Division III May Webinar
Updates from April SAAC, Management and President Council Meetings

Louise McCleary and Ali Spungen
Agenda

- Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Updates.
  - Mental health social media campaign.
  - Working group updates.
- Management and Presidents Council Updates.
- Q&A.
Mental Health Social Media Campaign

• Is this week - May 3 - 6, 2021 – Follow on twitter: @d3saac and @NCAADIII
• Theme: #dontsleeponstigmas
• There is still time to join the conversation by using the Mental Health Social Media Campaign webpage.
• Engagement Ideas.
• Mental Health Educational Resources.
• After the Campaign – Mental Health Resource Card.
SAAC Working Group Updates

• Mental and Physical Health.
  o 2nd Annual Mental Health Social Media Campaign.

• Social Justice and Inclusion.
  o Black History Month Twitter campaign in February.
  o Pride Month Twitter campaign in June.

• Special Olympics.
  o Planning a Division III/Special Olympics Virtual Event resource.
  o Report your DIII Special Olympics event.
Campus Sexual Violence Policy

• BOG expanded campus sexual violence policy (April 2020).
• Creation of Association-wide task force.
  o Develop operational guidelines and best practices (Summer 2021).
• Expanded policy is effective with 2022-23 attestation requirements (May 2023).
• Attestation still required in May 2021 (due May 15) and 2022.
• Division III education session: 
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kJjFnCnHk0
Name, Image and Likeness

- NIL proposal withdrawn at 2021 NCAA Convention.
- Committed to modernizing legislation to provide NIL opportunities.
- Presidents Council discussed and endorsed the possible need for the Division III Administrative Committee to act mid-legislative cycle. [June]
- Presidents and chancellors continue to engage members of Congress on the benefits of bipartisan, federal legislation. Currently several states have NIL legislation with an effective date of July 1.
Division III Budget

• 2020-21 budget.
  o Successful Division I men’s basketball championship. Anticipate less revenue.
  o Budget reductions.
• Budget planning year for 2021-24.
• New CBS/Turner broadcast agreement in 2024-25.
  o New mandated reserve policy.
• Created a working group of SPFC committee members.
• Examining the existing Division III strategic positioning platform.
• Reviewing the plan’s language to align with the Association’s updated strategic priorities and properly reflect Division III today.
• Management and Presidents Councils provided feedback to the working group. The final approval will occur during the summer Council meetings.
• Anticipate releasing to the membership in August 2021. The platform provides consistent language that highlights the unique benefits of being a Division III student-athlete.
Division III Football Concussion Task Force

- Created a task force consisting of the Division III football committee and a representative from ILC and Management Council.
- Recent NCAA Football Concussion Data Task Force meeting provided data on recent head trauma and concussion trends.
- Each division asked to gather information and possibly recommend changes to mitigate the issue.
- Created and distributed a survey to all head coaches to gather data on practices.
- Next steps.
Transgender Student-Athlete Participation

• Review of existing transgender student-athlete participation policy adopted in 2011. [CWA, MOIC, CSMAS and Gender Identity Summit]
  o Social, legal and scientific developments and impact on the current policy.
  o Maintain a balance between equity and inclusion.
• Conducting additional research and data collection.
• Present recommendations to the BOG. [Summer/Oct. 2021]
• BOG statement on transgender participation.
Gender Equity Review

• Board of Governors announced a comprehensive review of all championships.

• Hired the law firm of Kaplan Hecker & Fink LLP.

• Evaluating practices and policies and providing recommendations.

• Preliminary assessment provided to the BOG and anticipate a final report this summer.
Enrollment Flexibility Waiver

• Presidents Council approved a blanket waiver for the 2021-22 academic year allowing a student-athlete to participate while enrolled less than full time subject to certain conditions, listed in the April 2 COVID Communication.

• This blanket relief does not address all situations and therefore it does not preclude institutions from seeking individual relief for their student-athletes that don’t satisfy the criteria in this recommendation.
The Governance Structure is sponsoring proposals for the 2022 Convention that would do the following:

- Establish an emergency legislative process.
- Expand opportunities to conduct recruiting virtually.
- Eliminate the option for a student-athlete to sign a written release or waiver declining the sickle cell solubility test.
- Recognize STUNT as an emerging sport for women.
Questions?

• All questions, must be submitted via your computer, using the following instructions:
  o Click on the chat icon.
  o Type in message and click send.