Registration for the Fall Annual Meeting & Symposium indicates that over three hundred are expected to be in attendance. The theme for this year’s meeting is “Engagement.” This month’s issue of FARA Voice highlights some of the major divisional agenda items and a list of speakers. Alan Hauser, President Elect of FARA and FAR at Appalachian State University, outlines the proposal for Division I governance restructuring. Robert Ziegenfus, FAR at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, discusses the slate of daily sessions planned for Division II FARs, including a list of panels and speakers. Dan Fulks, FAR at Transylvania University and Division III Vice President, notes that results from the 2005 FARA Survey will be reported. In the aftermath of the fatal accident involving Bluffton University student-athletes, a panel will be discussing its impact on the campus.

Dennis Leighton, President of FARA, highlights the full list of speakers who will address the meeting and the focus of their remarks.

We look forward to your attendance and participation in this year’s meeting.

Bill Edwards
University of San Francisco
Co-Editor

Greetings!
The annual Fall Meeting and Symposium will certainly be one of the most energizing and engaging ever. Record numbers will attend and with the theme of faculty engagement, sessions will provide the opportunity for all to contribute to lively discussion and debate. The Executive Committee, under the able leadership of Denis Leighton of The University of New England, has planned sessions that will benefit all of us in our role as FAR. New (over 80 will attend) and veteran FARs alike will have much to consider and discuss both inter-and intra-divisionally.

Throughout the symposium, we will have opportunities for updates on the current state of intercollegiate athletics in higher education, on current factors influencing intercollegiate athletics, and on initiatives to maintain the balance between academics and athletics. The initiatives include strategies for effectively engaging with faculty on college campuses.

Results of the FARA Survey, legislative reviews and the FARA website will be featured in all division sessions. These informative sessions tend themselves to clarification of our roles, better understanding of current legislation and improved communication within FARA.
Each division will address particular topics and issues. Division I topics will include responses to the Presidential Task Force, Improving The APR, and Legislative Process Changes. Engaging faculty in their work with student athletes, Engaging Effective FARs through Mentoring, and Effective FAR Practices will highlight Division II. Division III FARs will address the topic Crisis on Campus, see the results of the Academic Performance of Student-Athletes Study, and consider Best Practices for FARs.

All session topics center on the theme of engaging faculty. We should be ready for an informative, interactive and enriching experience at this year’s FARA Fall Meeting and Symposium. Let’s work together to make this Fall Meeting and Symposium one that truly engages all of us.

Joe Catanese
Saint Anselm College
Co-Editor

Speakers to Highlight FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium

The theme of this year’s FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium is “Engagement” of our faculty colleagues. This theme will be enhanced by speakers from diverse backgrounds, who will give their views on the importance that FARs are engaging their colleagues on campus in the oversight of intercollegiate athletics. As is the tradition, Myles Brand, the President of the NCAA, will address all attendees, as he has each year. Dr. Brand has repeatedly stated that FARs are the link between the general faculty, the athletics department, and the institution’s administration. According to Dr. Brand, it is the FARs who should take the leadership role of bringing campus constituencies together for the benefit of the student-athlete. Dr. Brand will address the Annual Meeting and Symposium attendees in the opening session on Thursday afternoon.

On Friday morning, the Annual Meeting and Symposium will meet in full session for two speakers. First, Jack DeGioia, President of Georgetown University and a member of the Knight Commission, will share his thoughts on the importance of faculty involvement in intercollegiate athletics. As a university president, Dr. DeGioia will help FARs understand how administrators can be best supported in the oversight of athletics programs. Later Friday morning, Ted Leland, currently the Vice President for University Advancement at University of the Pacific and former co-chair of the U.S. Secretary of Education’s Commission on Opportunity in Athletics, will stress the importance of FARs being involved in NCAA governance, and will also share his thoughts on effective ways for FARs to engage their faculty colleagues at their home institutions.

At other times during the Annual Meeting and Symposium, attendees will have time to network in order to fully develop the ideas of these speakers, in a way that fits best at their institutions. The closing sessions on Saturday morning will provide a final opportunity to develop personal action plans to take home.

Dennis Leighton
University of New England
President, FARA
In 1997, the NCAA moved to a new governance structure. Since then, in Division I there has been a Board of Directors, comprised of 18 college and university presidents. Reporting to this Board is the Management Council, on which each Division I conference has at least one seat. All legislative proposals are run through the Management Council, and the Council also advises the Presidents on important matters relating to intercollegiate athletics. See Constitution 4.5.2 for the duties and responsibilities of the Management Council.

Although initially four cabinets reported to the Management Council, since approximately the year 2000 there have been only two. One is the Academics, Eligibility, and Compliance Cabinet which, as its name indicates, deals with several major areas of concern, and also reviews a great deal of Division I legislation before it reaches the Management Council. The other cabinet reporting to the Management Council is the Championship Cabinet, to whom all the sports championship committees in Division I report.

There is now serious discussion of significant changes in this Division I governance structure which, if approved, would go into effect in the fall of 2008. The proposal calls for replacing the Management Council with two bodies: the Leadership Council, which would become the primary advisory council to the Presidents on strategic and policy issues; and the Legislative Council, which would become the main legislative body in the Division I governance structure. Each council would thus assume part of the load of the Management Council, which would be dissolved, and each of these Councils would have 31 members, one for each Division I multisport conference, with weighted voting.

The work of the two current cabinets would be taken over by six new cabinets: Academic Cabinet; Administration Cabinet; Amateurism Cabinet; Championship/Sports Management Cabinet; Recruiting Cabinet; and Student-Athlete Awards, Benefits and Financial Aid Cabinet. The Championships/Sports Management Cabinet would have 31 members, one from each Division I multisport conference. All other cabinets would have 21 members. Each of these five cabinets would have 11 FBS conference seats, with the ten other seats rotating among the remaining 20 FCS/Division I conferences. The idea is to have each cabinet more focused on one specific area of Division I governance. Having served on the Academics/Eligibility/Compliance Cabinet for six years, chairing it for two, I must say that the AEC Cabinet had a full agenda, with a wide variety of issues, so perhaps this new structure would provide more opportunity for members on the various cabinets to develop extensive expertise in one specific area.

This new structure will provide considerably more opportunity for participation by Division I members, which means there will also be more opportunities for FARs to serve on these important governance bodies. Selection will be by conference, so you may wish to consider volunteering to serve your conference by being a member of one of these groups in the new governance structure.

NCAA staff member Beth DeBauche will speak in detail about this proposed new governance structure during the Friday afternoon Division I breakout session at the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium in Baltimore, held November 8-10. If you have any questions about the proposed changes in the governance structure, you can raise them there, or I will attempt to answer your question if it is more urgent.

Alan J. Hauser
FARA President Elect
Appalachian State University
A Division II Preview

Here is a preview of the DII sessions planned for the forthcoming FARA meeting in Baltimore. On Thursday afternoon, we will have the nationally known speaker Marilyn Katzenmeyer conduct a session entitled “Engaging Effective FARs Through Mentoring.” This will be an interactive session in workshop format. A follow-up session will be held during the second half of Saturday morning’s time slot.

Friday afternoon’s busy session will include four components. First, we will discuss the report by the Legislative Review Committee. This document will be posted on the new FARA website about a week prior to the meeting. Please bring a copy to Baltimore. One of the more controversial proposals is likely to be the one that represents still another attempt to expand skill instruction.

If you have ever wondered how your FAR duties and compensation compare to others, you will have the opportunity to see the results of the DII portion of the FAR survey conducted last year by the NCAA. Some of the results gleaned from the survey may help to make the case for compensation for those who do not receive a stipend or other form of consideration.

Two panel discussions are also slated for Friday afternoon. One panel of three FARs will react to Dr. Ted Leland’s presentation from Friday morning, and they will indicate how his comments could be applied to DII. The other panel will feature three other FARs who will share their insights and experiences in fostering engagement by the faculty.

The final session on Saturday will focus on how the engagement theme can be integrated into our institutional roles. Collectively, we will identify what we consider the most useful approaches to engagement and discuss their applicability. The plan is to distill the varied suggestions from Thursday down to a smaller set that can be implemented within the time constraints imposed by our other faculty responsibilities.

Robert C. Ziegenfus
Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Membership Issues, Bluffton Crisis Highlight DIII Program

The ongoing discussion of possible Division III restructuring will occupy plenty of time at the November FARA Meeting. Reports will be heard from members of the NCAA Membership Services staff, as well as members of the Working Group. The timetable calls for presentation of potential legislation at the 2008 NCAA Convention, followed by a year of continued discussion and membership vote at the 2009 Convention.

Also highlighting the DIII program will be a panel discussion of Crises on Campus. Bluffton University will be represented by their Athletics Director, FAR, and two student-athletes, who have agreed to discuss their experience with the fatal bus accident last Spring and the impact on the Bluffton campus, its athletics program, and all individuals and families involved.

Dan Fulks
FARA Division III Vice President
Transylvania University
Responses from the 2005 FARA Survey have been tabulated and will be presented at the Annual Meeting and Symposium in November. The survey, a joint effort of the FARA Executive Committee and members of the NCAA research staff, was distributed to FARs at all NCAA member institutions, resulting in 400 useable responses -- over one-third of the membership. The responses were evenly distributed across the three NCAA divisions, and results have been organized by division.

The report is organized into seven sections:

I. Institutional Information – public/private and undergraduate enrollment
II. FAR Personal Profile – demographic data, such as age, gender, academic rank, academic discipline, tenure status, years as FAR
III. FAR Position Profile – how the FAR is appointed/elected, to whom she or he reports, term limits, etc.
IV. Support from the Institution – to what extent FARs receive clerical support, monetary stipends, release time, budgeted funds, and other benefits
V. FAR Duties/Activities/Functions – academic duties, (e.g., graduation rates and eligibility), student-athlete wellbeing, compliance and rules interpretation, and administrative duties. The number of hours devoted to FAR duties and the allocation of those hours are also examined.
VI. FAR Satisfaction – the extent to which FARs are satisfied with their work environment, support, empowerment, role within the institution, etc.
VII. The Role of FARA

The overall results of the survey are both interesting and informative, and it is also interesting to observe differences across NCAA divisions. Survey presentations will be led during divisional breakout sessions by Roberto Vicente for Division I, Robert Ziegenfus for Division II, and Dan Fulks for Division III.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 11-14, 2008  NCAA Convention  Nashville
May 18-23, 2008    NCAA Regional Rules Compliance Seminar  Boston
June 1-6, 2008     NCAA Regional Rules Compliance Seminar  San Antonio
November 13-15, 2008  FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium  San Diego
January 14-17, 2009  NCAA Convention  Washington, DC

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.