



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 13-14, 2019, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Purpose and Goals for the Meeting.** Prior to commencing work, the chair highlighted the three primary goals for the April 2019 meeting:
 - a. To provide orientation and legislative training for new members and associate members in attendance;
 - b. To establish and finalize committee goals for the 2019-20 academic year; and
 - c. To socialize and establish committee relationships and rapport.

- 2. New Committee Members and Orientation.** The committee welcomed the following new committee members:
 - a. Hannah Durst, golf student-athlete at Baldwin Wallace University;
 - b. Braly Keller, football and swimming student-athlete at Nebraska Wesleyan University;
 - c. Christine Mayorga, soccer student-athlete at Montclair State University; and
 - d. Arcel Kabongo-Ngoy, soccer student-athlete at Western New England University.

The new committee members received new member orientation and were provided with guidance on committee policies and procedures and expectations.

The following new committee members were unable to attend this meeting and will receive orientation information during the July 2019 meeting:

- a. Lottie Ellis, soccer and softball student-athlete at Crown College (Minnesota);
- b. Michael Litz, tennis student-athlete at Penn State University, Abington; and
- c. Michael McMahon, baseball student-athlete at Becker College.

3. Policies, Expectations and Administrative Items. The committee reviewed the following items during the meeting:

- a. Roster. The committee reviewed and made updates to its current roster.
- b. January meeting report. The committee reviewed and approved its January meeting report.
- c. Policies and procedures. The committee reviewed its policies and procedures. The committee agreed to review a draft, created by the NCAA staff, of updated 'election process' guidelines with the aim to address proxy voting by the associate members.
- d. Committee assignments. The committee reviewed the current committee assignment roster for the Division III and Association-wide governance committees. The committee discussed the importance of regular attendance at Division III and Association-wide governance meetings, as well as the responsibility of the committee member to find a substitute if they cannot attend the meeting.
- e. Expectations of serving on SAAC. The committee reviewed the Division III SAAC expectations document, including expectations for attendance and behavior. The committee agreed that it would be helpful to revamp the format of this document and create a one-page infographic summary of it, and directly reference the policies.
- f. Associates member overview. The committee reviewed the associate member overview.
- g. Robert Rules of Order. The committee reviewed the Roberts Rules of Order guidelines document.
- h. Division III SAAC Liaison Database. NCAA staff provided the committee with an updated listing of all Division III campus SAAC liaisons. This database provides contact information for committee members to send a post-meeting summary and to collect feedback on legislation when necessary.

4. Special Olympics Update and Engagement.

- a. Talking points and activity report. The NCAA staff introduced the Special Olympics partnership to new members of the committee and reviewed the Special Olympics activity report. The staff emphasized the importance of institutions reporting activities to accurately illustrate the partnership. In addition, they walked

through the important aspects of the partnership and detailed the resources available on the webpage.

- b. 50-for-50th challenge activity update. The committee heard an update on the current reporting for the 50-for-50th challenge, noting that reports are continuing to be submitted and there continues to be time for the submissions and it is expected that many schools conducted Special Olympics activities during Division III Week. The deadline for reporting 50-for-50th challenge activities is April 30, but institutions are encouraged to report all activities as soon as possible.
 - c. Special Olympic profiles. The Special Olympic profiles during the 50th anniversary celebration have been successful and appreciated by the membership. As a result of the appreciation for those profiles, the committee plans to continue releasing a Special Olympics profile on a once-per-month basis. The staff asked the committee members to continue forwarding details on any individuals that would be worthy of a written profile.
 - c. 2019 summer meeting activity. The committee discussed ideas for a Special Olympics activity during the July 2019 meeting. The committee considered several options and suggested basketball, bowling, kickball and swimming as positive options. Staff will work on details to be prepared for the July activity.
 - d. 2020 NCAA Convention. The committee noted that we will again host an activity with Special Olympics at the 2020 Convention in Anaheim, California. Staff will begin working on details for involvement with Special Olympics athletes for a unified event with Convention attendees and bring options for consideration during the committee's July meeting.
5. **Review of Division III and Association-wide Committee Reports.** Committee members provided updates on recent attendance at Association-wide and Division III committee meetings and teleconferences.
 6. **Legislative Training.** Staff provided an overview of the NCAA legislative process; including, but not limited to, the annual legislative cycle and how legislation can be proposed and adopted in Division III.
 7. **Feedback on Legislative Topics.** At the request of the Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee (ILC), the committee provided feedback on the following legislative topics:

- a. Division I Proposal No. 2018-66 (participation at less than full-time enrollment due to an outstanding minor or certificate program) – the committee provided input on a Division I proposal that allows student-athletes to participate while enrolled part-time during their final semester when all undergraduate degree requirements have been completed but the student-athlete has outstanding requirements for a minor or certificate program. The majority sentiment is that the proposal is beneficial to student-athletes because it lessens the additional cost required to take a ‘full-time’ load when a student-athlete’s only outstanding requirements are for a minor or certificate program.
- b. Nontraditional season in outdoor track and field – the committee discussed whether the sport of outdoor track and field should be allowed to have a fall nontraditional season at schools that sponsor both indoor and outdoor track and field. The committee expressed some negative input toward the concept because of potential burden on coaching staffs and the minimal scope of institutions that would take advantage of this change. The committee was not concerned with the application of the current legislation.

The feedback was shared with the ILC staff liaisons.

8. **Governance Update.** The NCAA governance staff provided the committee with an update on Division III and Association-wide governance, including the following items:
 - a. eSports;
 - b. Sports wagering;
 - c. LGBTQ inclusion initiatives;
 - d. Division III week;
 - e. Transfer Portal;
 - f. Graduation Rate Reporting;
 - g. Board of Governors, public member update; and
 - h. Gameday the DIII Way.

- 9. Student-Athlete Day of Action.** The committee discussed the Student-Athlete Day of Action and collaborated with the Divisions I and II SAACs to make a concerted effort to stand against sexual assault. Division III SAAC continues to take a stance against sexual assault and desires to bring awareness to the issue. The committee was reminded to encourage its conference and partner conference liaisons to encourage institutions to participate in the Day of Action.

- 10. Discussion on Division III Transfer Portal.** The committee provided its perspective on the ongoing discussion related to Division III's use of the online transfer portal. The committee expressed continued support of Division III's use of the portal. The committee continues to believe the self-release is a valuable tool for Division III student-athletes. In addition, the committee expressed a desire for the portal to be a mandatory requirement for Division III.

- 11. Review and Discuss Working Group Outcomes and Deliverables from 2018-19.** The committee discussed and heard the following updates on projects from the 2018-19 SAAC subcommittees.

 - a. SAAC Constitution examples and best practices document – the committee reviewed and discussed the communications/best practices working groups draft of a document that provides best practices for Division III SAAC programs and examples of issues to discuss when developing a campus SAAC constitution. NCAA staff will further refine and edit this document and bring a polished final draft for the committee's approval at its July 2019 meeting.
 - b. Mental Health Resource Cards. The committee received an update on the Mental Health Working Group's effort to produce mental health resource cards. The committee was informed that over 200 institutions requested the cards and they will be sent to those institutions, from the printer, in the next two weeks. Following the shipment of the cards, the SAAC will place a pdf template of the cards on the SAAC website. The template can be used by schools that did not take advantage of the initial offer.
 - c. Mental Health Social-Media Campaign. The committee discussed the mental health working group's recommendation on a mental health social-media campaign. The committee took a vote and determined that they support the concept of a social-media campaign focused on mental health; however, believe the plan for the campaign needs further refinement. That refinement will be done by the entire committee at its July 2019 meeting. The committee agreed that a google doc would be posted where members can add ideas on the campaign. The doc will have a 200-word text limit for each description of 200 words.

12. 2019-20 Committee Goals. The committee discussed its goals and priorities for the 2019-20 academic year and determined it will focus on three primary items and established subcommittees to accomplish the work of each initiative. The three primary working groups and areas of committee focus for 2019-20 will be:

- a. Sustainability – this area will focus on the environmental impact of Division III athletic teams and helping to explore ways to improve environmental sustainability;
- b. Inclusion – this area includes LGBTQA+, mental health and other inclusion efforts; and
- c. Continued support and promotion of the Division III Special Olympics partnership.

13. Future Meetings. The committee was reminded of its upcoming meetings:

- a. July 20-21, 2019; Indianapolis.
- b. November 10-11, 2019; Indianapolis.
- c. January 21-25, 2020; Anaheim, California.

14. Annual SAAC member gifts.

Committee Chair: Madison Burns, Randolph-Macon College; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

Staff Liaisons: Jay Jones, Division III Governance, primary liaison

Brynna Barnhart, Enforcement

Corey Berg, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee April 13-14, 2019, Meeting
Attendees – Primary Members:
Gerard Bryant, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; ex officio Management Council attendee.
Madison Burns, Randolph-Macon College; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
Mika Costello, Willamette University; Northwest Conference.
Hannah Durst; Baldwin-Wallace University; Ohio Athletic Conference.
Annabelle Feist, Williams College; New England Small College Athletic Conference.
Anthony Francois, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; City University of New York Athletic Conference – attended Sunday, April 14 only.
Julia Higgins, The College of Wooster; North Coast Athletic Conference.

Arcel Kabongo-Ngoy; Western New England University; Commonwealth Coast Conference.
Braly Jay Keller, Nebraska Wesleyan University; American Rivers Conference.
Catherine Lanigan, Juniata College; Landmark Conference.
Christine Mayorga; Montclair State University; New Jersey Athletic Conference.
CJ Pakeltis, MacMurry College; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Colby Pepper, Covenant College; USA South Athletic Conference – attended Sunday, April 14 only.
Jake Santellano, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Isaiah Swann, University of Texas at Dallas; American Southwest Conference.
Denise Udelhofen, Loras College; ex officio Management Council attendee.
Attendees – Associate Member Substitutes:
Liv Coletta; Mills College; American Collegiate Athletic Association; <i>Substitute for Michael McMahon.</i>
Cassie Contigiani; Thomas College; North Atlantic Conference; <i>Substitute for Michael Litz.</i>
Alyssa Leventer; St. Mary’s College (Maryland); Capital Athletic Conference; <i>Substitute for Fran Capaldi.</i>
Annie MacMillan; Vassar College; Liberty League; <i>Substitute for NJ Kim.</i>
Absentees - Primary Members:
Fran Capaldi, Bethany College; Presidents’ Athletic Conference.
Charlotte Ellis; Crown College (Minnesota); Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.
Cameron Gardner-Nicholson, Penn State University, Altoona; Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.
Emily Goodwin, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.
Samantha Kastner, Notre Dame of Maryland University; Colonial States Athletic Conference.
NJ Kim, Emory University; University Athletic Association.
Michael Litz; Penn State University, Abington; North Eastern Athletic Conference.
Michael McMahon; Becker College; New England Collegiate Conference.
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Brynna Barnhart, Corey Berg and Jay Jones.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Louise McCleary.