



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 14-15, 2017, MEETING**

**KEY ITEMS.**

- 1. NCAA Division I Council Transfer Working Group.** The NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) received an update from the Transfer Working Group and provided feedback on concepts identified by the Transfer Working Group.

  - **Student-Athlete Notification of Transfer.** SAAC supported the notification to transfer model replacing the current permission to contact model.
  - **Enhancing Ethical Recruiting Environment.** SAAC supported a proposal to add impermissible "tampering" (e.g., recruiting student-athletes from other institutions to transfer) to the list of Level II violations in order to enhance the ethical recruiting environment in Division I athletics. Additionally, SAAC supported some degree of student-athlete accountability for similar impermissible "tampering" conduct.
  - **Concepts for Future Legislative Cycle.** SAAC noted general support for requiring institutions to provide financial aid for postgraduate transfer student-athletes for the duration of the postgraduate academic program in which they enroll, and that aid counting for the duration of the academic program. Additionally, SAAC supported the development of NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR) consequences for institutions to which a postgraduate student-athlete transfers. SAAC supported further development of a uniform transfer model that requires all student-athletes to sit a year of competition after transfer, with identified criteria upon which immediate eligibility may be approved. SAAC noted it does not support intraconference transfers being immediately eligible to compete. Finally, SAAC supported the concept of permitting student-athletes with eligibility remaining to enroll in institution-approved and for-credit internship programs to complete their remaining eligibility.
- 2. Early Recruiting.** SAAC reviewed feedback from the early recruiting survey and discussed a regulatory framework concept proposed by the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Experience Committee.

  - **Official Visit.** SAAC affirmed its position that official visits should be permitted beginning January 1 of a prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school for all sports. SAAC noted the January 1 date aligns with the general student body college matriculation timeline and college entrance exam test dates. Further, SAAC noted January 1 provides prospective student-athletes the time to appropriately prepare for an official visit from an academic perspective based on current course enrollment, grade-point average, college test scores and interest in specific majors offered by institutions.

- **Unofficial Visit.** SAAC supported the Student-Athlete Experience Committee's proposal to allow unofficial visits involving an institution's athletics department beginning September 1 of a prospective student-athlete's sophomore year.
  - **Other Concepts.** SAAC supported additional concepts of the Student-Athlete Experience Committee related to transportation expenses for parents/legal guardians accompanying a prospective student-athlete on an official visit, complimentary admissions to an athletics events as part of an unofficial visit and recruiting conversations at an institutional camp or clinic.
4. **Review of Proposed Legislation.** SAAC reviewed the NCAA Division I Council-governance and conference-sponsored proposals for the 2017-18 legislative cycle and provided feedback on specific proposals as requested by the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee. SAAC will gather further student-athlete feedback from each conference for discussion at its January 2018 meeting.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Committee Nominations.** SAAC solicited nominations for a SAAC representative to the Legislative Committee and NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee, and will conduct an online vote following the meeting. New representatives will attend meetings beginning January 2018 in conjunction with the 2018 NCAA Convention.
2. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors Strategic Areas of Emphasis.** SAAC agreed with the Board of Directors strategic areas of emphasis for 2018 through 2023. SAAC requested mental health be specifically addressed as part of any health and safety initiatives. Additionally, SAAC requested the strategic area of emphasis specific to "enhance communication and advocacy" include more specificity. Finally, SAAC requested the Board of Directors emphasize issues surrounding time management for student-athletes.
3. **Autonomy Conference Update.** SAAC members serving on the autonomy student-athlete group provided an update on the group's activities and reviewed legislation proposed in the areas of autonomy. SAAC members from both the autonomy conferences and the nonautonomy conferences expressed an interest in conducting a joint meeting between SAAC and the 15 autonomy conference student-athletes at the 2018 Convention.
4. **Conference SAAC Update.** SAAC members shared conference SAAC updates and discussed potential agenda items for SAAC's January 2018 meeting with conference SAAC advisors.
5. **Financial Awareness iGrad Portal.** SAAC received an update regarding the iGrad portal, which provides financial awareness programming and educational materials to student-

athletes across all three divisions. While SAAC noted continued support for financial awareness programming, SAAC recommended funds currently being spent on the iGrad portal be used for an institutional grant program to implement financial awareness programs on campus.

6. **SAAC Video Contest.** SAAC selected "Break the Stigma" surrounding mental health awareness as the theme of the 2018 Division I national SAAC video contest.
7. **Division I and Association-Wide Committee Reports.** SAAC received updates from the Division I and Association-wide committees on which SAAC members serve.
8. **Review of SAAC Policies and Procedures.** SAAC reviewed its policies and procedures.
9. **SAAC Project Teams.** The social media and student-athlete engagement project teams provided an update on ongoing projects and initiatives.
10. **One Shirt One Body.** SAAC received an update on the One Shirt One Body community engagement initiative.
11. **Other Business.**
  - **Student-Athlete Representation on NCAA Division I Council and Standing Committees.** Kevin Lennon, vice president of Division I governance, provided an update on the NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee's request for SAAC to discuss ways to enhance the student-athlete voice within the Division I governance structure by creating opportunities for additional student-athlete representation on standing committees, and ensuring attendance and participation at those meetings. SAAC noted the importance of soliciting feedback from a diverse population of student-athletes at the local level. SAAC will engage in further discussion at its January 2018 meeting and will provide recommendations to the Council.
  - **Men's Soccer Season Expansion Model.** SAAC noted a request from the United Soccer Coaches regarding the expansion of the collegiate men's soccer season from a single semester to two semesters. SAAC will engage in further discussion at its January 2018 meeting.
  - **Commission on College Basketball.** SAAC received an update on the creation of the Commission on College Basketball. SAAC requested men's basketball student-athletes be represented on the Commission on College Basketball, including two current national SAAC men's basketball student-athletes, a current student-athlete

representative from the autonomy five conferences and a former national SAAC men's basketball student-athlete.

- **National Letter of Intent (NLI) Single Signing Period Model.** As part of SAAC's early recruiting review and discussion, SAAC recommended to the NCAA Division I Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) the creation of one single NLI signing period beginning with the current early signing in November for all sports (December for football) extending through August 1.

## **12. Future Meeting Schedule.**

- January 17-20, 2018, Indianapolis (in conjunction with Convention).

*Committee Co-Chairs: Brady Bramlett, University of Mississippi; Southeastern Conference  
Connor Donnelly, Sacred Heart University; Northeast Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Stephanie Grace, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Susan Peal, Law, Policy and Governance  
Danielle Ghiloni Walter, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Quintin Wright, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting October 14-15, 2017</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Angie Allen, University of Kansas; Big 12 Conference.	
Madison Arndt, Manhattan College; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.	
Jordan Banks, Wake Forest University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Tara Belinsky, University of Albany; America East Conference.	
Allazia Blockton, Marquette University; Big East Conference.	
Brady Bramlett, University of Mississippi; Southeastern Conference.	
Samantha Casarez, University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.	
Brittany Case, University of South Carolina, Upstate; Atlantic Sun Conference.	
Elizabeth Conte, University of North Carolina, Asheville; Big South Conference.	
Christine Copper, United States Naval Academy; Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) liaison.	
Connor Donnelly, Sacred Heart University; Northeast Conference.	
Sevian Frangipane, California State Northridge; Big West.	
Jimmy Gehrels, Pepperdine University; West Coast Conference.	
Dylan Gladney, Prairie View A&M University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.	
Ellison Grove, San Diego State University; Mountain West Conference.	
Sophia Kelner, Cleveland State University; Horizon League.	
Noah Knight, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Western Athletic Conference.	
Matthew Lavery, Drake University; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Chloe Lewis, University of Texas at Arlington; Sun Belt Conference.	
Mandy McCarthy, College of Holy Cross; Patriot League.	
Millicent Micho, Duquesne University; Atlantic 10 Conference.	
Samantha Nettling, Northwestern University; Big Ten Conference.	
Stephen Payne, Jacksonville State University; Ohio Valley Conference.	
Samuel Perelman, Old Dominion University; Conference USA.	
Ainsley Pratt, Nicholls State University; Southland Conference.	
Taylor Ricci, Oregon State University; Pac-12 Conference.	
Justin Sell, South Dakota State University; Council representative (via teleconference).	
Enna Selmanovic, University of Cincinnati; American Athletic Conference.	
Nicole Sherwin, Northern Arizona University; Big Sky Conference.	
Derek Trott, The College of William and Mary; Colonial Athletic Association.	
John Twomey-Kozak, Brown University; Ivy League.	
Kayla Wetherell, University of North Carolina, Greensboro; Southern Conference.	

Kelsi White, Miami University (Ohio); Mid-American Conference.
Carla Wilson, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Council Representative.
Alex Woodward, University of Nebraska Omaha; The Summit League.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Amanda Carroll, Florida Gulf Coast University; Atlantic Sun Conference.
Nicholas Clark, Coastal Carolina University; Sun Belt Conference.
Tommy Doles, Northwestern University; Big Ten Conference.
Lana Duke, Oklahoma State University; Big 12 Conference.
Logan Hambrock, Indiana State University; Missouri Valley Conference.
Ellie Ivancich, Belmont University; Ohio Valley Conference.
Shelby Lee, University of California, Irvine; Big West Conference.
Chase Pagani, Colgate University; Patriot League.
Andrew Robbins, East Tennessee State University; Southern Conference.
Mikalah Skates, University of Wyoming; Mountain West Conference.
Christopher Skelly, University of Massachusetts Lowell; American East Conference.
Jailia Tolbert, Virginia Tech; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Kelly Turner, Northern Kentucky University; Horizon League.
Kevin Vannatta, University of North Carolina at Asheville; Big South Conference.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Marcus Bishop, Stephanie Grace, Kevin Lennon, Susan Peal, Danielle Ghiloni Walter and Quintin Wright.