

REPORT OF THE NCAA GENDER EQUITY TASK FORCE MAY 13, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and introductions. Gender Equity Task Force co-chairs Judy Sweet and Noreen Morris welcomed the group to its final videoconference and previewed the agenda.
- **2. Review of previous reports.** The task force approved the report from its October 30, 2024, videoconference.
- **3. Legal update.** NCAA counsel updated the task force on litigation related to women's sports and gender equity in intercollegiate athletics.
- 4. Discuss joint letter to NCAA leadership bodies. NCAA staff provided an update about a collaboration among leadership of the task force, the Committee on Women's Athletics, and the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee to draft a letter to the NCAA Board of Governors, divisional leadership governance bodies and senior staff. The letter calls for the work of the three groups to remain a priority for the Association and be advanced through the new Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact. The document also will contain the final recommendations from the Gender Equity Task Force, the Committee on Women's Athletics and the Minority Opportunity and Interests Committee to the Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact.
- 5. Overview of progress on NCAA national office equity work and next steps. Staff provided updates on NCAA national office equity work and highlighted the following major initiatives:
 - **a. Equity evaluation process.** Staff described the equity evaluation process being used within the NCAA national office and noted that the process was automated to provide an easier user experience when addressing equity issues.
 - **b. Equity education modules.** To accompany the equity evaluation process, educational modules were developed for NCAA staff to provide foundational learning about equity in all aspects not just gender in their work.
 - **c. Championships equity assessment**. Staff also highlighted an internal process to annually evaluate equity among NCAA championships. It was noted that the process will be automated in fall 2025 to streamline the user experience and data availability.

- 6. Final recommendations from the Gender Equity Task Force to the new committee. Task force members reviewed and discussed its recommendations to the Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact. Specifically, the task force reaffirmed that the Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact should champion ongoing equity work. The task force also emphasized the importance of accountability and leadership to assure that these recommendations remain at the forefront of the Association's agenda. Staff agreed to update the recommendations and recirculate them in the coming weeks.
- 7. Review Gender Equity Task Force historical recap document. The task force reviewed a document summarizing its impact from 2014 through 2025. The task force's many contributions include, but are not limited to, the following: Advancing NCAA constitutional principles related to gender equity; Updating the definition of gender equity; Recommending a once-in-four-year diversity, equity, and inclusion review to the three divisions; Supporting the advancement of the senior woman administrator designation; Assisting the NCAA in celebrating Title IX anniversaries; and Developing processes to support equitable decision-making across the Association. Staff agreed to edit the document and recirculate it for input before finalizing.
- **8. Final remarks.** The co-chairs thanked task force members and staff for their service and contributions, noting a lasting impact on the Association. Task force members noted their enthusiasm regarding the Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact and how the committee will continue its work and that of the Committee on Women's Athletics and the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.
- **9. Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chairs: Noreen Morris, Northeast Conference

Judy Sweet, Gender Equity Consultant

Staff Liaisons: Ashlesha Lokhande, Office of Inclusion

Gretchen Miron, Office of Inclusion Amy Wilson, Office of Inclusion

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Attendees:

Chuck Ambrose, Higher Education Consultant.

Renee Bostic, State University of New York at New Paltz.

Joan McDermott, Colorado Mesa University.

Jacqie McWilliams, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Noreen Morris, Northeast Conference.

Bernard Muir, Stanford University.

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Sarah Otey, Ohio Athletic Conference.

Judy Sweet, Gender Equity Consultant.

Absentees:

None.

Guests in Attendance:

Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Ashlesha Lokhande, Gretchen Miron and Amy Wilson.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:

Debbie Brown, Gail Dent, Niya Blair Hackworth, Jordan Jones, Austin Meo, Leilyn Miles, Stephanie Quigg and Jared Tidemann.