



**REPORT OF THE
DIVISION III CONVENTION-PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE
MARCH 26, 2020, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and Roster.** The subcommittee commenced business at noon Eastern time. Lori Mazza, the chair, introduced the new members, welcomed the group and conducted a roll call.
- 2. Report from December 13, 2019, Teleconference.** The subcommittee reviewed the report and had no changes.
- 3. Review of 2020 Convention Feedback.**
 - a. Division III Convention Survey Executive Summary. The subcommittee reviewed the membership feedback survey from the 2020 Convention (322 Division III-specific responses). Notable highlights included the following: 95 percent rated the Convention experience as very good or good (slightly higher than in 2019 at 90 percent) and 99 percent said they would recommend attendance at a future Convention.
 - b. Division III Convention Survey. The subcommittee reviewed the raw data survey results and had no additional comments or questions. The subcommittee had indicated that they enjoyed the variety of educational sessions (e.g. single presenter and panel presentations). They also enjoyed the Generational Gap presentation by Haydn Shaw at the Issues Forum.
 - c. Division III Education Session Survey. The subcommittee reviewed the individual education session survey feedback. Besides noting that all sessions averaged an overall high approval rating, it had no additional comments or questions.
 - (1) **Crisis Management.** This session received a 90 percent approval rating with the survey respondents noting it was very good or good.
 - (2) **Mental Health.** Eighty-nine (89) percent rated the session as very good or good.
 - (3) **NADIII's Growing our Next Generation of Leaders.** Eighty-four (84) percent rated this session as very good or good.

4. **Final 2020 Convention Attendance.** The subcommittee reviewed the 2020 final attendance report and noted the attendance, approximately 1,200 delegates, was similar to past years.

5. **Planning for 2021 NCAA Convention – January 13-16, 2021, Washington, D.C.**

- a. Overall Convention format. The subcommittee briefly discussed the Convention format and did not indicate any concerns. It will review the Issues Forum format on its next teleconference.
- b. Educational session topic ideas. The subcommittee reviewed the recommendations from the 2020 Convention survey results, as well as last year's suggestions. Each year, Division III has three educational slots, with one of the slots traditionally earmarked for NADIII AA. For the 2021 Convention, in addition to NADIII AA, the Division III Commissioner's Association (D3CA) will have an opportunity to oversee a session.

Prior to the next teleconference, the subcommittee's NADIII AA and D3CA representatives will review the membership's preferred session topics derived from the membership survey and determine their interest in presenting any of the topics.

The subcommittee discussed the following possible session topics for the 2021 Convention:

- (1) COVID-19 Impacts (mental health, recruiting, retention).
- (2) Fundraising.
- (3) Effective Use of Virtual Platforms.
- (4) Compliance (e.g., available resources, best practices).
- (5) Social Media Influence and Impact.
- (6) Student-Athlete Career Opportunities/Resources (After the Game, etc.).
- (7) Serving Underprivileged Student-Athletes/Resources.

Staff will survey the membership via the May Monthly Update and the NADIII AA and D3CA listservs. The survey will highlight the subcommittee's recommended educational sessions; indicate a 60- or 90-minute time preference; and denote the preference for the session to be a workshop; a Division III educational session; Issues Forum topic; or an Association-wide session. During the subcommittee's next teleconference, it will narrow the list of session topics to three.

- c. Issues Forum format/proposed discussion topics. The subcommittee discussed the 2021 Convention and talked about the following topics
 - (1) Staff requested Lenora Billings Harris, a highly recognized national diversity and inclusion presenter, present at last year's Issues Forum. However, she had a conflict and has indicated an interest in presenting at the 2021 Convention. Staff will confirm her availability to provide a one-hour presentation unconscious bias during the Issues Forum.
 - (2) COVID 19 Roundtable discussion – best practices, contingency plans, what we learned, etc.
 - (3) Presidential Panel – what are presidents looking for when they hire, search firms, making the step from assistant/associate athletics director to athletics director and what does that look like, etc.
 - d. Business Session format. The subcommittee had no changes to the format.
6. **2021 Convention Timeline.** The subcommittee reviewed the timeline leading to the 2021 Convention.
7. **Teleconferences.** The subcommittee was reminded of the remaining 2020 teleconference dates:
- a. June 25, 2020, at 1 p.m. Eastern time.
 - b. September 9, 2020, at 11 a.m. Eastern time.
 - c. November 9, 2020, at 11 a.m. Eastern time.
 - d. December 14, 2020, at 11 a.m. Eastern time.
8. **Other Business.**
- The subcommittee inquired about last year's request to shift the Convention to a Tuesday to Friday format. The NCAA recently contracted the Convention through 2037. Unfortunately, while Division III favored the format change, it wasn't supported by the other divisions and to move forward, there would need to be consensus from all divisions.

9. **Adjournment.** The teleconference adjourned at 1 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Lori Mazza, Western Connecticut State University, Little East Conference
Staff Liaisons: Ali Spungen, Division III Governance
Debbie Brown, Division III Governance

NCAA Division III Convention Planning Subcommittee March 26, 2020, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Sam Ferguson, McMurry University, American Southwest Conference.	
Mariann Ingraham, Elms College, New England Collegiate Conference.	
Gregg Kay, Commonwealth Coast Conference.	
Richanne Mankey, Defiance College, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Marcus Manning, Centenary College (Louisiana), Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Lori Mazza, Western Connecticut State University, Little East Conference.	
Troy Paino, University of Mary Washington, Capital Athletic Conference.	
Rob Passage, Willamette University, Northwest Conference.	
Colby Pepper, Covenant College, USA South Athletic Conference.	
Lori Runksmeier, NADIII, Eastern Connecticut State University, Little East Conference.	
Kandis Schram, Maryville College (Tennessee), USA South Athletic Conference.	
Brian Sisson, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Patrick Summers, D3CA, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.	
Absentees	
Heather Benning, Midwest Conference.	
Davie Gilmour, Pennsylvania College of Technology, North Eastern Athletic Conference.	
Laura Mooney, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Guests in Attendance	
None.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance	
Debbie Brown, Samantha Farley, Jessi Faulk, Mike King, Louise McCleary, Melissa Piening, Stacey Preston, Crystal Reimer, Ali Spungen, Rachel Stern, Emily Tisdale and Kiana Verdugo.	