FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of the FARA Voice has a decidedly Division I focus. However, the content is equally important for FARs in Divisions II and III, as we are all one Association. It is important to know what is happening in other divisions, because on many occasions these same issues may show up in our own Divisions sometime in the future. So I encourage you to all read through this issue of the FARA Voice.

In the first article, Alan Hauser, FARA President, describes some movement in Division I to require a certain percentage of FAR appointments to cabinets and councils in the new Division I Governance Structure. These provisions would also apply to Athletics Directors. In our next article, Connie Dillon, FAR at University of Oklahoma describes some work coming out of the Championships/Sports Administration Cabinet, of which she is a member. This cabinet, along with others, is looking at potential cost-savings across Division I, some of which have a direct impact on student-athlete welfare.

Enjoy this issue of the FARA Voice.

Dennis Leighton
FARA Secretary-Treasurer
FAR, University of New England

Think Spring!!!
FROM THE FARA PRESIDENT

FAR Representation on Division I Councils and Cabinets

When the NCAA Governance Structure was reconfigured several years ago there was, as one would expect, a provision that specific diversity requirements (gender, and ethnic minority) be met for the Division I councils and cabinets. However, at that time it was agreed that these diversity criteria could be satisfied within cluster groups composed of the councils and the cabinets. The concern was with the overall diversity within the breadth of the Division I governance structure, rather than with diversity on each specific council and cabinet.

This approach had some unintended consequences, which skewed other matters of diverse representation, specifically related to diversity among positions represented on these various councils and cabinets. For example, an unusually large number of FARs were placed on the Academic Cabinet, while hardly any were placed on other cabinets, and very few were placed on the Leadership Council, on which I serve. At the same time, ADs were also under represented on various governance bodies.

In order to ensure that the key perspectives of FARs and ADs are adequately represented on the various Division I governance bodies, the Leadership Council recommended, at its January meeting, that the Board of Directors apply new, minimal position requirements for FARs (20 percent) and ADs (20 percent) to each council and cabinet independently. These requirements would be in addition to the already established gender (35 percent) and ethnic minority (20 percent) minimum requirements, which would also now be applied to each council and cabinet independently. The Board of Directors subsequently endorsed the Leadership Council’s recommendations.

It will be incumbent upon Division I FARs to make themselves available to their conferences for nomination to serve on a governance body. We need to make sure that the important voice FARs can bring to Division I governance is heard. Positions on Division I councils and cabinets begin to expire in early 2012, so please give careful thought to being nominated to serve on one of these bodies.

Alan J. Hauser
FARA President
FAR, Appalachian State University

Living within Our Means: Division I Considers Cost Savings Initiatives

The Division I governance groups are in the process of identifying potential areas for cost savings within their respective jurisdictions. This work is being done with the expectation that the summer meetings will be focused upon preparing legislation for the 2010 legislative cycle. This will be a process of interest to Faculty Athletics Representatives especially as cost savings initiatives can impact student-athlete personal well-being and academic priorities.

The Championships/Sports Administration Cabinet is currently reviewing Bylaw 17, Playing and Practice Seasons and Bylaw 31, Executive Regulations to identify legislative concepts that have meaningful cost savings potential. Some of the themes currently under consideration include eliminating hotel stays the night before home games for all sports except FBS football.
and eliminating or reducing travel during the non-championship segment. Also on the table are reductions in practice and playing seasons as measures to eliminate practice during official vacation periods, and reductions in practice opportunities, preseason practice and competitions remain on the list for consideration.

If implemented, many of these initiatives could have positive academic and life balance implications for our student-athletes. National SAAC will be weighing in on these issues and support many of the ideas forwarded. One exception is the move to reduce competitions, as the SAAC representative to the Cabinet spoke eloquently in opposition to this concept. The Cabinet is seeking guidance from the Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Committee regarding the impact of reductions in preseason practice opportunities upon acclimatization.

Included in our Cabinet materials was a copy of the Division II Life in the Balance Initiative, a Division II Presidential led initiative designed to realign the DII student-athlete academic/athletic obligations with the DII mission. Key recommendations from Phase 1 of that initiative include a dead week for all sports during the December holiday break, reduction of all seasons by one week, and cutting all competitions by 10 percent. These initiatives formed the basis of legislation that is currently being considered by the Division II membership. I believe Faculty Athletic Representatives will find the report interesting reading. The report can be found at the following website: http://www.wbca.org/upload/DIILifeintheBalanceSummary.pdf.

During the next few months, the Cabinet will be reaching out for advice from the sport committees about the potential impact of these cost savings initiatives. Likewise, as the one Faculty Athletic Representative on the Cabinet, I am reaching out to our FAR organizations. The coming months represent a critical time for D1 Faculty Athletic Representative to influence the shape of legislation emerging from the various cost containment initiatives under consideration throughout the governance structure.

Connie Dillon
Faculty Athletics Representative
University of Oklahoma

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**NCAA SCHOLARSHIPS**

As a new feature of the FARA Voice, we will be discussing various scholarships offered by the NCAA. The following scholarship programs are now accepting applications/nominations:

**NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Program**

The NCAA awards up to 174 postgraduate scholarships annually, 87 for men and 87 for women. The scholarships are awarded to student-athletes who excel academically and athletically and who are in their final year of intercollegiate athletics competition.

The one-time grants of $7,500 each are awarded for fall sports, winter sports and spring sports. Each sports season (fall, winter and spring), there are 29 scholarships available for men and 29 scholarships available for women. The scholarships are one-time, non-renewable grants.

The NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship was created in 1964 to promote and encourage postgraduate
education by rewarding the Association's most accomplished student-athletes through their participation in NCAA championship and/or emerging sports. Athletics and academic achievements, as well as campus involvement, community service, volunteer activities and demonstrated leadership, are evaluated. An equitable approach is employed in reviewing each applicant's nomination form to provide opportunity to all student-athlete nominees to receive the postgraduate award, regardless of sport, division, gender or race. In maintaining the highest broad-based standards in the selection process, the program aims to reward those individuals whose dedication and effort are reflective of those characteristics necessary to succeed and thrive through postgraduate study in an accredited graduate degree program.

The NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship nomination is to be submitted by the faculty athletics representative (FAR) or by a FAR designee. It is the responsibility of the FAR or FAR designee to ensure all sections of the nomination are submitted to the NCAA national office not later than the sport season deadlines.

FARs or FAR designees must nominate qualified student-athletes using the Postgraduate Scholarship Online Submission System. In total, there are five sections to be completed. Additionally, FARs must ensure that the nominee's transcripts are mailed to the NCAA national office. E-mails will be sent from the online system to the student-athlete and three individuals for recommendations. The e-mails are generated after the FAR submits his or her nomination section.

Nominations are now being accepted for the following spring sports:
Men's: Baseball Golf, Lacrosse, Tennis, Outdoor Track and Field and Volleyball
Women's: Golf, Lacrosse, Rowing, Softball, Synchronized Swimming, Tennis, Outdoor Track and Field and Water Polo.

Spring sports nomination deadline: MAY 13, 2010
Contact: Bob Chichester (bchichester@ncaa.org)

NCAA Division I Degree-Completion Award Program

The NCAA established this program to assist student-athletes who have exhausted their eligibility for institutional financial aid (in five years). Applicants must have completed eligibility for athletics-related aid at a Division I member institution before applying and must be within 30 semester hours of their degree requirements.

Student-athletes receiving the award will receive an amount equivalent to tuition and fees, and they will also receive a book allowance based on the number of hours in which they are enrolled. The program is administered by the NCAA Degree Completion Scholarship consultants. Applications are now being accepted for the fall/spring 2010-11 terms.

Deadline for applications: MAY 21, 2010
Contact: Ellen Summers (esummers@ncaa.org) or Karen Cooper (kcooper@ncaa.org)

Division II Degree-Completion Award Program
The purpose of the Division II Degree-Completion Award program is to provide financial assistance to deserving student-athletes with completion of a first baccalaureate degree. Candidates will be students who have exhausted their athletics eligibility and have received athletics financial aid.

The selection process for the national award emphasizes the academic performance of the student-athlete. Other factors considered are financial circumstances, athletic achievement and involvement in campus and community activities.

The NCAA Division II Degree-Completion Award application for 2010-11 is now available to download. To receive consideration for the award, all application materials must be postmarked not later than April 6, 2010.

Program Requirements

- Applicant shall be a student-athlete who has exhausted athletics eligibility at an active NCAA Division II institution within the past calendar year.
- Awards are limited to student-athletes during their first 10 semesters or 15 quarters of full-time collegiate attendance.
- Applicant shall not be participating in another intercollegiate sport during the period of the award.
- Applicant must have received athletics-related financial aid from the NCAA Division II member institution.
- Applicant must be within 32 semester or 48 quarters hours of completion of his or her first undergraduate degree at the completion of the spring term.
- Applicant must have a 2.50 cumulative grade-point average.
- Applicant shall not receive any athletics aid if awarded a Division II Degree-Completion Award.
- Applicant shall use the grant to complete undergraduate degree requirements from the Division II institution where the applicant last competed.

Application deadline: APRIL 6, 2010

Contact: Ellen Summers (esummers@ncaa.org) or Betty Reagan (breagan@ncaa.org)

Jim McKay Scholarship Program

In 2008, the National Collegiate Athletic Association established the Jim McKay Scholarship Program as a means of recognizing the immense contributions and legacy of pioneer sports journalist Jim McKay. Under this program, one male and one female student-athlete are annually awarded a $10,000 scholarship in recognition for outstanding academic achievement and potential to make a major contribution in the sports communication industry. McKay scholars will be recognized as having demonstrated a unique aptitude and commitment to the communications field and promises to be a future leader in the industry. McKay scholars also will demonstrate the highest level of professional integrity, including the principles of truthfulness, accuracy, objectivity, impartiality, fairness and public accountability, with the element of compassion that so infused McKay's long and storied career.

The basic qualifications on which Jim McKay scholarship nominees will be reviewed are described in detail in the application. Please read the application carefully and note that only the faculty athletics representative or the chief academic officer of the institution at which the nominee is a varsity student-athlete may nominate qualified candidates. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 30,
The form may be filled out online (in the PDF file) and then printed, or a blank copy of the file may be printed and typed. Please note that the information cannot be saved on the Web site, so anyone filling out the application must do so all at one time and then print the pages. Hard copies of the completed application must be mailed to the NCAA national office because the information cannot be submitted through the Web site.

Application deadline: **MARCH 30, 2010**

Contact: Lori Thomas (lthomas@ncaa.org)

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**GOALS SURVEY ON CAMPUS!**

First, to those of you who have administered the GOALS 2010 survey, thank you! The yearly student-athlete survey collaborations between the NCAA and its faculty athletics representatives (FARs) are critical in helping to inform policy and shape programs that benefit NCAA student-athletes. The Growth, Opportunities, Aspirations and Learning of Students in college (GOALS 2010) survey, in particular, is the most comprehensive national survey of college student-athletes and their daily experiences, aspirations and outcomes. Data from the 2006 version of this survey have been studied extensively by committees in each NCAA division, by sport-specific groups and task forces, and by those who administer NCAA programs such as CHAMPS / Life Skills. The content of the 2010 GOALS survey has come at the request of various NCAA policy-making groups that are eager for additional or updated data on the student-athlete experience.

FARs are encouraged to administer the GOALS 2010 survey prior to May 31. GOALS materials were shipped to the campuses in early February and contain all of the materials you need to administer the survey on your campus.

NCAA staff are available to assist you in any way, such as submitting IRB materials or even writing an IRB application, that you may require.

If you have any questions at all about the GOALS study or require assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at mmiranda@ncaa.org or by phone at 317-917-6304. Thank you.

*Michael Miranda*

*Associate Director of Research*

*NCAA*
### IMPORTANT DATES

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<td>Postgraduate Scholarship Nomination</td>
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### HOW ARE WE DOING?

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

[http://www.farawebsite.org](http://www.farawebsite.org)