



**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III
FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE ADVISORY GROUP
MARCH 9, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and introductions.** Hunter Nash, NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative, was welcomed.
2. **Approval of report from December 8, 2020, videoconference.** The report was reviewed and approved.
3. **Discussion of full-time enrollment requirements for Division III student-athletes.** The current waiver process for allowing student-athletes to participate when enrolled less than full-time was explained. There has been a significant increase in the number of waiver requests in the past six months, largely attributed to the current blanket waiver in place which allows an extension of the eligibility granted to spring sport student-athletes in 2020. It's anticipated the increased volume of waiver requests will continue due to the eligibility extensions in place for 2020-21 student-athletes. For staff to provide appropriate guidance relating to waiver requests and the potential for a blanket waiver to the membership and governance committees, potential pathways forward were presented with a request for feedback from the group. The following conclusions were offered:
 - a. The impact of COVID-19 disruptions to enrollment patterns varies widely across institutions and individuals, requiring flexibility as a key component.
 - b. Deference should be extended to cases where there is clear backing for the waiver relief from campus academic and administrative authority.
 - c. The group agreed a minimum of six credits should be maintained to qualify for waiver relief.
 - d. Ensure the waiver framework:
 - (1) Is limited to one year to minimize the adverse impact on the enrollment patterns of student-athletes.

- (2) Does not delay the completion of an undergraduate degree for the student-athlete.
 - (3) Allows for ample mentorship and academic counseling for the student-athlete.
 - (4) Does not create financial aid challenges related to less than fulltime enrollment.
4. **Review of recent actions by NCAA Division III Presidents and Management Councils and Administrative Committee.** NCAA staff updated the group on the status of the NCAA Name, Image and Likeness legislation, Division III championships and the waiver to eliminate sports sponsorship minimums for spring 2021.

Advisory Group Chair: Hope Bussenius, Emory University

Staff Liaison: Eric Hartung, Research

NCAA Division III Faculty Athletics Representative Advisory Group March 9, 2021, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Kurt Beron, University of Texas at Dallas, American Southwest Conference.	
Charles Brown, Pennsylvania State University Erie, the Behrend College; Allegheny Mountain College Conference.	
Hope Bussenius, Emory University, University Athletic Association.	
Judy Hopp, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Hunter Nash, Alma College, Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Kim Wenger, Northwest Conference.	
Absentees:	
Wanda Rutledge, New Jersey City University, New Jersey Athletic Conference.	
Mike Snyder, Illinois College, Midwest Conference.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Eric Hartung, Jeff Myers, Louise McCleary	