

**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III
FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE (FAR) ADVISORY GROUP
SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and introductions.** The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. Eastern.
- 2. Approval of the June 10 report.** The committee approved the report from the June 10 videoconference.
- 3. Review of highlights from the Presidents and Management Councils' summary of 2025 summer quarterly meetings.**
 - a. Presidents Council Futures Subcommittee.** The advisory group received an update on the subcommittee, including the charge, composition and meeting cadence. The group commended the foresight of the council to establish the subcommittee noting the rapidly changing landscape of higher education and intercollegiate athletics.
 - b. Transfer Portal.** The advisory group was notified of the Convention proposal sponsored by the Division III Management Council. to require the use of the Transfer Portal for all Division III member institutions. The group supported the proposal, noting the portal is a viable means to alleviate administrative burden for institutional athletics staff managing the student-athlete transfer process. The Division III members of the Faculty Athletics Representative Association (FARA) will take an official position on the proposal at their annual meeting, November 20-22.
 - c. Eligibility Discussion.** The group was provided with a summary of the Management Council's discussion of the current Division III eligibility standards regarding a student-athlete's use of a season. The group affirmed the complexity of the issue and encouraged the Management Council to continue to focus on the primary goal of graduation of student-athletes.
- 4. Review of a Division III Membership Proposal: Eligibility – Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility – Minimum Amount of Participation – Only Competition Triggering Use of a Season.** The group ultimately could not reconcile the proposal, which could potentially encourage extending the number of years to attain an undergraduate degree, with the Division III philosophy statement that establishes the primary focus on intercollegiate athletics as a four-year undergraduate experience. They noted the inherent challenge a prospective student-athlete would have in making a financial and academic decision to enroll at an institution with the knowledge they would potentially be extending their enrollment beyond four years, and at the same time acknowledging they would be

deferring a year of potential compensation in pursuit of a career. The group also recognized the potential for institutions with graduate and other post-baccalaureate academic programs to gain a recruitment and competitive advantage over those institutions that do not.

The advisory group confirmed that some may advocate for the proposal because it establishes an athletics model that would match the five-year academic programs at some Division III institutions. Additionally, it would provide the opportunity for student-athletes seeking to balance their academic degree program over a five-year period as opposed to four, especially if it could be done with nominal expense and enhance the overall college experience.

The Division III members of the FARA will take an official position on the proposal at their annual meeting in November.

5. **2025 Division III FAR Institute.** The roster of the 30 FAR Institute participants was shared, and the group approved the agenda.
6. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 2 p.m. Eastern.

Advisory Group Chair: Rob Larson, Luther College.

Staff Support: Eric Hartung, Division III Governance

NCAA Division III Faculty Athletics Representative Advisory Group September 9, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Mark Cruea, Ohio Northern University.	
Stanton Ching, Connecticut College.	
Renee Jourdanais, Marywood University.	
Rob Larson, Luther College.	
Karen Thompson-Wolfe, Westminster College (Missouri).	
Absentees:	
JoAnne Bullard, Rowan University.	
Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Eric Hartung	
Additional NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Jeff Myers, Bill Regan	