



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III LGBTQIA+ WORKING GROUP  
FEBRUARY 22, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative.**
  - **None.**
2. **Nonlegislative.**
  - **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome.** The chair commenced the videoconference at 4 p.m. Eastern.
2. **Review of report from the October 2, 2023, videoconference.** The working group reviewed the report and had no edits.
3. **Debrief on the LGBTQ of the Year recognition celebration.** The working group noted the sizable attendance and positive energy at the event and highlighted the scheduling of the event on the Convention agenda in proximity to the NCAA Woman of the Year and Delegates Reception. The group is committed to continued discussion of the policy concerning the advance public notification of awardees. The current policy is to publicly announce in advance of the event the finalists in each category and the winner at the event. There is interest in discussing advance public notification of the winners to increase attention and attendance.
4. **2025 LGBTQ of the Year Award update.** Staff updated the working group on the number of applicants. The nomination cycle closes May 31.
5. **LGBTQ OneTeam training update.** Staff updated the working group on the status of the updating the OneTeam program materials and providing an in-person facilitator training. Discussions with the consultant are ongoing and the group will be provided an update at the next meeting.
6. **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and transgender athlete legislative landscape.** The working group received an update from NCAA government relations on the current state landscape regarding legislation restricting diversity, equity and inclusion programming and the prohibition on participation of transgender student-athletes.
7. **Next steps for the LGBTQIA+ Working Group.** The working group discussed a potential transition of the LGBTQIA+ Working Group and the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group into a subcommittee of the Division III Management and Presidents Councils. This

potential change could provide an opportunity for enhanced communication lines with the Management and Presidents Councils on important issues each working group engages in while acknowledging the label “working group” may not be optimal given the current agendas of each group. The group was assured the charge and mission of the group would be captured within the new entity, including the oversight, administration, and review of the LGBTQ of the Year Award program. The group concluded this move is appropriate and timely. The working group will consider a formal proposal at the next meeting.

**8. Additional business.**

- a. The group requested staff inquire with NCAA communications about enhanced Division III-related content in NCAA media coverage of Pride Month.
- b. The group was reminded of the March 5 Division III Webinar on transgender student-athlete participation.
- c. Staff confirmed the NCAA Board of Governors will discuss the NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy at its April meeting.

*Working Group Chair: Donna Ledwin, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference*  
*Staff Support: Eric Hartung, Division III Governance*

<b>NCAA Division III LGBTQIA+ Working Group February 22, 2024, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Peter Bothner, Nazareth College.
Allison DeGroot, University of Wisconsin Superior.
TJ Hill-Johnson, William Peace University.
Kyrstin Krist, Methodist University.
Crystal Lanning, University of Wisconsin – River Falls.
Donna Ledwin, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.
Courtne Prather, University of California, Santa Cruz.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Carolyn Lepre, Salisbury University.
<b>NCAA Staff in Attendance:</b>
Eric Hartung, Austin Meo