FROM THE EDITOR

I want to thank all of you who came to the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium in Indianapolis November 7-10. You helped to make it one of the very best meetings we have had, especially in terms of the dialogue we had with the NCAA staff, with members of Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics and the N4A, with student-athletes from the divisional SAACs, and most of all, among ourselves. Our attendance was high, and a number of you expressed to members of the FARA executive committee the extent to which this meeting was very helpful to you. So, once again, thank you for your attendance and participation. For those of you who could not attend, please make a note on your calendar for November 7-9, 2013 to reserve that time for the meeting in Baltimore, so that you may join those of us who were at this year’s meeting.

We want to extend a word of thanks to David Clough, who for the past year did an excellent job as president of FARA. He saw to it that a number of initiatives were carried forward, and he was very active in keeping FARA in dialogue with a number of the constituencies with which we as FARs work, including the NCAA staff and NCAA President Mark Emmert, student-athletes at the three national SAACs, COIA, the N4A, and others. David has also especially encouraged interactiveness between FARs in all three divisions, valuing the help each division can provide to the other divisions. He has also worked diligently to promote the FAR Institutes that are offered in all three divisions. Thanks, David, for a job well done. The first piece in this issue of FARA Voice contains David’s observations and suggestions after serving for a year as president of FARA.

The next piece is from Scott Benson, the new president of FARA. Scott has worked closely with David during this past year, playing a key role in a number of initiatives, and he was in charge of the overall process for planning our annual meeting in Indianapolis. Let’s extend to Scott a warm word of thanks for all that he did. Just to highlight two items in Scott’s letter, I note that he encourages all FARs to be in contact with Scott, as president, and with other members of the FARA executive committee as we all continue to work to make our roles as FARs more effective, and he also encourages us all to be actively involved as FARs on our campuses and in our conferences, and in the various levels of NCAA governance in each our divisions. We welcome Scott as our new president, and support him as he leads FARA in its ongoing efforts to promote the success and well-being of our student-athletes.

The next piece is by Michael Miranda from NCAA’s research staff, a key liaison from the NCAA to FARA. Mike describes the various Education Sessions being sponsored by FARA at this coming January’s NCAA Convention...
in Grapevine, Texas. As Mike describes in detail, the first session explores the use of marijuana among student-athletes, focusing on social norms and legal trends, which have become especially interesting in light of the recent legalization of simple marijuana possession by two states, and the growing social acceptance of the use of marijuana. The second session deals with understanding and treating sports-related concussions, as well as the medical and legal issues that are involved. The final session will deal with the use of offensive language by student-athletes and the way in which this sportsmanship issue affects the competitive environment.

Our last piece is a letter by David Clough and Scott Benson who, as the outgoing and incoming presidents of FARA, have worked in tandem to prepare a letter from FARA to NCAA President Mark Emmert, encouraging him to include FARs among the members on the working group designed to address institutional integrity within the context of the NCAA. Scott has written a brief note setting the stage for the letter, placing it in the broader context of the important role FARs can play in the current reform movements within the NCAA.

I wish for all of you a very merry and rewarding holiday season. And to Karen Cooper, who works closely with me and is of enormous help in producing FARA Voice, I wish a joyful first Christmas as a Grandma.

See all of you in Grapevine, Texas.

Alan J. Hauser
FAR, Appalachian State University
Editor, FARA Voice

A View from A FAR

PAST PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE – WE LIVE IN INTERESTING TIMES

At the recent FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium, I passed the gavel to Scott Benson of Idaho State University as the incoming FARA president. I look forward to continued work with Scott and the FARA Executive Committee during the coming year.

Since I became Colorado's FAR in 2005, FARA has played an important role in my development and effectiveness in the FAR role. The information and programs provided by FARA have been more than helpful, and, most importantly, the connections I have made with fellow FARs across the country are invaluable.

A commitment I made in joining FARA's Executive Committee four years ago was to work to make FARA more relevant to Division I FARs. I had heard too frequently from colleague FARs that they did not find FARA's programming compelling enough to encourage attendance at the Annual Meeting & Symposium. With the help of other members of the FARA Executive Committee, I believe we have succeeded in improving FARA's programming and service to Division I FARs, and, in particular, FBS FARs. I know this is not yet recognized by a number of my colleagues but trust that they will realize this in due time.

An important byproduct of my service to FARA has been to get to know FARs from Division II and III and appreciate the common interests that we all have in our FAR roles. These commonalities are all too often not recognized by many Division I FARs. We share much in our concern for the well-being of student-athletes.
Matters having to do with compliance and institutional control may occupy more of a Division I FAR's day, but we all have much to learn from each other and to provide mutual support.

An important contribution of FARA to professional development of FARs in recent years has been the development and implementation of the FAR institutes in all three divisions. I shared in this effort for the Division I Institute which is entering its third year. Division II was the pioneer in developing their leadership and subsequent advanced leadership institutes. A recent effort of the Division II advanced institute has been to develop a model of the Division II FAR. For several years, I have seen such a model as useful and needed for Division I FARs. In my upcoming year as past president, I intend to work in collaboration with others to develop such a model.

During my 38-year faculty career, the FAR role has emerged from infancy, and, in the most recent decade, has developed into a significant, integral member of the institution's athletics team. The many issues surrounding intercollegiate athletics are on the increase in this era, and the FAR's role during these interesting times has great potential. It is essential that FARs step up and participate in resolving these issues, providing the faculty input that is so important.

I wish you all the best in the coming year.

David E. Clough  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
Past President, FARA

INCOMING PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

I am stepping in to fill some big shoes of my predecessors. First, let me thank David Clough for the great job he did. Those of us in Division I are well familiar with Dave, as we have seen in the past several years that there is no problem that could not be solved by an Excel spreadsheet. His Nuts and Bolts sessions were always popular. For the past year he has shared his leadership expertise at the helm of FARA, and has done an outstanding job. I hope FARs from all divisions give him the thanks and kudos he has earned.

I was happy to see so many of you in Indianapolis a few weeks ago. I thought the meetings went very well. I am happy to receive your feedback and comments about the sessions at the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium. I look forward to seeing you again in Baltimore November 7 – 9, 2013. I hope our attendance in Baltimore equals or exceeds our participation in Indianapolis. It is not too soon to start making plans to attend FAMS in Baltimore, and securing appropriate funding. I want to thank the staff of the NCAA who gave so much of their time to see that our meetings were informative. I believe we all learned something that will help in our role as FAR on our campus and in our conference.

I believe a mantra for the next year should be: if it isn’t broken, don’t fix it. I will work diligently to ensure that FARA continues to be the official voice of faculty on issues related to intercollegiate athletics. To that end, I ask that you communicate with members of the FARA executive committee or me directly regarding issues that
arise in your neck of the woods. Issues that FARA should address originating at your institution or in your conference can only be known if you let us know what is going on.

Even though we are all stretched in many different ways, with our academic responsibilities, research agendas, and service commitments, I believe our role as FAR is very important. As the NCAA seeks ways to ensure integrity of the enterprise, the faculty voice is needed now more than ever. Please help by speaking up when needed on your campus and within your conference, filling vacancies on cabinets and councils and other NCAA committees, and taking a leadership role in FARA. I am happy to discuss any of these topics, and more, with you. Please remember that all three Divisions sponsor a Divisional Institute which will greatly accelerate your advancement as FAR. Consider having yourself, or some FAR from your conference, nominated to participate in the institute at the next available opportunity.

I hope, on behalf of your student athletes, that your institution participates in the student survey this year.

Have a happy end of the semester and enjoy the holidays. I hope our paths cross at the NCAA Convention in Grapevine in January.

Scott Benson
FARA President
Idaho State University

FARA SPONSORED PROGRAMS AT THE NCAA CONVENTION

As in past years, FARA will sponsor three Education Sessions at the 2013 NCAA Convention. In providing these sessions the FARA executive committee has two aims. First, to help identify and explore important issues that we all face as members of the Association. Second, to illustrate to all constituent groups that FARs can help to provide insight and understanding of these often complex issues and thus are a valuable asset to the our campuses and to the Association.

The first of these sessions will be presented on Wednesday, January 16 from 3 to 4 p.m. “Social Norms and Legal Trends: Marijuana Use Among Student-Athletes” will explore the shifting social perception of marijuana use and how that may influence the NCAA and campuses in dealing with marijuana use among students. With two states legalizing simple possession and several more offering medical marijuana exceptions, athletics staff are facing a possible change in the social acceptability of marijuana use. This, in turn, could lead to a re-examination of the basis for restrictions on and sanctions for marijuana use. Conversely, it may be that current restrictions are well-grounded in concern for student-athlete well-being and need not be reconsidered, regardless of the legal and social environment. Discussing these issues will be Dr. David Clough, Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering and FAR at the University of Colorado; Dr. Jennifer Buckman, Assistant Research Professor at the Center of Alcohol Studies, Rutgers University; and Dr. Andrea Zevenbergen, Professor of Psychology and FAR at SUNY-Fredonia.

The second session sponsored by FARA is “Advances in Understanding and Treating Sport-Related Concussion” which will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, January 17. Sport induced concussions are a tremendously important issue on every college campus and the long term effects of these concussions is only recently being recognized. A distinguished panel of researchers will discuss recent findings and discuss the NCAA’s response to this critical issue. The panel will consist of Dr. Frank Webbe, Professor of Psychology and FAR at Florida Institute of Technology (where he also serves as their director of FIT athletics concussion management...
Finally, FARA will be sponsoring “Foul Language and Sportsmanship: Dealing with Student-Athletes Offensive Speech” which is scheduled for Thursday, January 17 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. This session will deal with the social constructs surrounding speech and the role that administrators, coaches, and others play in creating an appropriate competitive environment. Addressing these issues will be Dr. Timothy Jay, Professor of Psychology and FAR at the Massachusetts College for the Liberal Arts and Alan Patterson, Commissioner of Conference Carolinas and former chair of the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct. We will also have the student-athlete perspective represented on the panel.

The Association-Wide Educational Sessions are one of the few opportunities that administrators from across all divisions can gather to address topics that are of import to us all. The FARA executive committee hopes that you will be able to join us for these interesting and enlightening sessions.

Michael Miranda
Associate Director of Research, NCAA
NCAA Liaison to FARA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarly Colloquium</td>
<td>January 15-16, 2013</td>
<td>Grapevine</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCAA Convention</td>
<td>January 16-19, 2013</td>
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<td>NCAA Regional Rules Seminar</td>
<td>May 21-24, 2013</td>
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<td>NCAA Regional Rules Seminar</td>
<td>June 4-7, 2013</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
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<td>FAR Annual Meeting and Symposium</td>
<td>November 7-9, 2013</td>
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<td>NCAA Convention</td>
<td>January 15-18, 2014</td>
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<td>NCAA Regional Rules Seminar</td>
<td>June 3-6, 2014</td>
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<td>NCAA Convention</td>
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LETTER TO PRESIDENT EMMERT

The reform movement, primarily focused on Division I, continues to proceed at a pace too slow for some but too rapid for others. We believe FARs are very supportive of efforts to ensure that participants in intercollegiate athletics are students first. Issues of integrity are a focus of both the rules working group and the enforcement working group. NCAA President Mark Emmert is seeking to better define the meaning of institutional control of athletics programs. Our letter to President Emmert, which follows, is a statement that FARs in all divisions are ready and able to help move this discussion forward.

www.farawebsite.org
November 21, 2012

President Mark Emmert
National Collegiate Athletic Association
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Dear President Emmert:

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) is aware of your intent to form a working group to address institutional integrity in the context of the NCAA. We find this to be an important and timely matter and applaud your action.

We are writing you on behalf of the Executive Committee and the some 1,100 faculty athletics representatives from Association member institutions across all divisions to affirm that FARs and FARA represent a significant resource to assist in this effort. As you well know, FARs, given their typical long tenure at their institutions, often significantly longer than athletics personnel and campus leadership, are heavily invested in their institution’s integrity. Our institutional loyalty runs deep; however, given our faculty character and perspective, this is not the blind loyalty that we have observed amongst some institutional supporters. As such, we believe FAR participation in this effort to be of value, even essential.

As the FARA Executive Committee represents leadership across the broad base of the entire Association, we recommend that you ensure our involvement in the effort regarding institutional integrity. We stand ready to contribute.

Respectfully,

Scott Benson
President, FARA

David Clough
Past President, FARA

cc: FARA Executive Committee
## 2012-13 FARA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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<tr>
<th>OFFICE</th>
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The FARA executive committee would like to wish all of you a very safe and joyful holiday season. We look forward to seeing everyone in Grapevine in January!