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 projects that received no-cost extensions due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the committee was made aware that both the Graduate Student Research Grant and the Innovations in Research and Practice Grant programs have been reinstated for 2021-22.

2. **Update on NCAA research structural and staffing changes.** The committee was informed about changes to NCAA research staffing since its meeting in September 2020. In reaction to financial challenges posed by the pandemic, the NCAA offered staff early retirement and voluntary separation packages. NCAA research had four staff members accept these offers (the managing director, director of data management, an associate director and an assistant director). Combined, these four individuals had over 75 years of service to the national office. Additionally, through retirement, medical leave and an external job opportunity, NCAA research also lost its full-time librarian, a full-time contractor and another assistant director during the 2020-21 fiscal year. Eric Hartung, associate director of research for Division III transitioned to a full-time role in Division III governance. While eight staff departed, a part-time librarian was promoted to librarian and an associate director role, a new associate director was hired in August, and an assistant director opening is in the process of being filled. This staffing reduction led to structural changes in the organization of staff and their day-to-day responsibilities.

3. **Role of NCAA research in survey data collection.**
   
a. **Historical context regarding survey data collection.** The committee was informed of the history of NCAA survey research and the difference between faculty athletics representative (FAR)-administered quadrennial surveys and the more recent surveys that have been conducted online through the distribution of the national Student-Athlete Advisory Committees (SAACs). Survey design, sampling methods, role of the Research Review Board, modes of analyses and data-sharing were discussed with the committee.

   b. **Student-athlete well-being study.** Staff presented the results of the fall 2020 well-being survey conducted in October 2020. Two reports stemmed from this survey, the NCAA Student-Athlete Well-Being Study and the NCAA Student-Athlete Activism and Racial Justice Engagement Study. Key findings from both studies were shared with the committee and the location of the full results on the NCAA research website also was discussed.
c. **NCAA Constitution Committee survey.** Staff briefly reviewed the publicly available results of the 2021 NCAA Constitution Committee survey, which was conducted by NCAA research at the request of the Constitution Committee in September.

d. **Fall 2021 well-being survey.** The committee was informed of ongoing research efforts to design two well-being surveys anticipated to be in the field in November 2021, examining student-athlete and coach well-being Association-wide.

e. **Comprehensive health and well-being survey 2022.** The committee was apprised of the research department's collaboration with the NCAA Sport Science Institute to design a comprehensive student-athlete well-being survey intended to replace the quadrennial Substance Use survey in fall 2022. This FAR-administered survey will be the first study using a stratified random sample of student-athletes since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the early closure of the Wagering and Social Environments survey that was in the field in March 2020.

4. **Ongoing research efforts.** The committee received updates on the following items from the research staff:

a. **NCAA Library Soutron Transition.** The committee was informed of the digitization of many NCAA library documents and the migration of the NCAA's library digitized collection to the Soutron platform. While NCAA staff have access to the platform currently, a searchable public site on the platform is currently being built as well to allow for remote access to the NCAA's historical archives.

b. **Financial trends research.** The committee learned of streamlined efforts to collect and verify membership data for participation, sponsorship, demographics and financial reporting. The committee also was made aware of the timeline for the 2021 financial data release and intentions to create informative executive summaries to enhance this year's release.

c. **Research on student-athlete academic performance.** The committee was informed about the role of NCAA research staff on the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force and the timeline of that committee's work. Additionally, they received insights into transfer portal trends and the timing of the 2021 graduation rates data release.

d. **NCAA website and social media engagement.** The committee was apprised of the research department's efforts in updating the research website and ongoing social media efforts.

5. **2019 NCAA Graduate Student Research Grant project findings.** The following presentations from the 2019 cycle of the grant program were given:
a. Ashley Kuchar, University of Texas at Austin: A self-compassion intervention with NCAA student-athletes;

b. Kaitlin Pericak, University of Miami (Florida): The thrill of victory, the agony of injury: Social support among injured college athletes; and

c. Miray Seward, University of Virginia: Exploring the lived experiences of Division I Black women student-athletes.

6. **Approval of meeting reports.** The committee approved the report from its September 14, 2020 meeting.

7. **Future meetings.** The committee determined that September is a preferable month for the annual meeting. Mid-spring 2022, the chair will poll committee members to determine availability for the annual meeting in Indianapolis in September 2022.

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**Committee Chair:** Thomas Saylor, Concordia University, St. Paul  
**Staff Liaison:** Lydia Bell, Research

| Research Committee  
<table>
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<th>September 28, 2021, Meeting</th>
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| **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.  
Rene Salinas, Appalachian State University.  
Thomas Saylor, Concordia University, St. Paul.  
Rebecca Spenser, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.  
Lawrence Ward, Babson College.  
Kyle Young, Clemson University.  
**Guests in Attendance:**  
Ashley Kuchar, University of Texas, Austin.  
Kaitlin Pericak; University of Miami (Florida).  
Miray Seward, University of Virginia.  
**NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:**  
Lydia Bell.  
**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**  
Sara Clark, Kelsey Gurganus, Keke Liu, Tom Paskus and Marcos Rivera. |