



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA RESEARCH COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **NONE.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Update on research grant programs.** The NCAA Research Committee was informed about the progress of 2019 Graduate Student Research Grant and 2020 Innovations Grant research projects that have received no-cost extensions due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the committee was reminded of the decision to suspend both grant programs during the 2020-21 fiscal year, due to pandemic-related NCAA budget shortfalls.
2. **Role of NCAA research in 2019-20 topical issues.**
 - a. **Division-specific engagement.** The committee was informed of the support the NCAA research staff provided for the following division-specific committees and topical issues:
 - (1) NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate review and transfer research.
 - (2) NCAA Division II student-athlete graduation rates preview.
 - (3) NCAA Division III graduation rates research study.
 - b. **Role of standardized testing in athletics eligibility.** Staff informed the committee about the challenges related to standardized test (ACT, SAT) administration during the pandemic, membership use of test-optional admissions policies and the role of research in assisting the membership in its decision to eliminate the standardized test requirement for prospective student-athletes initially enrolling in Division I and Division II institutions during the 2021-22 academic year.
 - c. **Student-athlete COVID-19 well-being survey.** Staff presented the results of the COVID-19 well-being survey conducted in April 2020. A possible fall 2020 follow-up study was discussed as well.
 - d. **Division I Wrestling Academic Enhancement Working Group.** The committee was informed of ongoing research efforts to support the NCAA Division I Wrestling Academic Enhancement Working Group, which convened its work in February 2020.
3. **Ongoing research efforts.** The committee received updates on the following items from the research staff:

- a. **NCAA website and social media engagement.** The committee was apprised of the research department's efforts in updating the research website, ongoing social media efforts and the publication of a range of datasets into Tableau, a data visualization software.
 - b. **Survey operations.** The committee was informed about a cost-saving measure to move all NCAA surveys from the Qualtrics survey software platform to QuestionPro. Additionally, the committee was apprised of the scope and scale of surveys of the membership requested by other units in the national office.
 - c. **2020 Wagering and Social Environments survey update.** The committee was informed about the decision to halt 2020 Wagering and Social Environments survey data collection in March 2020, due to pandemic-related campus closures and sport-season cancelations. Approximately 7,000 surveys were completed ahead of the stoppage and data are currently being cleaned. Findings will be shared with the membership in winter 2021, however, findings specific to sub-populations (e.g., sport) may not be possible due to a lack of a representative sample.
 - d. **Gallup well-being survey.** Staff provided the committee with information about the June 2020 report from the Gallup Alumni Survey that explored post-college outcomes for student-athlete alumni and their nonathlete alumni peers at NCAA member institutions. Division-specific data were shared with the committee and dissemination of the findings to the membership was discussed.
4. **2019 NCAA Graduate Student Research Grant project findings.** The following presentations from the 2019 cycle of the grant program were given:
 - a. **Scott Graupensperger, Pennsylvania State University:** *Staying Ahead of the Curve: A Dynamic Norms Approach to Reduce Alcohol Use Intentions and Behaviors in Student-Athletes; and*
 - b. **Christian Vasquez, University of Texas at Austin:** *An Examination of Barriers Related to Recruiting Student-Athletes from Low Socio-economic Backgrounds: Insights from Division I Recruiters.*
5. **2020 chair selection.** The committee agreed to seek nominations for a new chair to serve a two-year term, from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022. Nominations will be due October 16, 2020, and the election (by online ballot) will take place the week of October 26.
6. **Approval of meeting reports.** The committee approved the report from its September 16-17, 2019, meeting.

7. **Future meetings.** The committee determined that September is a preferable month for the annual meeting. Mid-spring 2021, the chair will poll committee members to determine availability for the annual meeting in Indianapolis in September 2021.

Committee Chair: Adrienne Ridgeway, Marquette University, Big East

Staff Liaison: Lydia Bell, Research

Research Committee September 14, 2020, Meeting
Attendees:
Jodi Canfield, Sweet Briar College.
S. Marlon Gayadeen, Buffalo State, State University of New York.
David Hunt, Augusta University.
Torie Johnson, Southeastern Conference.
Kristi Kiefer, Fairmont State University.
Timothy Millerick, Austin College.
Adrienne Ridgeway, Marquette University.
Thomas Saylor, Concordia University, St. Paul.
Rebecca Spenser, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
Kyle Young, Clemson University.
Guests in Attendance:
Scott Graupensperger; University of Washington.
Christian Vazquez, University of Texas, Austin.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Lydia Bell.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Sara Clark, Markie Cook, Kelsey Gurganus, Eric Hartung, Keke Liu, Tom Paskus, Todd Petr, Sadie Robertson and Nick Sproull.