



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I PRESIDENTIAL FORUM
APRIL 28, 2020, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Impact of COVID-19 on Intercollegiate Athletics.

- a. **NCAA COVID-19 Advisory Panel Update.** The NCAA Division I Presidential Forum received an update from NCAA chief medical officer Dr. Brian Hainline regarding core principles for the resocialization of sport in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. A document outlining the information included in Dr. Hainline's presentations will be distributed broadly to the membership May 1.
- b. **Update on NCAA COVID-19 Playing and Practice Seasons Working Group.** The Forum received an update on the COVID-19 Playing and Practice Seasons Working Group, which is an internal cross-functional team that is responsible for identifying and recommending solutions and/or providing responses to playing and practice issues of a national scope arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The group will support the Division I governance structure as it evaluates key issues, such as the return to practice and competition in football and all other fall sports.
- c. **Overview of Decisions by the NCAA Board of Governors and the NCAA Division I Board of Directors.** Vice President of Division I, Kevin Lennon, provided an overview of several key decisions made by of the Division I Board of Directors and the Board of Governors related to the 2020 Division I revenue distribution in response to the cancellation of all winter and spring championships.
- d. **Overview of Decisions by the NCAA Division I Council and Council Coordination Committee.** Managing director of Division I, Jenn Fraser, provided an overview of actions taken by the Council and Council Coordination Committee in response to COVID-19.
- e. **Discussion Regarding Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education and Intercollegiate Athletics.**
 - **Blanket waiver request from commissioners of the nonautonomy Football Bowl Subdivision conferences, NCAA Football Championship Subdivision Conferences and Division I Subdivision Conferences.** The Forum discussed and provided feedback on waiver requests submitted by 27 of the 32 NCAA Division I multisport conferences seeking blanket relief from multiple membership requirements and other legislative provisions as a result of COVID-19. In its review of the waiver requests, the Forum noted

that intercollegiate athletics operates as a part of collegiate institutions within the context of higher education and that any waiver decisions must be made with that in mind. The Forum also provided feedback on general principles that will be used to assist the Council in its review of the waiver requests and expressed a preference for providing appropriate relief for shorter periods of time (e.g., for one year) with a commitment to revisit the requests should further relief be warranted later.

2. **Name, Image and Likeness Review.** The Forum provided presidential perspective on legislative concepts related to the use of a student-athlete's name, image and likeness developed by the NCAA Division I Name, Image and Likeness Legislative Solutions Group. The Legislative Solutions Group will review the Forum's feedback and continue to refine the legislative concepts during its May 19 meeting in preparation for solicitation of broader membership feedback. The Forum acknowledged the need for the Association to demonstrate progress and a commitment to change despite the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The group supports working toward a vote by January 2021 on formal legislative proposals to provide an appropriate amount of time for discourse and thoughtful feedback by the membership while institutions and conferences are also working to address the broad impact of COVID-19.
3. **NCAA Division I Transfer Waiver Working Group Update.** The Forum discussed the report and recommendations from the Transfer Waiver Working Group. The Presidential Forum supports the Transfer Waiver Working Group's recommendation that the Board of Directors lift the moratorium on legislative proposals related to transfer eligibility so that the membership may consider options for a long-term solution through the standard legislative process. The Forum noted concerns about making substantial changes to the transfer environment during such an uncertain time and with adopting changes to waiver guidelines that may not align with future legislative changes.
4. **Division I Modernization Agenda to Advance the Collegiate Model.** The Forum received an update regarding the development of a broader modernization agenda to reaffirm the values of the collegiate model in support of the 21st century student-athlete. The group received an overview of draft strategic priorities that were developed based on feedback previously provided. The identified strategic priority areas align with the Board of Directors Strategic Areas of Emphasis for 2018-2023 and prioritize fairness to the student-athlete. The strategic priorities are guided by a commitment to student-athletes centered decision making and the student-athlete voice. The four overarching priorities include: (1) Student-Athlete Experience; (2) Health and Safety; (3) Financial Sustainability and (4) Academic Success. The Presidential Forum reaffirmed its commitment to providing leadership on the issue of financial sustainability moving forward.

- 5. Referral Regarding Review of the Interpretive Process in Infractions Cases.** The Forum received the final report of the NCAA Division I Interpretative Process Review Working Group. The Presidential Forum referred the review of issues involving the intersection between interpretations and infractions to the Council, which appointed the working group. The working group report included information related to the following actions:
- a. Approval of NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions internal operating procedures that codified the working group's recommendations pertaining to the resolution of interpretative issues that remain at the conclusion of an infractions hearing;
 - b. Approval of internal NCAA academic and membership affairs staff processes for providing guidance on the application of legislation to the NCAA enforcement staff, the Division I membership or the Committee on Infractions;
 - c. Approval of an update to the NCAA enforcement staff's internal operating procedures related to interpretation requests; and
 - d. Endorsement of the Committee on Infractions' prehearing conference policy that, in addition to other functions, incentivizes the identification and resolution of interpretive issues in a prehearing setting.
- 6. Update from NCAA President Mark Emmert.** The Forum received an update from President Emmert regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.
- 7. Legal Update.** The Forum received a privileged and confidential update from Scott Bearby, vice president of legal affairs and general counsel, related to ongoing legal matters.
- 8. Report of the January 22 Presidential Forum Meeting.** The Forum approved the report of its January 22, 2020, meeting. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

Presidential Forum chair: Franklin Gilliam, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Staff Liaisons: Amanda Conklin, Law, Policy and Governance
Diane Dickman, Law, Policy and Governance
Jenn Fraser, Law, Policy and Governance
Kevin Lennon, Law, Policy and Governance
Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance

Division I Presidential Forum April 28, 2020, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Victor Boschini, Texas Christian University; Big 12 Conference.	
Brian Casey, Colgate University; Patriot League.	
Jane Conoley, Long Beach State University; Big West Conference.	
David DeCenzo, Coastal Carolina University; Sun Belt Conference.	
James Donahue, Saint Mary's College of California; West Coast Conference.	
Sharon Gaber, University of Toledo; Mid-American Conference.	
Patrick Gallagher, University of Pittsburgh; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Conrado Gempesaw, St. John's University; Big East Conference.	
Jerome Gilbert, Marshall University; Conference USA.	
Frank Gilliam, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Southern Conference.	
Brian Hemphill, Radford University; Big South Conference.	
Wendy Libby, Stetson University; ASUN Conference.	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia; Southeastern Conference.	
Brian Mueller, Grand Canyon University; Western Athletic Conference.	
Robert Nelsen, California State University; Big Sky Conference.	
Judy Olian, Quinnipiac University; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.	
Gary Roberts, Bradley University; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Havidan Rodriguez, University of Albany, America East Conference.	
David Rudd, University of Memphis; American Athletic Conference.	
Michael Schill, University of Oregon; Pac-12 Conference.	
Phil Schubert, Abilene Christian University; Southland Conference.	
Jay Silveria, U.S. Air Force Academy; Mountain West Conference.	
Eric Spina, University of Dayton; Atlantic 10 Conference.	
Ashish Vaidya, Northern Kentucky University; Horizon League.	
Malachi Van Tassell, Saint Francis University (Pennsylvania); Northeast Conference.	
Alisa White, Austin Peay State University; Ohio Valley Conference.	
Absentees:	
Barry Dunn, South Dakota State University; The Summit League.	
Wayne Frederick, Howard University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.	
Andrew Hugine, Alabama A&M University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.	
Wallace Loh, University of Maryland; Big Ten Conference.	
Martha Pollack, Cornell University; The Ivy League.	
Kim Schatzel, Towson University; Colonial Athletic Association.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Amanda Conklin, Diane Dickman, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon and Leeland Zeller.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Scott Bearby, Dawn Buth, Elizabeth Conte, Joni Comstock, Jon Duncan, Dan Dutcher, Mark Emmert, Dan Gavitt, Terri Gronau, Brian Hainline, Jennifer Henderson, Lynn Holzman, Michelle Hosick, Felicia Martin, Donald Remy, Bridget Rigney, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Naima Stevenson, Cari Van Senus, Stan Wilcox and Bob Williams.	