



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES AND INTERESTS COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 6, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome, announcements and review of mission and duties.** The chair of the Minority Opportunities and Interest Committee welcomed the committee members and staff to the videoconference, including new members, Marshall Fey, Lonnie Folks, Olivia Summiel and Zulma Toro. The chair also acknowledged former vice-chair, Harry Stinson's service, Stinson's transition to a new role and the need to elect a new vice-chair. Finally, two committee members read aloud the committee's mission and duties.
2. **Review and approval of April 20, 2022, and July 19, 2022, videoconference reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the April 20, 2022, and July 19, 2022, videoconference reports.
3. **Selection of vice chair.** The committee voted via an anonymous poll, and selected Brian Baptiste, as vice chair.
4. **NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee updates.**
  - a. **Division I.** The NCAA Division I SAAC representative shared an update on three issues of importance to Division I SAAC. First, Division I SAAC is recommending a "5-in-5" eligibility model that would align the current student-athlete five-year eligibility rule and the current progress-toward-degree legislation. The new model would reduce issues for redshirt student-athletes, while increasing the opportunity for student-athletes to obtain a graduate degree within their period of eligibility. Next, Division I SAAC is also recommending sport-specific student-athlete groups at the conference level to ensure the voice of student-athletes is included in decisions that affect their respective sports. Finally, Division I SAAC is discussing measures to enhance the student-athlete experience.
  - b. **Division II.** The NCAA Division II SAAC representative shared that Division II SAAC is currently reviewing the 12 legislative proposals sponsored for the 2023 NCAA Convention and is in the process of distributing grids to campuses and conferences for feedback. The Division II SAAC representative also shared that two student-athletes from national SAAC were added to the composition of the Division II Presidents Council. Lastly, Division II SAAC discussed amending its civic engagement legislation, but ultimately agreed to support the current rule.

- c. **Division III.** The Division III SAAC representative reported Division III SAAC reviewed the season-of-participation waiver legislation and the legislative proposals sponsored for the 2023 NCAA Convention. The Division III SAAC representative also shared that two members of DIII SAAC will serve on the Mental Health Advisory Board.
5. **Senior minority administrator updates and discussion.** The committee discussed its goal of increasing the number of people of color in higher level college athletics administration and agreed to form a working group to work collaboratively with stakeholders to explore the feasibility of the senior minority administrator designation and other possible recommendations. The committee discussed the composition of the working group to ensure the inclusion of diverse perspectives, and the possibility of inviting industry experts to provide insight on topics that will inform the working group recommendations. NCAA staff shared information about the composition of the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force as a potential guide for the composition of the working group. The committee will report back to the Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee in May 2023.
6. **Current issues and impact on intercollegiate athletics.** The committee discussed reports of racially charged incidents occurring during regular season competitions, and that national office leadership had in-depth discussions surrounding these incidents. Staff noted that the national office is working on guidelines for inclusive environments at NCAA-sponsored events and additional educational resources that support the NCAA Board of Governors Non-Discrimination Policy. The committee expressed concern over how hosts and institutions will be held accountable to the policy considering the discontinuation of the NCAA Championships Host Nondiscrimination Questionnaire.

The committee also expressed concern over the tracking of equity and inclusion efforts on campuses. Staff noted that the national office has a new diversity, equity, and inclusion resource available to all athletic departments. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Review Framework encourages the membership to evaluate the climate on their campuses as it relates to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The resource is designed for all divisions; however, Division I legislated a required review once every four years.
7. **2023 NCAA/MOAA Award for Diversity and Inclusion.** The committee discussed that the window to apply for the 2023 NCAA/MOAA Award for Diversity and Inclusion closed on September 30. Staff noted that there were 40 applications submitted across the three divisions, and that the application review process will begin on October 7. The awardee and honorable mentions will be selected during the week of October 25.
8. **2022 NCAA/MOIC/SAAC Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign.** The committee discussed that the 5<sup>th</sup> annual NCAA/MOIC/SAAC Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign will be held October 18-20. A NCAA Social Series was produced to discuss the history of the Social Media Campaign. NCAA staff asked the committee to encourage participation on their campuses and conferences. Staff also noted that the social media

campaign is expanding its reach by engaging on multiple social media platforms. Finally, staff announced the themes for each day.

- a. Tuesday, October 18: “Exploring My Identities”: exploring student-athletes’ intersectional identities, perspectives and experiences.
  - b. Wednesday, October 19: “Allyship Is...”: defining and highlighting examples of allyship to cultivate communities of belonging within athletics.
  - c. Thursday, October 20: “Strength in Unity”: outlining collective and institutional action steps for fostering belonging and inclusive excellence.
9. **Champions of Diversity and Inclusion.** The committee discussed that the NCAA Champions of Diversity and Inclusion Recognition nomination process will open in December, and that champions will be recognized in the spring and summer of 2023. The committee further discussed that a subcommittee will be formed to support the recognition, and interested members are encouraged to participate.
10. **Updates on athletics diversity and inclusion designees’ resources and programming.** NCAA staff, in collaboration with RISE, hosted six athletics diversity and inclusion designee focus groups. The committee discussed that the data gathered from the focus groups will be used to inform an ADID education session at the 2023 NCAA Convention and the 2023 NCAA Inclusion Forum, in addition to creating more resources for ADIDs. There will also be additional ADID resource and program co-sponsored by Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Council of Excellence.
11. **NCAA Summit on Diverse Student-Athlete Mental Health and Well-Being next steps.** An academic article was published in the British Journal of Sports Medicine describing the purpose and findings from the summit, including several consensus statements that may be best used to inform ways to support mental health for student-athletes of color. Additionally, the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports recognized a need to update the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices and subsequently created the Mental Health Advisory Group in September 2021. The composition of the Mental Health Advisory Group includes 29 representatives, with 18 of those representatives being from external organizations with an expertise in mental health, and 11 representatives from the three divisions, including one representative from the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and seven student-athletes. The Mental Health Advisory group will convene for the first time on October 6, to begin updating the Mental Health best practices.

**12. Other business.**

- **Office of inclusion resources.** NCAA staff shared there is a new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Review resource available, and that additional resources are in development in the core areas of disability and international student-athletes. Staff also noted that the NCAA Inclusive Language Guide will also be made available to the membership.

**13. Future meeting schedule.**

- a. October 20, 2022, 12 to 3 p.m. Eastern time, joint videoconference with the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics.
- b. February 8, 2022, 1 to 4 p.m. Eastern time.

**14. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Marquetta Dickens, William Peace University  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Tiffany Alford, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Niya Blair Hackworth, Office of Inclusion  
Abigail Edwards, Office of Inclusion  
Dee Kennedy, Enforcement  
Sade' Sleet, Office of Inclusion

NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee October 6, 2022, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Cheryl Aaron, Wentworth Institute of Technology.	
Brian Baptiste, LaSalle University.	
Michaela Boyd, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Marquetta Dickens, William Peace University.	
Marshall Fey, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Conference.	
Lonnie Folks, Maryville University of Saint Louis.	
Ahleasha McNeal, Lincoln Memorial University.	
Mercy Ogutu, Trinity Washington University.	
Stuart Robinson, New York University.	
Olivia Summiel, Wake Forest University.	
Zuma Toro, Central Connecticut State University.	
Framroze Virjee, California State University, Fullerton.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	

Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University.
Tony Gaskew, University of Pittsburgh, Bradford.
William Kelly, U.S. Coast Guard Academy.
Carrie A. Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.
Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
Abigail Edwards, Niya Blair Hackworth, Dee Kennedy and Sade' Sleet.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Kina Davis, Felicia Martin, Gretchen Miron, Solomon Siskind, Jared Tidemann and Amy Wilson.