FROM THE EDITOR

With this issue of the FARA Voice, a new direction is made in editorship. With agreement of the FARA Executive Committee, the FARA Voice will now be edited by the FARA Communications Committee. As Secretary-Treasurer of FARA, I Chair the Committee and will be the primary point person for Voice content. The other members of the Communications Committee, Effel Harper of University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Brenda Cates of Mount Olive College, and Dydia DeLyser of Louisiana State University will be active in generating and collecting Voice material. Joe Catanese of St. Anselm College remains on the Committee as the past editor. Many thanks go to Joe for capably editing the FARA Voice for the past year. We look forward to this new era in the FARA Voice. If you have any comments or ideas for FARA Voice content, please contact any of us.

Dennis Leighton
FARA Secretary-Treasurer
University of New England
dleighton@une.edu

NOTES FROM THE FARAFARA PRESIDENT

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent from FARA President Roger Caves, FAR at San Diego State University, to Myles Brand, President of the NCAA, encouraging increased involvement of FARs at all levels of NCAA Committee service. The letter was also sent to NCAA Divisional Vice Presidents and Directors.

May 27, 2009
Dr. Myles Brand
NCAA President

Dear Dr. Brand,
In recent weeks, the DIA FARs group and COIA have issued statements calling for increased participation by Faculty Athletics Representatives (FARs) within the NCAA governance structure. Representing over 1000 colleges and universities in all Divisions (Division I – FBS, FCS, and DI without football; DII and DIII), the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) understands that the new Division I governance structure is a work-in-progress, having just been implemented in 2008. This restructuring replaces the DI Management Council with two 31-member bodies (Legislative and Leadership Councils).
A new Cabinet structure features five 21-member groups (academics, administration, amateurism, recruiting and student-athlete awards, benefits, and financial aid) and one 31-member championships body. Moreover, gender and equity minimum requirements were also created for the various bodies. FARa recognizes the need to have a balanced approach to the composition of the various governance committees and is prepared to assist the National Office staff in the effort to ensure a broad range of perspectives are represented within the governance structure, including those of FARs.

There is no doubt that each Division has its own challenges. In Division I, FARs are nominated by their conferences for positions on the various governance committees. It is important for FARs to work with their conference offices to ensure qualified individuals are nominated for committee positions across the spectrum of the governance structure. This can be challenging in that a conference might choose to limit nominations to individuals in specific positions, for example only putting forward athletic directors to serve on the Leadership Council. Some positions require that a candidate must be from a certain region, a specific gender, or a minority group. This is certainly understandable. There needs to be a diversity of individuals and groups represented on the various governance bodies. To the greatest extent possible, no one group should dominate any committee.

Ultimately, FARa promotes the substantial involvement of FARs across the full range of cabinets, councils, and committees, a position that has been affirmed by the Division I Board. However, in some respects it seems that FARs have been "pigeon-holed." The Academic Council is currently chaired by an FAR and has 16 FAR members (out of 21 members). At the same time, the Administration Cabinet has 1 FAR (out of 21 members). The Legislative Council has 2 FARs (out of 31 members); the Leadership Council has 4 FARs (out of 31 members). While the Academic Council is a logical point of emphasis for FARs, the broad understanding and involvement of FARs on their campuses and the diversity of perspective they bring, make FARs qualified candidates for the full range of governance structure positions.

It should be noted that FARa serves as advocates for all divisions, each with its own unique challenges. We do not advocate any quota system for FARs. We are available to help in any way that will ensure the success of the NCAA Governance Structure through broad-based consultation and involvement.

FARA is not sitting idly by and simply requesting more FAR involvement. We are making personal contact with FARs throughout all divisions and seeking out people that want to be more involved in NCAA governance. The Division II FAR Institute is training its members to be more engaged and proactive on campuses, conferences, and within the NCAA. Divisions I and III are working to create similar Institutes to develop more engaged FARs. Sharon Tufano, NCAA Committee Coordinator, has been a speaker at our NCAA Convention panel and FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium and urged FARs to become more proactive and engaged in NCAA governance. We shall continue to seek her participation on this matter.

We would welcome the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with NCAA staff to see how increased FAR involvement could be accomplished and stand ready to work with the NCAA to discuss any potential avenues to develop a broad spectrum of FAR participation throughout the NCAA governance structure.

If FARa can be of any assistance to you, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

[Signed]
Roger W. Caves, Ph.D
FARA President
FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium Planning Well Under Way

Planning is well under way for the 2009 FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium, scheduled for November 12-14 in St. Louis. The FARA Executive Committee has prepared an exciting agenda for the meeting revolving around the theme “Enhancing Partnerships Between Academics and Athletics”. The 2009 Meeting is also the 20th anniversary for these fall meetings.

The Annual Meeting and Symposium represents the single best opportunity for FARs to gather and focus on the important issues that confront each of us on campus. Much of the meeting time is dedicated to divisional sessions which allow FARs to work with colleagues who face the same problems and issues that they do. Highlights of these divisional sessions include updates from key NCAA staff, legislative reviews and some highly focused, practical sessions that deal with the specific responsibilities of FARs on the campus, in the conference and on the national level. This year’s agenda will see divisional sessions on the Commercialism Task Force in Division I, roundtables on the Strategic Platform in DII, and a Philosophy and Identity Initiatives in Division III. In all there will be over ten hours of division specific sessions.

Of course, FARA always is mindful that the interrelated nature of intercollegiate athletics means that there is much that requires a broader view. As the only forum where FARs from all three divisions gather for an extended period, association-wide programming is central to the FARA mission. This year’s keynote speaker is Sidney McPhee, President of Middle Tennessee State, who will discuss the real challenge and remarkable success in changing the athletic culture at MTS. Dr. McPhee will discuss the process by which Middle Tennessee has embraced the academic reform initiatives and transformed their athletic program.

Other association-wide sessions include an update on the gender and diversity program review, a report on the Substance Use survey results and important information on the FLAG system for identifying at-risk students. As always, one of the real highlights of the annual meeting is the Awards Dinner where the David Knight Outstanding Service Award, the Walter Byers Scholarship Award and the Jim McKay Award winners will all be recognized.

In all the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium is a meeting not to be missed. Registration is open and registration materials and the agenda can be found on the FARA Web site (www.farawebsite.org).

Michael Miranda
FARA President-Elect
FAR SUNY-Plattsburgh
N4A Part of the Community to Foster Student-Athletes

As individuals, we go about our lives day to day, communicating with students, coaches, parents or the administration, and it can be difficult to appreciate and value that we are not alone in our concerns for the well-being of our student-athletes. There are others, part of our community, a community whose goal is to ultimately develop student-athletes, professionally and personally - the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics. Affectionately known as N4A, the association has been representing many faces and voices of our community since 1975.

N4A is an educational service and professional organization dedicated to promoting academic advisement and counseling to athletics. Our members can be found representing our voice and perspective on various task forces and panels which discuss the factors affecting student-athletes, such as but not limited to: NCAA’s Academic Cabinet, The NCAA Men’s Basketball Academic Enhancement Group (BAEG), the N4A Task Force on Non-Traditional Courses, the NCAA Football Academic Enhancement Group and the Division I Working Group To Review At-Risk Student-Athletes (ARSA).

Not only is N4A making connections with those who are working to foster the growth of student-athletes, but N4A also provides support, to our community, by providing tools and resources that enhance professional knowledge and leadership skills. N4A programs and services include: access to model practices, an online knowledge center, networking and information sharing, face-to-face and virtual learning opportunities, hot topics and news updates.

N4A has a diverse membership, nationwide, of over 1100 professionals working to empower student-athletes to become more productive individuals through educational and personal development. Together with FARA, 3C4A, NCAA, Play it Smart, and NFHS (to name a few), we are all part of a community, partners working to improve the well-being of a student athlete.

For more information about N4A, visit our website, http://www.nfoura.org.

Theresa Evans-Hunter, MBA, CAE
Executive Director
National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics (N4A)

NCAA GOALS and SCORE Studies Updates
Annie Kearns, NCAA Research Staff

Last year, the research department provided four updates on findings from the GOALS (Growth, Opportunities, Aspirations and Learning of Students in college) and SCORE (Study of College Outcomes and Recent Experiences) studies. GOALS is a study of student-athletes from all three NCAA divisions who were participating in athletics during the 2005-06 academic year. SCORE is a longitudinal study of student-athletes who graduated high school in 1994 – the majority of whom were Division I or II student-athletes or recruits.

This fall, the research department will once again administer both the GOALS and SCORE surveys. A comprehensive report on
the results from the 2005 administrations also will be released. In anticipation of this, the next several issues of FARAl Voice will provide updates on our current findings.

This update takes a look at the impact of athletics participation on social engagement and campus integration. Typically, attention is given to the effect of student-athlete time demands on their academics; however, also of interest to many on campus is whether, given the student-athletes’ athletic schedules, they also have time to participate in the many opportunities campus life offers. GOALS asked the student-athletes if they believed their participation in athletics prohibited opportunities they may have had to more fully participate in campus life and more fully integrate into the campus community.

Overall, 55 percent of student-athletes report that they are currently involved in an extracurricular other than athletics, and another 20 percent have plans to participate in an activity. The two most common activities are intramural sports and religious organizations. The scale used to measure involvement was two-pronged. In addition to questioning about current or intended involvement, respondents also had the option of selecting either lack of time or lack of interest as the reason for non-participation. As Table 1 shows, with the exception of intramural sports, student-athletes chose ‘no interest’ as their primary reason for not participating in each of the activities. The overwhelming percentage of student-athletes who participate in intramurals or cite lack of time, as opposed to lack of interest, as the reason for non-participation is evidence that student-athletes are choosing activities based on their main interest – athletics.

There were significant, by statistical standards, differences in response. Not surprisingly, Division III student-athletes were more likely to report participating in an activity. This is true of every activity with the exception of religious groups (see Table 2). Across division, females were more likely to report a lack of time, as opposed to a lack of interest, as their reason for not participating in an activity. And, seniors were much more likely than freshmen to report participation. Overall, 46 percent of freshmen reported current participation in some activity compared to 65 percent of seniors.

Table 1: Percent indicating lack of time/interest in extracurricular activities

![Table 1](image-url)
Call for Nominations

As per FARA bylaws, FARA elections will take place between September 15 and November 1. Results will be announced at the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium in November.

The FARA Executive Committee’s Nominating Committee has developed a slate of candidates, which is listed at the bottom of this announcement. Additional candidates can be nominated by the membership at this time. All nominations close on September 1.

To self-nominate, the FAR should send his or her name and the office he or she is seeking to the FARA President, Roger Caves, at rcaves@mail.sdsu.edu. The nominee must also arrange for five endorsements from fellow-FARs to also be sent via e-mail to Roger Caves.

The same process is to be followed to nominate a fellow-FAR; however the nominating FAR should seek confirmation that the nominee will accept such nomination.

Voting will occur from September 15 to November 1. New Executive Committee members take office at the conclusion of the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium.

In general, FARs start out as Representatives on the Executive Committee, elected by their divisional peers. Each year one new representative from Divisions II and III, and two representatives from Division I are elected. For 2009, the Division I representatives must come from a Bowl Championship (I-A) and a non-Football institution (I-AAA).

Full descriptions of the FARA officers can be found on the FARA Web site at the following link: http://www.farawebsite.org/default.asp

Table 2: Percent indicating current participation by division

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<th>Division I</th>
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<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
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FARA Executive Committee Nominees

2009-10

President-Elect: Ralph Bertrand (Colorado College)

Division I Vice President: Patrick Devine (Kennesaw State University)
Jean Perry (University of Nevada)

Division II Vice President: Brenda Cates (Mount Olive College)

Division III Vice President: Effel Harper (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor)

Division I FBS Representative: Dydia DeLyser (Louisiana State University)
Jim Ruebel (Ball State University)

Division I:
Roger Davidson (Coppin State University)

Division II:
Randel Brown (Texas A&M University)
Helmut Perez (Adelphi University)
Frank Webbe (Florida Institute of Technology)

Division III:
George Metz (Bluffton University)
Scott Armacost (Franklin College)

Secretary-Treasurer: Dennis Leighton (University of New England)

Mark Your Calendar

FARA Annual Meeting
November 12-14, 2009
St. Louis

NCAA Convention
January 13-16, 2010
Atlanta

Regional Rules Seminar
May 17-21, 2010
Indianapolis

Regional Rules Seminar
June 14-18, 2010
Dallas

FARA Annual Meeting
November 11-13, 2010
Baltimore

NCAA Convention
January 12-15, 2011
San Antonio

NCAA Convention
January 11-14, 2012
Indianapolis

NCAA Convention
January 16-19, 2013
Grapevine
Tell Us How We Are Doing!

We would love to hear from you regarding the FARA Voice. If you have any comments, questions, or ideas for future articles, please direct them to Karen Cooper at FARA@ncaa.org

http://www.farawebsite.org

20th Annual FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium “Enhancing Partnerships Between Academics and Athletics”

November 12-14, 2009
Hyatt Regency – St. Louis Riverfront

Registration is now available by going to www.planningpoint.net/events/FARA09

The fee is $225 which includes all registration materials, a gift, three meals and two breaks. The agenda includes:

- Sessions regarding the impact of economic issues on student-athletes.
- Awards dinner on Thursday night including the announcement of the David Knight Award recipient, the presentation of the Walter Byers Scholars, and for the first time, the presentation of the Jim McKay Scholarship award winner.
- Legislative review sessions.
- Reports on recent research studies, including preliminary results of the Substance Use survey and an update on the SCORE and GOALS studies.
- NCAA governance staff presenting sessions on current issues in each division.
- Announcements of new FARA executive committee officers.
- Presentation on NCAA gender and diversity issues.
- And more to be announced!

Please contact Karen Cooper at kcooper@ncaa.org for more information.