.
- **8. NCAA Division I Board of Directors.** The committee received a report from the most recent meetings of the Board of Directors.
- **9. NCAA Division I Council report.** The committee received a report from the most recent council meetings.
- **10. NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee report.** The committee received an update from the most recent meetings of the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
- 11. NCAA legal update. The committee received an update from the NCAA office of legal affairs regarding new and ongoing litigation.

- **12. NCAA enforcement update.** The committee received an update from the enforcement staff on sports wagering issues.
- 13. NCAA research update. The committee received an update on key research initiatives, including APR trends from the most recent cohort submitted by member institutions in fall 2024.
- 14. Academic education and engagement updates. The committee received an update on the ongoing academic education outreach provided to NCAA institutions and conferences. The staff is providing educational updates to the membership via conference meetings, campus visits and at the 2025 NCAA Regional Rules Seminar in Indianapolis May 28-30. Regional Rules Seminar attendees may attend various academic-related sessions and benefit from two, half-day sessions dedicated to Division I academics focusing on the APP and NCAA Division I Bylaw 14.
- **15. Report of the Committee on Academics February 5 videoconference.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its February 5 videoconference.
- 16. Future meeting dates.
 - a. July videoconference, date to be determined.
 - b. September 22-23 in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

Committee Chair: Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University

Staff Liaisons: Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs

Binh T. Nguyen, Academic and Membership Affairs Quintin Wright, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division I Committee on Academics May 20-21, 2025, Meeting

Attendees:

Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University. (via videoconference)

Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University.

Kevin Bostian, Northwestern State University.

Lissa Broome, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. (via videoconference)

Lindsey Ekwerekwu, University of Nebraska, Omaha.

Jon Fagg, University of Texas at Arlington.

Scott Fuess, University of Nebraska, Lincoln. (via videoconference, Wednesday only)

Colleen Heimstead, North Dakota State University.

Daniel Jekov, Saint Louis University.

Jessica Kumke, Horizon League.

Genese Lavalais, Alabama State University.

Marion McClary, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus.

Ron Moses, Old Dominion University.

Susan Williams, University of Kansas.

Absentees:

David Benedict, University of Connecticut.

Bob Davies, Central Michigan University.

Robert Kelly, University of Portland.

John Volin, University of Maine.

Guests in Attendance:

Marco Azurdia, Northwest Athletic Conference.

Jennifer Cardone, California Community College Athletic Association.

Michelle Meadows, National Junior College Athletic Association.

Chris Parker, National Junior College Athletic Association.

Colin Preston, NATYCAA President and Dean at Cypress College.

Jeff White, National Junior College Athletic Association.

Katherine Zedonis, California Community College Athletic Association.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Jennifer Henderson, Binh Nguyen and Quintin Wright.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Scott Bearby, Lydia Bell, Eric Brey, Marcus Brown, Keisha Burnette, Amanda Conklin, Gary deCastro, Judy Delp, Shelanda Duncan, Katie Ethridge, Michele Forte-Osborne, Stephannnie Harvey-Vandenberg, Doug Healey, Saquandra Heath, Leilani Hubbard, Matisen Ingle, Felicia Martin, Scott McDonald, Russell Register, Jen Smith and DeAnna Wiley.