It has now been a little over a month since the annual NCAA Convention in Texas, so this is a good time to reflect on various issues treated there, and on other items afoot in intercollegiate athletics. By now all of you (at least those on the semester system) are well into your spring term, and I trust all is going well, especially as we look toward spring. For now, however, FARs in New England, and especially Connecticut, get the gold medal for dramatic snowfalls and perseverance in the face of adversity. Perhaps we should make that a golden shovel, embedded with snowflakes.

Our first piece is courtesy of Jennifer Fraser of the NCAA Division I staff. It addresses the various issues discussed and acted upon by Division I and its Board of Directors. One of these involves making the rulebook more meaningful, enforceable and supportive of student-athlete success. A number of rules were eliminated, such as prohibitions on texting of recruits and on printed recruiting materials, and some were added, such as the one prohibiting the scouting of opponents in person. The Committee on Infractions was expanded by eight members, part of a process for revising the NCAA’s handling of enforcement. There was also a package of proposals reported out by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. Check out Jennifer’s report on these and other Division I issues from the Convention.

In Division II, the "Pathway to Graduation" initiative received considerable attention. The various proposals in this initiative will be carefully examined in the near future. Health and safety issues were also addressed, including concussions, a matter of concern in all three divisions. As John Mayer points out in his summary, Division II leaders took the opportunity to celebrate as one of their strengths the extensive involvement of Division II presidents, directors of athletics, senior women administrators and faculty athletics representatives in Division II governance.

Andrea Zevenbergen next gives a summary of the action in Division III, where all thirteen legislative proposals presented were approved. Two of the thirteen received extensive discussion and a close vote. Proposal 4, concerning sickle cell trait status, requires education regarding sickle cell traits for all student-athletes, with all student-athletes being asked to confirm their status by 2014-15. Proposal 9 allows private, electronically-transmitted correspondence to be sent to prospective student-athletes in the context of recruiting. Check Andrea’s piece to see the other eleven pieces of legislation that were also approved, such as the one allowing student-athletes in a study-abroad program to participate in athletics while abroad without using a season of participation, or the one requiring at least three continuous hours of recovery time between all sessions during the five-day acclimation period in football.

Our next piece is by FARA past president David Clough, titled “What’s At Our Core? An Investigation of Division I Legislation.” Describing a project funded by the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, David indicates that he, Professor Josephine (Jo) Potuto, faculty athletics representative at the University of Nebraska, and former faculty athletics representative Dr. Connie Dillon from the University of Oklahoma investigated institutional voting patterns on Division I legislation during the seven years from 2004 through 2010. More than 1,000 legislative proposals were evaluated in the context of NCAA core values concerning the collegiate model of amateurism, student-athlete well-being and academic standards. Financial impacts of the proposals were also taken into consideration. The voting records of 340 Division I schools were classified by conferences and by Division I subdivisions (FBS [BCS and non-BCS], FCS, and No Football. David’s analysis contains a number of interesting findings, as does the Knight Commission’s 168-page report, to which David’s report points.

Our last piece is by Tom Paskus, principal research scientist for the NCAA, in which he describes preliminary findings from the 2012 cohort screening of student-athletes regarding gambling. Tom’s report is filled with valuable and, at times, surprising information, such as the high percentage of sports wagering in Division III, higher than in Divisions I and II, and the fact that wagering is especially high among men’s golfers. Not surprisingly, wagering is being transformed by electronic media, which provides live, in-game interaction with bookmakers. A rising number of student-athletes are not even aware that wagering by them is prohibited by the NCAA. These and other items provide a lot to ponder. A full report is being prepared which will compare results from the 2004, 2008 and 2012 studies.
Volume 5, Number 2 of the Journal of Intercollegiate Sports came out several weeks ago. If you have not yet looked at it, you need to. Among the interesting topics treated are: "An Exploratory Examination of Burnout in NCAA Division II Athletes;" "Unmasking Athlete Microaggressions: Division I Student Athletes’ Engagement With Members of the Campus Community;" and "Are Your Values Mine? Exploring the Influence of Value Congruence on Responses to Organizational Change in a Division I Intercollegiate Athletics Department." The Journal continues its pattern of addressing interesting and, at times, controversial topics in intercollegiate athletics.

I hope you continue to enjoy your spring term, as well as your work in athletics.

Alan J. Hauser
Editor, FARA Voice
Faculty Athletics Representative
Appalachian State University
hauseraj@appstate.edu

DIVISION I NEWS

The most important Division I news coming out of the 2013 NCAA Convention is the Board of Director’s vote to make the rulebook more meaningful, enforceable and supportive of student-athlete success. The presidents adopted a set of proposals aimed at creating a more flexible manual based on common sense.

The Board deregulated several areas, including personnel, amateurism, recruiting, eligibility and awards, benefits and expenses, and created a set of commitments that will serve as the foundation for all future rules changes. The legislation eliminates some rules (such as prohibitions on texting recruits and regulations of printed recruiting materials) and adds others (schools can pay for medical expenses and cannot scout opponents in person).

The Board delayed a decision on one of the most controversial pieces in the Rules Working Group package – the creation of a uniform start date for recruiting in all sports. The presidents asked the working group to expedite its study of the issue and come back with a solution as soon as possible. Any rule adopted through the new process will be reviewed after two years.

The Board also adopted a new women’s basketball recruiting model, recommended by the Leadership Council and created by a working group that included representation from the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association and its members. The new model includes changes in rules governing communication with prospects, off-campus contacts, official visits, on-campus evaluations and the creation of a summer academic access model.

Finally, the presidents appointed eight new members to the Committee on Infractions, part of the expansion of that group. The new members begin their terms August 1 and will bring the total number of members to 18. The goal is to reach 24. The new members are

- Sankar Suryanarayan, university counsel at Princeton University
- Michael Adams, president of the University of Georgia
- Carol Cartwright, former president at Bowling Green State University
- Joel Maturi, former athletics director at the University of Minnesota
- Lloyd Carr, former head football coach at the University of Michigan
- Bobby Cremins, former head men’s basketball coach at the College of Charleston and Georgia Tech University
- Norman Bay, director of enforcement, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and former law faculty at the University of New Mexico
- Thomas Hill, senior vice president for student affairs at Iowa State University

In other Convention-related news, the Legislative Council considered a package of proposals proposed by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and decided to place the legislation in the 2013-14 legislative cycle. The package would require designated team physicians, coach sport safety training, certification for strength coaches and catastrophic-injury reporting. The package is intended to provide a foundation for appropriate healthcare oversight and critical prevention and response to catastrophic health and safety issues and sudden death related to athletics participation.

Also, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee elected University of Oregon track and field student-athlete Sarah Andrews and St. Peter’s University baseball student-athlete Adam Purcilly as vice chairs for 2013. Either Andrews or Purcilly will serve as chair in 2014. Maddie Salamone, lacrosse student-athlete at Duke University, replaced former Colorado State University football student-athlete Eugene Daniels as chair.

Jennifer Fraser
Director of Academics and Membership Affairs, NCAA
jfraser@ncaa.org
Clearly the "Pathway to Graduation" initiative represented the most talked about topic in Division II. Many of the delegates stressed the desire to have a thorough vetting of the NCAA-articulated principles of this program before any implementation should be considered.

Health and safety was another significant issue being discussed in large and small groups, with particular focus on the need for stringent concussion legislation.

The 2013 NCAA Convention emphasized the unique strengths of Division II – education and balance - and, further, the engaged nature of all of the presidents, directors of athletics, senior women administrators and faculty athletics representatives in attendance was truly gratifying.

John Mayer
FARA Division II Vice President
California State University, Stanislaus
jmayer@csustan.edu

There were 13 Division III legislation proposals voted upon at the 2013 NCAA Convention; all 13 were adopted. While this might appear to suggest a lack of controversy regarding the legislation, two proposals passed by a relatively narrow margin. One new piece of legislation that received substantial discussion, and a close vote (254-200-15), was Proposal 4: Sickle Cell Trait Status. This legislation requires the provision of education regarding sickle cell trait for all student-athletes. Additionally, incoming student-athletes (i.e., freshmen and transfers) must confirm their status starting in the 2013-14 academic year, and all student-athletes must confirm their status by the 2014-15 academic year. Student-athletes can waive confirmation of their sickle cell status; individuals not confirming their sickle cell status must have additional mandatory education. Institutions not already requiring confirmation of student-athletes’ sickle cell status will be working over the next several months to develop plans to ensure institutional compliance, including determining who will pay the cost of sickle cell status testing for student-athletes who do not already have confirmation of their sickle cell status, where testing will occur, and how the mandatory education for student-athletes will be implemented.

Another contested piece of legislation was Proposal 9: Recruiting - Electronic Transmissions -- All Forms of Private Electronic Correspondence Permitted. With the adoption of this proposal (246-227-4), electronically transmitted correspondence (including e-mail, instant messaging, text messages and private communications through social networking sites) can be sent to prospective student-athletes in the context of recruiting. This change is immediate.

The other new legislation includes:

- Proposal 1: The composition of the Presidents Council is increased from 15 to 18 members.
- Proposal 2: Once an institution begins the process of reclassifying to Division II, it can no longer participate in Division III championships and receive Division III grant funding.
- Proposal 3: Conferences may provide postgraduate scholarships to one male student-athlete and one female student-athlete who have excelled academically, in athletics, and in the community.
- Proposal 5: During the five-day acclimatization period in football, student-athletes must be provided with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between all sessions.
- Proposal 6: The first ice hockey contest against outside competition cannot occur before November 1 (or the previous Friday if November 1 is on a Saturday or Sunday).
- Proposal 7: An institutional coaching staff member may coach a student-athlete who has qualified for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) National Small College Championships even if this activity occurs outside of the declared playing season.
- Proposal 8: Handshields are permitted for use during the spring football strength and conditioning season.
- Proposal 9: A four-year college transfer student from a Division III institution must satisfy a transfer exception or sit a year in residence, if the transfer student participated in the sport (i.e., even practiced) at a Division III school.
- Proposal 10: A Division III student-athlete who participates in athletics while engaging in a study abroad program will not be considered to have used a season of participation and will also not trigger outside competition or transfer legislation.
- Proposal 11: Incoming student-athletes who have paid a deposit at their intended undergraduate institution are permitted to participate in institutional fundraisers prior to their enrollment in classes.
- Proposal 13: Before initial full-time college enrollment, an individual may accept payment based on his/her team’s performance in an athletic competition, provided that the payment does not exceed the individual's actual and necessary expenses.
WHAT'S AT OUR CORE? AN INVESTIGATION OF DIVISION I LEGISLATION

In a project funded by the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, Professor Josephine (Jo) Potuto, University of Nebraska faculty athletics representative, Dr. Connie Dillon, former faculty athletics representative at the University of Oklahoma, and I carried out an investigation of institutional voting patterns on NCAA Division I legislative proposals over a seven-year period from 2004 through 2010. This period included four years of Management Council governance and the latter three governed by the Legislative Council. Professor Potuto and Dr. Dillon, with the help of a University of Oklahoma research assistant for former student-athletes, Ms. Sherraine Pencil, assembled and reviewed all legislative proposals from the period in question. In total, over 1,000 legislative proposals were evaluated in the context of NCAA core values: the amateur, collegiate model; student-athlete well-being, and academic standards. Nearly 600 of these proposals were reviewed in detail as to their relevance to the core values, and, of these, 345 proposals were coded for analysis. Additionally, each proposal was evaluated as to its financial impact.

Professor Potuto, Dr. Dillon and Ms. Pencil deserve credit for plowing through this immense collection of legislation and performing the evaluation and coding. My responsibility was to merge the database with the institutional voting records and carry out a statistical study based on analysis of variance techniques. The purpose of the analysis was to determine how the voting records aligned with the core values and cost factors. The voting records of 340 Division I institutions were classified by conference and subdivision (FBS, FCS and No Football), and FBS was further broken down by BCS and non-BCS.

What did we learn? The details of our project are available from the Knight Commission in a 168-page report. These are a few of the highlights:

- It is not apparent that the core values of student-athlete well-being and academic standards significantly affected Division I voting patterns one way or the other.
  - The economic impact of proposals was significant in determining voting outcomes, except for the FBS/BCS conferences during the earlier Management Council era.
  - It is apparent that, for proposals with little-to-no economic impact, those which advance student-athlete well-being or academic standards are supported with greater voting majorities than other proposals.
  - There were not enough proposals relevant to the amateur, collegiate model to warrant statistical analysis.

Additionally, we made the following observations:

- There was a lack of rigor and consistency in the NCAA legislative process during the period studied.
- FCS and No Football subdivisions do not have distinguishing voting patterns.
- BCS and non-BCS FBS conferences are significantly different in their voting patterns.

As the NCAA moves forward toward a revised governance structure in Division I, the conclusions from our study should serve as one source of guidance.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS FROM THE 2012 NCAA STUDY ON COLLEGIATE WAGERING

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of faculty athletics representatives across all three NCAA divisions, data on gambling behaviors and attitudes were obtained for nearly 24,000 student-athletes during the spring of 2012. As we begin to compare the study results to those from similar 2004 and 2008 studies, several key findings are emerging.

First, while student-athletes in aggregate are engaging less frequently in many gambling behaviors, such as playing cards for money, 26% of males and 5% of females wagered on sports last year in violation of NCAA bylaws. Sports betting remains highest among Division III males (32% betting in past year) and lowest in Division I (19% of males, 3% of females). Rates of sports wagering (and gambling generally) are especially high among men's golfers in all three divisions. Just under half of men's golfers have bet on sports in the past year and one out of five reports wagering on outside sporting events at least once per month. Across all of the gambling activities studied, men’s golfers participate at rates two to three times higher than other male student-athletes. Golfers also are more much more likely to bet on teams at their school and have access to bookmakers.
Second, there is evidence that gambling has become more normative among the current cohort of student-athletes. The typical member of the 2012 cohort had their first gambling experience earlier than what was typical in the 2008 cohort (e.g., one-third of current male student-athletes first gambled prior to high school). More than half of current student-athletes view sports wagering as a harmless pastime.

Third, we have noted a decrease in the proportion of student-athletes across division who report even being aware of the NCAA’s prohibition on sports wagering. Follow-up questions about how to effectively influence student-athletes not to wager on sports clearly point to the need for a larger role for teammates and coaches in this process.

Fourth, the gambling landscape is undergoing radical technological transformation. Student-athletes are much more likely than they were even four years ago to use a mobile device to place bets with the local bookmaker or the international off-shore bookmaker. They participate in simulated gambling via social media sites and video game consoles. Sports wagers are made that involve not just win-loss or point spread, but live in-game interaction with bookmakers. Outside gambling influences continue to use social media to probe student-athletes for inside information.

A full report comparing results from the 2004, 2008 and 2012 studies is underway.

Thomas S. Paskus  
Principal Research Scientist, NCAA  
tpaskus@ncaa.org

Registration is now open for the 2013 Regional Rules Seminars which will be held May 21-24 in Denver and June 4-7 in Indianapolis. Please visit www.ncaa.org and click on the “Resources” tab to obtain further information regarding the Seminars. There will be FARA programming at each of the Seminars. Stay tuned for more information regarding those sessions.

NCAA Regional Rules Seminar  
NCAA Regional Rules Seminar  
FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium  
NCAA Convention  
NCAA Regional Rules Seminar  
NCAA Regional Rules Seminar  
NCAA Convention  
NCAA Convention

May 21-24, 2013  
June 4-7, 2013  
November 7-9, 2013  
January 15-18, 2014  
May 20-23, 2014  
June 3-6, 2014  
January 14-17, 2015  
January 13-16, 2016  
Denver  
Indianapolis  
Baltimore  
San Diego  
Atlanta  
San Diego  
Washington, D.C.  
San Antonio