



REPORT OF THE
DIVISION III STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 12-13, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Announcements and administrative items.**
 - a. **Rosters.** The committee reviewed and updated its current roster.
 - b. **Partner conference pairings.** The committee had no questions, comments, or concerns.
 - c. **Review July 15-16 meeting report.** The committee approved the report with no changes.
 - d. **Expectations of a SAAC member.** The committee reviewed its expectations of SAAC.
 - e. **Roberts Rules of Order.** The committee reviewed the Robert's Rules of Order guidelines document.
2. **Division III campus SAAC liaison contact information.** The committee reviewed the updates on the Division III campus SAAC liaison contact information. The contact information will enhance the communication between national, conference and campus SAACs.
3. **Election of Executive Board members and committee assignments.** The national office and SAAC members shared information regarding the Division III committees' subject matter and positions. The committee elected individuals to its executive board, to begin following the 2024 NCAA Convention. The following individuals were elected to new positions that will become effective immediately following the 2024 Convention:
 - a. Chair: Jack Langan, Cornell College; Midwest Conference.
 - b. Vice chair: Lillian Case, Juniata College, Landmark Conference.
 - c. Communications director: Hayley Peck, Purchase College, State University of New York; Skyline Conference.
 - d. Division III Management Council representatives:
 - Julia Hathaway, Virginia Wesleyan University, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

- Muthu Meenakshisundaram, University of Minnesota, Morris; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.
4. **Review policies and procedures.** The committee was updated regarding the Division III SAAC policies and procedures manual. Staff reiterated the objective of subcommittees (formerly known as working groups), as well as the process to make decisions as a united committee.
 5. **Division III SAAC subcommittees.**
 - a. **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice.** The DEIJ subcommittee discussed and planned their social media content through June. The subcommittee will utilize the DIII SAAC Instagram account to tell the stories of Division III student-athletes surrounding a variety of celebratory months through the “DIII and WE” campaign. (Black History Month, Women’s History Month, Pride Month, etc.).
 - b. **Mental and Physical Health.** Mental and Physical Health continues to be a main focus for the Division III membership especially the student-athlete population. The subcommittee has been posting Mental Health Minutes every Monday on the DIII SAAC Instagram account and tips on how to have difficult conversations.
 6. **Division III Updates.**
 - a. **Diversity and Inclusion Working Group.** The working group plans to launch their new Train the Trainer program at the 2024 NCAA Convention, which aims at help recruit people of color and improve diversity within Division III.
 - b. **LGBTQIA+ Working Group.** The working group unveiled its Division III LGBTQ+ Communication Inclusive Language Recommendations to the membership this fall, which can be found on [ncaa.org](https://www.ncaa.org).
 7. **Association-wide committees.**
 - **Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.** Topics concerning athletic training, mental health, transgender, and cannabis were discussed. For the updated NCAA Mental Health Best Practices resources, the resource was reviewed, and feedback was given. There has been a big emphasis within Division III regarding training coaches and student-athletes for mental health first aid and other education. Specifically, there is a strategy focused on developing a plan, screening, and licensing mental health care providers. CSMAS plans to release that information in December.
 8. **Division III and Association-wide initiatives.**
 - **50th Anniversary of Division III.** There is a continuous weekly podcast for Division III that hosts former and current Division III student-athletes. Division III will kick off the Week of Service which runs from November 27 to December 3, 2023.

9. **NCAA Board of Governors update with Isaiah Swann.** Isaiah Swann updated the committee on legislative hearings and Association- wide conversations.
10. **Division III updates.** The committee received an update on Congressional engagement, the work of the athletic trainers working group, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and the elimination of drug testing for cannabis at national championships. The leadership of the division have expressed concern regarding the branding of the division and role of higher education. The committee discussed the need for greater assistance for athletic trainers, as well as mental health hardship waiver pilot program.
11. **Legislation and other updates.** NCAA staff updated the committee and asked for feedback on two legislative topics: the mental health hardship waiver pilot program and the use of social media as it applies to voluntary athletically related activities. The committee also reviewed and took the following positions on the 2024 NCAA Conventional legislative proposals:
 - a. **Proposal 2024-1 – Amending the Division III Philosophy Statement.** The committee voted to support the proposal.
 - b. **Proposal 2024-2 – Amendment-to-Amendment period.** The committee voted to support the proposal.
 - c. **Proposal 2024-3 – Minimum Number of Participants in Tennis.** The committee voted to support the proposal.
 - d. **Proposal 2024-4 – Stunt as an Emerging Sport for Women.** The committee voted to support the proposal.

Additionally, the committee assigned position paper speakers for each proposal and had initial conversations regarding Proposal Nos. 2024-1-1 and 2024-1-2. The committee will take its official position on the amendments to Proposal 2024-1 at the January meeting.

12. **2024 NCAA Convention.**
 - a. **Tentative Convention meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the tentative Convention meeting schedule.
 - b. **Plan for joint breakfast at Convention.** The committee discussed the agenda and plan for the breakfast of the Presidents Council, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee at Convention.
 - c. **Plan for SAAC sponsored student-athlete luncheon.** The committee discussed potential ideas for the SAAC sponsored luncheon. Topic ideas that were presented were NIL, congressional engagement and the potential opportunity for feedback about the work of SAAC subcommittees.
 - d. **Conference and partner conference meetings.** The committee reviewed best practices and how to prepare for conference and partner conference meetings.

- f. **Update on Convention attendance numbers.** The committee reviewed the Convention attendance numbers.
 - g. **Ideas for student social mixer, January 11.** The committee reviewed the plans for the student social mixer. Ideas that were shared were included Jeopardy, karaoke, game night, minute to win it games, and movie night.
 - h. **Special Olympics event at Convention.** Division III SAAC is sponsoring a Special Olympics Unified activity in partnership with Special Olympics. The event will take place inside the Convention Center where there will be photobooths, music, and potential blow-ups. Collectively, the committee enjoyed leisure play with no rotations or time constraints.
 - i. **Convention waiver and responsibility statement.** The committee completed the waiver electronically this year.
 - j. **Convention dress code.** The committee discussed the dress code for Convention.
13. **Special Olympics partnership and updates.** Staff shared an update on the latest Special Olympics engagement from the membership.
14. **NCAA update with President Charlie Baker.** President Baker joined the committee to provide updates and conversation surrounding, social media efforts, streaming of championships, sports betting, Name Image and Likeness, Senate hearing overview and answered a variety of question from the committee.
15. **Congressional update from Dawn Buth.** Dawn Buth, managing director of government relations, joined the committee to discuss the membership's congressional engagement efforts at the campus, conference and national level.
16. **Future meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the future meeting schedule.
- a. **January 9-13, 2024; NCAA Convention, Phoenix, Arizona.**
 - b. **April 13-14, 2024; virtual.**
 - c. **July 20-21, 2024; Indianapolis.**
 - d. **September teleconference; date TBD.**
 - e. **November 10-11, 2024; Indianapolis.**
17. **Adjournment.**

Committee Chair: Vaish Siddapureddy, Pomona-Pitzer Colleges; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

*Staff Liaisons: Ali Spungen, Division III Governance
Corey Berg, Academic and Membership Affairs
Katie Mucci, Division III Governance*

NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee November 12-13, 2023, Meeting	
Attendees – Primary Members:	
Lillian Case, Juniata College, Landmark Conference.	
Garrett Clasen, University of Chicago; University Athletic Association.	
Julia Hathaway, Virginia Wesleyan University, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.	
TJ Hill-Johnson, William Peace University; USA South Conference.	
Daniele Iaboni, Anna Maria College; Great Northeast Athletic Conference.	
Jack Langan, Cornell College; Midwest Conference.	
Theodore Lockhart III, William Paterson University of New Jersey, New Jersey Athletic Conference.	
Molly Malachow, Penn State Behrend; Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.	
Angela Marin, University of Texas, Dallas; ex officio Management Council attendee.	
Muthu Meenakshisundaram, University of Minnesota, Morris; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.	
Hayley Peck, Purchase College, State University of New York; Skyline Conference.	
Vaish Siddapureddy, Pomona Pitzer Colleges; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Rachel Sinclair, Worcester State University, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Myora Slaughter, Rosemont College, Colonial States Athletic Conference.	
Rohan Springer, University of Texas, Dallas, American Southwest Conference.	
Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University; ex officio Management Council attendee.	
Attendees – Associate Members in Attendance	
Hannah Starr, St. Nobert College; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference.	
Absentees:	
Josh Africa, Penn State Harrisburg; United East Conference.	
Zach Bulthuis, Carthage College; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin.	
Gabby Elliott, Denison University, North Coast Athletic Conference.	
Chris Krum, Albion College, Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Adaobi Nebuwa, Colby College, New England Small College Athletic Conference.	
Sabienea Winston, Geneva College; Presidents' Athletic Conference.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Isaiah Swann.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Corey Berg, Katie Mucci, Ali Spungen and Becca Trovato.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance	
Charlie Baker, Dawn Buth, Jemma Cota, Kameron Jones, Louise McCleary and Bill Regan.	