This special issue of the FARA Voice is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Myles Brand, President of the NCAA from January 1, 2003 until the time of his death on September 16, 2009. Dr. Brand's legacy of enhancing the academic environment within the NCAA is well known. Within this legacy, Dr. Brand supported and enhanced the work of faculty athletics representatives across all three divisions of the NCAA, recognizing the important role FARs play on campus in ensuring a balance between athletics and academics for the benefit of the student-athlete.

The FARA Presidents over the past years have had a unique opportunity to meet and work with Dr. Brand on several occasions. The FARA president would typically meet with Dr. Brand in his office at the beginning of each year to talk about how the NCAA and FARA could work best together. The following are remembrances from current and past FARA Presidents about Dr. Brand.

Dennis Leighton
FARA Secretary-Treasurer
FAR, University of New England
FROM ROGER CAVES, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
FARA PRESIDENT, 2009

I was fortunate to have known Dr. Brand in my position of president-elect and then president of FARA. Having had the opportunity to meet with him solidified my thoughts and views on the positions he had taken during his tenure as the NCAA President. Dr. Brand was a strong individual with strong beliefs. He was deeply concerned about academic reform within intercollegiate athletics. He was an eloquent leader in calling for academic reform. For this, we are all grateful to him.

Dr. Brand was also deeply concerned about the budget cuts universities are facing and the impacts these cuts would have on student-athletes. He wanted to make sure the academic and athletics experiences of student-athletes would not suffer as a result of budget cuts. In my last meeting with him, he emphasized the need to make sure student-athletes would not suffer as a result of budget cuts. Recognizing that many universities were constructing various types of athletics facilities, including buildings dedicated to academic support for student-athletes, he wanted to make sure the academic buildings were staffed with personnel and equipment to support the academic needs of our student-athletes.

When FARA and everyone learned of Dr. Brand’s battle with pancreatic cancer, it sent flowers to him and a contribution to the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center. Dr. Brand responded with a kind note to FARA that I would like to share with you. In his note, Dr. Brand noted that in a time of reflection he understood more deeply the importance of friends and family. He continued by writing “we are like trees whose roots grow together helping each other to stand tall”. Dr. Brand and his visions and beliefs stand tall among us. Together we can accomplish a great deal to further the academic reform he advocated within intercollegiate athletics.

[Editor’s note: Roger Caves, as current FARA president, previously distributed a statement on the passing of Dr. Brand. Go to www.farawebsite.org for his statement]

FROM ALAN J. HAUSER, APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY
FARA PRESIDENT, 2008

I have known and worked with Myles Brand since soon after he became president of the NCAA. Early on, a group was established called the Academic Consultants, whose purpose was to formulate standards and procedures which would promote higher academic achievement for all student athletes. As a member of that group, I watched as Myles encouraged us to be firm, clear-headed and diligent in creating meaningful and fair academic standards that would keep student-athletes on track to graduate when their years as student-athletes came to an end. Today we see the results of these early efforts: articulate, gradated levels of academic success student-athletes must achieve in order to maintain their eligibility as they continue to compete and to learn. The measures of success for teams and institutions are the Academic Progress Rate and the Graduation Success Rate, and the measures of success for individual student-athletes are the continuing-eligibility standards. Throughout all this, Myles clearly had his vision firmly set on an environment in which student-athletes would indeed be students, and I applaud him for that. The naysayers who assumed that academic reform would disappear like the winter snow have proven to be wrong.
I also came to know Myles during my years working on FARA’s executive committee, and especially while I was president of FARA. Myles was always gracious and very supportive of FARA, not only because he appreciated FARA’s support for his work on academic reform, but also because Myles knew how important FARs are in the interface between athletics and the campus community. He saw this campus dialogue to be crucial if the well-being of student-athletes, including their academic well-being, is to have a high priority. Myles always attended our annual FARA meetings, bringing a substantive, meat-and-potatoes message on the well-being of student-athletes, key aspects of the developing academic reform program or other matters which threatened the credibility and viability of intercollegiate athletics. He was a strong colleague of all who believe in athletics as a vital component of higher education.

Thank you, my friend, for the vision you held up before us all. While your mission will go on, you will be sorely missed.

FROM DENNIS LEIGHTON, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
FARA PRESIDENT, 2007

When I think back about Dr. Brand over the past several years, I think of many occasions when I have met with, seen or heard Dr. Brand in his role of NCAA president. And while Dr. Brand was a consistent speaker at the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium, and supported FARA in so many ways, I think of three particular instances that really stand out in my mind during my FARA presidency.

The first was when I first traveled to the NCAA national office to meet with several national staff members, including a meeting with Dr. Brand. I quickly learned that when you met with Dr. Brand, he would have an agenda or a message that you would not leave without. The message that day was how important FARs were in enhancing the academic experience of our student-athletes. He spoke of how important it was for the FAR to be the point person on campus to educate the “general faculty”, our colleagues, on the benefits of athletics in general, and how to support our student-athletes as individuals. His final thought for me that day (always an important one to remember) was to remind me that FARA needed to be “nimble”. With the constant and quickly changing landscape of intercollegiate athletics, FARs needed to be poised to respond quickly and nimblly to whatever situation might arise. I think he stressed this point from his years as a university president, and working with faculty governance groups, who most would hardly characterize as nimble.

My second remembrance is how Dr. Brand put his words into actions. The following year, the Presidential Task Force Report was published. During the development of this report, FARA was asked to provide input on several occasions. Then, when the final report came out, FARs were prominently included as key components in academic enhancement. This report, which would be the impetus for later academic reform efforts, mentioned FARs on several occasions, and how important FARs would be in these reform efforts. While Dr. Brand did not write the Task Force Report, his influence and input was seen and felt. From this experience, I knew that Dr. Brand’s words were important, and not simply window dressing.

Finally, I remember Dr. Brand from the NCAA National Student-Athlete Leadership Conference in 2007. I was walking through the buffet line for lunch, when I looked up and there was Dr. Brand in front of me in line, dressed in blue jeans and a comfortable shirt. I went to him and said hello,
and he turned around and immediately said “Hello, Dennis”. Wow, I thought, with all the people and names this guy has to remember, mine is one of them. He fully recognized me as president of FARA, and asked me about a couple of issues we had spoken about previously. I left with a new sense of Dr. Brand as a person, one who was going through the buffet line in blue jeans, mingling with the student-athletes, saying hello. That is the image I will remember the most in coming years.

---

**FROM LORRIE CLEMO, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT OSWEGO**

**FARA PRESIDENT, 2006**

Faculty athletics representatives have lost a friend. The passing of Dr. Myles Brand suspended reality for all of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with him. Dr. Brand was an uncompromising giant. He was unafraid to tackle the tough issues facing intercollegiate athletics. He accomplished this because his own stature—the depth and reach of his intellectual grasp—was unassailable.

Since his most untimely death, many have noted the specifics Dr. Brand accomplished in his career. I want to celebrate with gratitude the legacy he left that helps guide us as members of an academic community and continues to influence our work with student athletes, in particular.

Dr. Brand was a true champion of FARA’s underlying values and guiding principles. The time and attention he gave to faculty athletics representatives during his tenure as president greatly lifted FARA and helped amplify the voice, the role and the responsibilities of faculty athletics representatives in the NCAA, in athletic conferences and on our campuses.

Dr. Brand was a true servant leader who encouraged us to envision a new potential for FARA by taking a look at where we were and how we would create the future we wanted. He engaged FARA by helping us build relationships and collaborations with other stakeholders that would be critical to FARA’s long-term success and reputation. He enabled FARA to accomplish our goals by providing the resources we needed to build capacity within our organization for strong and sustainable leadership. He challenged us to execute—to deliver outstanding results that matched or exceeded his standards of excellence.

Dr. Brand’s integrity and passion for fairness and justice was the underlying foundation for the actions he took to support the work of FARA. Upon that same foundation, he built an unmatched reputation for building coalitions and for connecting people around a common cause. He encouraged the unification of a fragmented structure of intercollegiate athletics and worked diligently to bring faculty into the planning and decision-making process. Bringing all the stakeholders to the table and giving an equal voice to all led to sound policies that strengthened opportunities for academic success of student athletes and sent a compelling message to society that athletics plays an important role in colleges and universities adding great value to the educational process.

It was with a sense of humility that all of us in intercollegiate athletics — coaches, athletics directors, trustees, student athletes, faculty athletics representatives, administrators and university presidents — now realize that it took a brilliant and complex leader to successfully shift the center of gravity of a social institution that needed new direction.

Dr. Brand left college athletics immeasurably better for student-athletes and for those who serve the intercollegiate model of athletics. Colleges and universities now have greater clarity on our
roles and responsibilities in supporting the full human development of student athletes.

More personally, I will forever appreciate the support and guidance Dr. Brand provided me as a counselor, mentor and role model for higher education leadership. Dr. Brand’s unwavering leadership, unstinting work ethic, humanity and integrity forged a path for me and many others to make something extraordinary happen in our own careers for the betterment of society. The greatest lesson he leaves me with is that there was always a way to get it done, and although his demeanor and persuasiveness often belied it, he was always impatient for the world to catch up to him.

FROM ED STREB, ROWAN UNIVERSITY
FARA PRESIDENT, 2003

When I first learned from some friends at the NCAA that Myles Brand was about to be named president, I told them how excited I was about the selection. “Really?” asked one, “You’re excited?” “Absolutely,” I replied. “My wife and I have been over to Myles’ house several times.” She stammered in disbelief—until I explained that both of my children had graduated from Indiana University, where every year at graduation time, Myles invited every graduate’s family to tour the president’s house and stop by for refreshments. Both times I visited him, the conversation was exceedingly brief: he asked if my children had had a good experience at Indiana, and I told him they had.

Years after I had first met him, Myles and I crossed paths again. He officially became president of the NCAA the same month that I took over as FARA president. One of the first things I did as president was to arrange a meeting with him in Indianapolis. On the day that I flew out to meet with him, the midwest was experiencing one of its worst storms in years. When I finally sat down with him in his office, he probably spent the first ten minutes asking me how I was getting home, insisting that I not travel if I felt it was unsafe and assuring me that he would put me up someplace in Indy to ride out the storm. As the snow continued to pile up outside, Myles interrupted our conversation several times to express his concern. That was simply the kind of guy he was. While he may have come off as a “stuffed shirt” at times, he was basically a very kind, thoughtful and considerate person.

During the course of our conversation, I mentioned that both of my kids had gone to Indiana. He asked if they had had a good experience, and I said: “You don’t remember? You asked me that when they graduated and I told you ‘yes.’” Myles winced, but then quickly shot back with a comment about how he loved those high-paying out-of-state students. OK—so maybe humor wasn’t his strong point—or mine either for that matter. I remember sitting down with him two summers later during the karaoke session at the NCAA Leadership Conference. At one point, I suggested that the two of us “get up and show these young kids what rock and roll is all about.” He looked at me as if I had two heads. “You go first,” he deadpanned. “Myles, you obviously weren’t paying attention—I was up there with my teammates not more than ten minutes ago,” I replied. But Myles wouldn’t budge. While he had done so much to help me as FARA president, this was the one time he made it clear that I was on my own.

Throughout my term as president, Myles and I met several times. I offered him my advice, but far more often sought his. He not only gave me the benefit of his insight, but also the benefit of his connections. When I told him that I thought he was giving too much credence to the fledgling
COIA group and not enough to FARA, he assured me that he had not meant to do that, worked to correct that impression and made a point of insisting that the COIA leadership sit down with me. When I needed help with numerous other matters, he always took the time to give me his perspective or point me in the right direction, or introduce me to someone who could help me. One day, I went to ask him for an increase in the FARA budget. I had been assured by several of my friends at the NCAA that he would never agree to it, but I asked him anyway. I told him that I thought FARA needed to have a presence at the NACDA and N4A conventions and at the Sports Business Journal’s upcoming meeting, and that we needed to establish a presence that went beyond athletics organizations, but that we were constrained by our budget. Without hesitating for a moment, he said “It sounds to me like you need about ten thousand dollars more in your budget. I’ll have that transferred in this afternoon, and before the next budget cycle you can prepare a formal request for whatever it is you think you need.”

As I was wrapping up my year as FARA president, I wrote Myles what I thought was a very nice letter, congratulating him on his first year in office and thanking him for the support he had given me personally and FARA generally. A few days later I received a two-page hand written letter from Myles that absolutely blew me away. It changed forever how I defined “nice letter,” as this was the single nicest letter I have ever received. He wrote that it was he who should be thanking me for my support and my leadership. While I’m quite certain that Myles helped me more than I ever helped him, it’s a letter I will always cherish.

I think it would be a stretch to say that Myles was my friend. I never really got to know him all that well. But he always treated me like a friend—with kindness and respect—and he treated FARA that way too.

The following provides information regarding the Myles Brand Chair in Cancer Research.

**Donations will also be accepted at the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium and donated as a contribution from FARA.**

**Myles Brand Chair in Cancer Research**

The Myles Brand Chair in Cancer Research at the Indiana University School of Medicine will contribute to the understanding of cancer and will continue to have an impact for generations to come. It will serve as a lasting homage to an extraordinary leader.

Through his service as president of Indiana University and the National Collegiate Athletic Association, Myles Brand, Ph.D., influenced the state of higher education throughout the country, and in so doing improved the life experience for countless individuals. Friends, family and colleagues wish to honor Dr. Brand with the establishment of the Myles Brand Chair in Cancer Research. Creation of an endowed fund to benefit cancer research at the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center will serve as a permanent, meaningful tribute to Dr. Brand and provide hope to the nearly 1.5 million Americans who are diagnosed with cancer each year.

**IU President Michael A. McRobbie has said that Indiana University will provide a 1:1 match on all gifts and pledges to the Myles Brand Chair, with a total of up to $1 million available in match money.**

For more information on the Myles Brand Chair in Cancer Research, please contact:

Mary Maxwell, Development Director, IU Simon Cancer Center
mmaxwell@iupui.edu
317-278-2130