

2011 DIVISION II YEARBOOK





NCAA Convention * January 11-14, 2012 * Indianapolis, Indiana



DII Positioning Statement

Life in the Balance

Higher education has lasting importance on an individual's future success. For this reason, the emphasis for the student-athlete experience in Division II is a comprehensive program of learning and development in a personal setting. The Division II approach provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, learning in high-level athletic competition and development of positive societal attitudes in service to community. The balance and integration of these different areas of learning opportunity provide Division II student-athletes a path to graduation while cultivating a variety of skills and knowledge for life ahead.



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WHY WE ARE PROUD



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Our student-athletes have received the NCAA's highest individual honors including winning the Walter Byers Scholarship Award (the NCAA's top student-athlete) and the NCAA Woman of the Year Award.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We have initiated national community partnerships with the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Habitat for Humanity.

UNIQUE FISCAL MODEL

We offer a unique fiscal model for intercollegiate athletics that redefine the institutional value for sponsoring sports and offering athletics scholarships.

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

We encourage innovative policy and program decisions unique to the NCAA, such as the development of Division II National Championship Festivals and a national community engagement program.

Greetings from Presidents and Management Council

On behalf of the 15 members of the NCAA Division II Presidents Council and the 26 representatives on the NCAA Division II Management Council, we would like to welcome you to the 2012 NCAA Convention. Whether you are a student-athlete, president, faculty representative or an athletics administrator, your presence and participation in our annual Convention is much appreciated. Our membership is composed of people who care, first and foremost, about our students' success.

This annual Division II yearbook provides the membership with a look back on the past 12 months and a look forward at the critical issues facing our division in 2012. As you will see, we are making great strides towards our strategic initiatives. With all the good work that has been done, perhaps our most important task at the moment is to continue to emphasize the value of the Division II collegiate model. We offer a sustainable financial approach for athletics that benefits both the institutions that sponsor Division II sports and the individuals who participate in them.

Division II campuses offer an intersection where athletically gifted students can compete at a high level, while maintaining much of the traditional student experience. Excellent outcomes, such as these, come from athletics programs that are properly aligned with the educational mission of the institution. We are proud to say that this balance is what distinguishes Division II and that this philosophy is at the heart of all decisions made by the Division II Presidents and Management Councils.

Thank you for attending this year's NCAA Convention, and we look forward to seeing you again next year in January, when we will meet in Grapevine, Texas.



*Drew Bogner, Presidents Council Chair
President, Molloy College*



*Rick Cole, Management Council Chair
Director of Athletics, Dowling College*



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In choosing a keynote speaker for the 2012 NCAA Convention, Division II reached for the stars.

By Dave Pickle

Sandra Magnus, a NASA astronaut and former student-athlete at Missouri S&T, will address the Division II general session, which will take place from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13. Magnus will speak later that day at the Division II chancellors and presidents lunch.



Magnus was selected as an astronaut in 1996 and has logged three trips into space. The first, on Mission STS-112 aboard the shuttle Atlantis in 2002, lasted for almost 11 days. The second, on Mission STS-126 aboard Endeavour, took her to the International Space Station, where she spent 4.5 months in 2008-09. Finally, again aboard Atlantis, Magnus returned to the ISS in July 2011 to deliver supplies, logistics and spare parts, among other things. STS-135 was the 135th and final mission of NASA's space-shuttle program and lasted almost 13 days.

In addition to her spaceflight, Magnus has served at NASA headquarters in Washington, D.C., working with the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate. Also, in May 1998, she was assigned as a "Russian Crusader," which involved traveling to Russia in support of hardware testing and operational products development.

Her experience also has included survival training and a 2006 undersea expedition.

At Missouri S&T (known as Missouri-Rolla during Magnus' time there), Magnus majored in physics as an undergraduate. She also earned a master's in electrical engineering from Missouri S&T.

She was a standout member of the soccer team, where she was recognized as a top defender. Magnus won four letters and guided the Miners to a 31-27-2 record during the program's first four years. Magnus, who was inducted into the Missouri S&T Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003, anchored a defense that allowed a little more than a goal a game during her first four years, including just 14 during the 1983 season when Missouri S&T posted a 10-5 record.

After leaving Missouri S&T, Magnus worked for five years for McDonnell Douglas Aircraft as a stealth engineer, focusing on internal research and development studying the effectiveness of radar signature reduction techniques. She also was assigned to the Navy's A-12 attack aircraft program, working on the propulsion system.

She earned her doctorate at Georgia Tech in 1996, completing her thesis work on investigations on materials of interest for Scandate thermionic cathodes. While there, she earned the outstanding graduate teaching award in 1994 and 1996.

In addition to several team, teaching and alumni awards, Magnus has been recognized with the NASA Space Flight Medal (2002, 2009) and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal (2009).

NCAA Division II 2012 Strategic Priorities

The fall of 2011 marked the five-year anniversary of the creation and initial implementation of the NCAA Division II strategic positioning platform. Since the release of the strategic positioning platform, the division has created tools and resources for the membership, including initiatives centered on community engagement and game environment. An interactive website at diinetwork.org provides the membership an opportunity to share and learn about the successes of these initiatives at the local level. Further, within the last year, the division has launched a website geared specifically toward Division II student-athletes--D2SA.org. This interactive website includes videos, pictures, a blog and a poll. In addition to the website, the division launched a Facebook page.

Division II priorities have centered on enhancing the student-athlete experience and aligning the division's governance operations with its strategic objectives. For example, the division has developed a strategic plan with specific goals and priorities that relate to the overall strategic positioning platform. In addition, the division also passed landmark legislation that amended Bylaw 17 playing and practice season regulations by shortening seasons, reducing contests and creating a winter break that has provided "Life in the Balance" for student-athletes, coaches and athletics administrators.

Further, at the 2012 NCAA Convention, the membership will consider two significant packages of proposals centered on the strategic growth of the division and easing the burden on coaches, administrators and compliance personnel by amending several key recruiting regulations, including telephone calls, contacts and electronic communications (e.g., email, text messaging).

The 2012-15 strategic plan will be released to the Division II membership at the 2012 NCAA Convention. The plan includes five strategic goals and funding initiatives: 1) Academics and Life Skills; 2) Athletics Operations and Compliance; 3) Game Day and Conference and National Championships; 4) Membership and Positioning Initiatives; and 5) Diversity and Inclusion. These goals and funding initiatives will be at the forefront for the division during the next several years, as we strive to continue with our focus on "Life in the Balance" in Division II. To help accomplish these goals, the division will emphasize three overarching strategies in 2012:

1. ***Promote the success of our student-athletes--in the classroom, on the playing field and in the community--by striking a balance among athletics competition, academic excellence and social growth as we prepare student-athletes for lifelong success.***
2. ***Emphasize Division II not only as a membership destination, but also as a division that offers exceptional value to its members—a division where schools, in a fiscally responsible way, can offer highly skilled student-athletes a place to compete for championships and enjoy a balanced collegiate experience.***
3. ***Continue to live the 'collegiate model' philosophy in Division II--those who participate in college sports are students and intercollegiate athletics is embedded in the values and mission of higher education.***



Overarching Strategy No. 1: Promote the success of our student-athletes.

1. Championships Review of Selection Criteria. The Championships Committee has been charged with reviewing selection criteria to determine methods that would encourage schools to schedule in-region, nonconference competition and to discourage schools from scheduling contests that will not aid the sports committees in the selection of teams for the national championships. The committee will be asked to look at an incentive plan and/or a penalty structure to encourage cross competition among conferences. The committee will reach out to various constituent groups for feedback and thoughts, including the Division II Athletics Directors Association and the Division II Conference Commissioners Association.

2. Academic Standards Review. With the continued collection of APC (Academic Performance Census) data, the Academic Requirements Committee (ARC) is conducting a thorough review of initial-eligibility, progress-toward-degree and transfer legislation and requirements. The division is able to use the APC data to ensure the standards for eligibility are consistent with the academic performance and academic expectations of Division II student-athletes. ARC will conduct its review over the next 18 months and will host several education sessions at the 2013 NCAA Convention, including a special meeting of Division II presidents and chancellors. It is expected that a set of legislative proposals will be before the Division II membership at the 2014 NCAA Convention.

3. Championships Festival. The division will conduct its third spring championships festival (sixth overall) May 14-19 in Louisville, Kentucky, featuring the sports of men's and women's golf, women's lacrosse, softball and men's and women's tennis. Further, the winning bid for the 2013 Festival will be determined. Continuing the success of the festivals for the student-athletes will be a top priority.

Overarching Strategy No. 2: Emphasize Division II as a division that offers exceptional value to its membership.

1. Strategic Communications and Use of Technology. Recently, the division launched a model document that emphasizes the need to develop and build purposeful and strategic communications. Building on the release of the model strategic communications document, the division will work to coordinate Division II communication tools and initiatives with overall NCAA strategies, including the presence of Division II messages and interactive communication tools (e.g., websites, social media) on ncaa.com and ncaa.org.

2. Ease of Burden Review. With the passage of the first set of legislative proposals in the 'ease of burden' package, Division II committees will continue to look for procedures and various ways to try to alleviate more of the compliance and financial burdens that current regulations place on NCAA Division II intercollegiate athletics. The main goals of the initiative are: (1) to ease the burden of compliance; (2) to assist Division II administrators and coaches with better time management; and (3) to identify potential cost savings for better allocation of resources. The division will continue to work with various constituent groups on the creation of legislative concepts and policy changes.

3. Diversity Initiatives. In collaboration with the Division II Diversity Project Team, the NCAA Inclusion Office and other appropriate committees, the division will work to implement the initiatives and strategies recommended from the NCAA Inclusion Summit and the Division II Minority Coaches Summit. Additionally, emphasis will be placed on the diversity and inclusion area of the Division II conference grant program to ensure conferences and institutions are moving forward in implementing a culture of inclusion in the division. Finally, the division will work to coordinate a summit in 2012 focused

on the representation of female coaches in Division II.

4. Measuring the Success of Division II Initiatives. The Planning and Finance Committee, working with the appropriate Division II committees and associations, will make certain the strategic plan goals and priorities, and the related initiatives to support those goals and priorities, are accurately measured to ensure implementation and success of the initiatives. Additionally, the committee will continue to emphasize the importance of measurable standards as part of the conference grant program, including the importance of providing a detailed rationale statement for the conference's ranking of each strategic positioning outcome area. The division will continue to use its strategic plan scorecards to reflect the measurements of success for the initiatives in the division.

Overarching Strategy No. 3: Continue to live the 'collegiate model' philosophy in Division II.

1. Coaches' Education. The coaches' certification exam has been an initiative to ensure the education of coaches on the recruiting rules and regulations. However, in light of the changing landscape in intercollegiate athletics, are there other appropriate means to educate coaches not only on the rules and regulations, but to provide knowledge and understanding on the key initiatives in the division, including community engagement, game environment and the division's positioning platform. The division will focus on developing coach-specific tools and resources to aid in the greater utilization of the current divisional tools and resources.

2. Enforcement Process. This review will concentrate on where the division should focus its efforts in the enforcement process and the penalty structure to determine what is important to the integrity of Division II intercollegiate athletics. Discussions will begin at the division-specific chancellors and presidents program at the 2012 Convention, and feedback will be sought from various constituent groups. The review may result in policy and/or legislative changes.

3. SCORE Data. SCORE is a longitudinal study designed to collect data on former college student-athletes. The topics explored in SCORE are related to the impact of the respondent's educational experiences and athletics participation on his or her current life. For the 2011 survey, the division over-sampled the number of former Division II student-athletes, and additional questions were asked about the Division II-specific experience. The division will use the data collected in the 2011 survey to determine the accuracy of the strategic positioning platform and whether the Division II experience has aided student-athletes in their post-graduation achievement.



I chose
Division II

Make-A-Wish family thankful for DII efforts

Publish date: July 28, 2011

By Bill Steadman

For NCAA.org

You don't often get a chance to say "thank you" while providing a little education at the same time. The Steadman family got that opportunity last Saturday when we met with 25 Division II student-athletes from across the country and spoke with them about our experience with Make-A-Wish.

It was a special day for us and, hopefully, for the athletes as well.



Bill Steadman (front row, left) and daughters Emily and Sara joined the DII SAAC last week to thank them in person for their Make-A-Wish efforts.

First, we are truly grateful for what thousands of Division II student-athletes have accomplished for Make-A-Wish. We know they are busy in so many ways, and for them to make time to participate speaks to the values of Division II. To those who have contributed to this effort, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Beyond being grateful, I want to relay to all Division II student-athletes why I hope they stick with the program.

Our daughter Emily was born eight years ago with mitochondrial disorder. It's a cellular dysfunction that can impact every system in the body. It's a progressive disorder that can severely compromise the life of the afflicted individual.

In the course of working with Emily's physicians, we found out that individuals diagnosed with this disorder were eligi-

ble to have a Wish granted. In a time when we received difficult news, the Wish was something positive to look forward to and imagine the possibilities for Emily.

We made the decision to pursue Emily's Wish in 2010, and I would like to describe to you a little bit about our trip and what that experience meant for our family.

Emily has always liked to go fast, be it on a roller coaster or riding a bike, so we thought that a snow-skiing Wish might be a good one. We sent in the request to talk to Make-A-Wish, and they sent a team to our home to discuss the possibilities and gather all of Emily's needs for the trip. The Make-A-Wish Team then did some research and discovered that Winter Park Resort in Colorado was home to the National Center for Disabled Athletes and among the world leaders in accommodating disabled individuals.

After much time and effort on the behalf of the Make-A-Wish Team, Emily's Wish was granted. The granting of a Wish can be a massive undertaking when you consider all of the things that have to be accounted for. Wheelchairs, medications, living accommodations and transportation were just a few of the many hurdles that needed to be overcome for Emily. In many ways, those obstructions are often what prevent families in our circumstance from being able to get away in the first place. One of the things we appreciated most about Make-A-Wish is that they addressed all of those concerns and required very little of our time to do so.

The morning we left for our trip, we were greeted by a big limo, which was exciting not only for Emily but also for our other daughter, Sara. When we arrived in Winter Park, there was a big sign that said "Welcome Emily and Sara!" There were gifts and gift baskets for the entire family, including Sara. Sib-

lings of children with special needs face many unique challenges, and many times those challenges can unintentionally be overlooked. The way the Wish included Sara was one of the best parts of the experience. This was about our family, not just Emily.

It was bitter cold the first day, which was the day Emily went skiing. They had a “sit ski” arrangement, which was a lot of fun since Emily got to go fast.

Next was a hot-air balloon ride, followed the next day by the highlight of the trip: the dog-sled ride. For 90 minutes straight, my wife Beth rode with Emily while I rode with Sara through the forest in the Rockies. Later that afternoon more speed came along with an adventure to a tubing hill! The girls loved it – and so did we! Then came a snow-cat ride, where we were able to tour the mountain on an adapted version of the snow-grooming equipment.

Those are just a few of the many activities and experiences we had in Colorado. You can imagine what a great time we had.

So, what did this mean to us?

The red-carpet treatment was great, and making the girls – both of them – feel special was even greater. The time afforded to us to just relax, enjoy each other’s company and have fun is something that we will treasure forever and most certainly never forget. This could not have been made possible without the hard work and planning of many people, both at Winter Park and Make-A-Wish. I don’t know if Beth and I could have managed planning a trip of this magnitude without the assistance from Make-A-Wish, so, in that sense, this was as much a Wish-come-true for Beth and me as it was for Emily.

Unfortunately, there are many other families out there who have stories similar to ours. Their afflicted children have the same hopes and dreams as Emily and certainly deserve to have those dreams realized. I hope every one of them gets it.

Efforts like those of the Division II athletes are what make those dreams come true. To the Division II student-athletes, I say this: You’re doing a great thing by helping Make-A-Wish. Thank you again for all that you are doing to help make wishes for many other families come true.

Over the course of its seven-year relationship with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has overseen efforts to raise almost \$2,000,000 to assist young people with life-threatening health conditions. At the Division II SAAC-Management Council Summit, the student-athletes heard first-hand from the Bill Steadman family, which benefited over the last winter from their efforts.

Missouri Southern staff aided community in disaster’s wake

By David Pickle

NCAA.org

A May 22 tornado destroyed much of Joplin, Mo., but Missouri Southern State Athletics Director Jared Bruggeman said it also built something: a stronger sense of community.

Compared to the rest of Joplin, Missouri Southern’s athletics program was spared. Student-athletes had already left for the summer, and only one person affiliated with the program was seriously injured. A few suffered serious property loss, including football assistant coaches Kevin Almlie, Matt Barrett, Gary Bass, Atiba Bradley and Tom Howe; former faculty athletics representative Richard Miller; Shaun Buck, a part-time sports information official; and former Athletics Director Sallie Beard. The staff was able to parlay its relative good fortune into helping their neighbors in the time of their greatest need.

The tornado struck at 5:41 p.m. Missouri Southern’s athletics facility had just finished hosting graduation ceremonies for Joplin High, a case of extreme good fortune since Joplin High itself was wiped out by the tornado. Because of the graduation ceremonies, several athletics staff members were working at

the athletics facility when the storm struck.

The tornado started on the southwest side of Joplin and worked its way toward Missouri Southern's campus, which is on the northeast corner of the community. It skirted just south of the school but virtually obliterated the adjoining town of Duquesne.

Almost immediately, it became clear that Missouri Southern's athletics facility would become a primary shelter for those who had been displaced.

"That night, we couldn't communicate by phone, so we checked on our staff that evening by texting," Bruggeman said. "In that process, all of our staff showed up who were able to. They helped us set up for the Red Cross shelter, and they were here to the wee hours of the morning and they were here the next day."

Athletics staff members quickly found other ways to help. "They organized themselves into crews to go out and help people in the community," Bruggeman said. "Maybe a friend of ours had her house damaged – like Sallie Beard's house. They went over to Sallie's house and helped tarp up and clean up the yard and do what they could for her." They did that kind of work for the rest of the week.

Meanwhile, back at the school, the facility and athletic training staffs worked 12-hour shifts to make the shelter as accommodating as possible and to protect victims from further harm, such as when head athletic trainer Darin Moore got the displaced victims below ground two days later when another tornado warning sounded.

The entire experience was as traumatic as can be imagined, but some of those involved can look back and reflect positively on how they were supported.

"I haven't been able to get much work out of the office because they're writing so many thank you letters," said football coach Bart Tatum of assistance that was provided to his staff. "It's just been very, very gratifying."

"If you were to ask anybody in town," Bruggeman said, "there's a greater appreciation for day-to-day, and suddenly life doesn't seem that bad all the time knowing there other people out there who are struggling."

The school also received a notable boost from its conference. "The MIAA presidents agreed to donate \$10,000 to Missouri Southern for the school to use as the president deems appropriate," said Commissioner Bob Boerigter. "They may use it to help the coaches or the staff – whatever they feel is appropriate. There are no strings attached."



Missouri Southern State's Leggett & Platt Athletic Center was converted to a shelter.

DII communicators engage in engagement

By David Pickle
NCAA.org

An audience composed mostly of athletics communicators became full partners Thursday in Division II's community-engagement initiative. The occasion was the fourth Division II Community-Engagement Workshop, and for this workshop, the emphasis was on communication. The workshop coincided with ongoing efforts within Division II to encourage sports information professionals to emphasize story-telling, in addition to traditional responsibilities such as statistics and game accounts.

"Are you just the stats person or are you the person telling the Division II story?" Rich Herman, sports information director at Clarion and president of D-2 SIDA, asked the attendees at the beginning of the day.

Some of the nine-hour session was spent reinforcing the purpose of Division II's community-engagement initiative – mainly to have Division II athletics programs act as a conduit between the institutions and the communities in which they are located.

Rich Luker, the consultant who had the original vision for community engagement, lamented that the distinction between “service” and “engagement” still hasn't been made clear. “Service,” though valuable, is more akin to work, he said; “engagement” suggests large elements of kindness and fun.

That concept was reinforced by former Chaminade President Kent Keith, who drew parallels between community engagement and servant leadership.

Keith, now the CEO of the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership, said Division II's efforts with community engagement are “good for the student, good for the university, good for the community and, ultimately, good for the nation.”



Like Luker, Keith drew a sharp distinction between community service and servant leadership. “If you clean a park,” he said, “that's community service. If your student-athletes clean a park and maybe write a paper about it, that's service learning. But if they make an effort to find out what the community needs by talking to people and then fixing the park to meet their needs, that's servant leadership.”

CoSIDA Executive Director John Humenik attended the event and came away impressed. “It was enjoyable to be exposed to

different groups,” he said. “It wasn't all about the conference and the school. It was all about the division and what's good about Division II. That's so refreshing.”

For his part, Herman said the workshop represented a huge opportunity for communication professionals. “As strategic communicators, we were a partner in this seminar,” he said. “I feel like Division II's leadership has had a vision about where it wants to go and now we're a part of that. I know we'll form a good team.”

Model communications document now available for DII membership

By David Pickle
NCAA.org

As Division II athletics programs begin communicating this fall, they will be operating from the same playbook.

A model strategic-communications document – developed collaboratively by Division II SIDA (communications officers), the Division II Athletics Directors Association, the Division II Conference Commissioners Association and the national office staff – defines seven principles that should guide communications for any Division II athletics program. It also describes the staffing and resources that are necessary to support those principles.

It was approved at the August meeting of the Division II Presidents Council and is structured after documents that describe model athletics programs and model conference offices.

“We are at a time when the needs of Division II are perfectly in sync with the needs of athletics communicators,” said Division II Vice President Mike Racy. “We need communicators who are dedicated to telling the full story of what it means to be a Division II student-athlete. At the same time, communications

directors have a need to be redefined as fully integrated members of athletics staffs.”

Rich Herman, sports information director at Clarion, said the development of the document signals a new beginning for Division II athletics communications.

“Progress is being made in all aspects of our profession,” Herman said. “I sense there’s an excitement that it is a new day and that new things are happening. What’s happened occurred through a partnership at the top levels of Division II, and people in athletics communication now know that if someone has a positive suggestion, it can be heard, discussed and maybe acted on.”

The seven guiding principles are:

- Commitment to the Division II strategic-positioning platform.
- Collaboration with campus units.
- Development and maintenance of an effective website.
- Unique branding and messaging.
- Execution of effective statistical, photographic and video services.
- Information sharing with other institutions/conference offices.
- Celebration of successes.

“The idea is that any program that implements a plan addressing those seven areas will communicate effectively,” Racy said.

“We all know the role of the sports information staff has changed dramatically over the last several years,” said Saint Leo Athletics Director Fran Reidy, who represented the Division II ADA in the development of the paper. “This document helps clarify the roles and importance of the athletic communications office on each campus while allowing each institution flexibility in its organizational structure to achieve its overall communication strategies.”

John Humenik, executive director of the College Sports Information Directors of America, said the model should play an important role in creating a culture of collaborative communication, as opposed to the previous model of information-sharing that relied heavily on management of statistics and media guides.

“There’s this drum that’s beating within Division II that collaborative communication is where things are going,” Humenik said, adding that athletics communicators should see the opportunity before them. He encouraged candid conversation with athletics directors to redefine expectations based on resources and needs.

“The athletics communications director might say that means that I can’t do X, Y and Z like I used to be able to do,” Humenik said, “and then the AD might say, ‘Hey, I understand that and I’ll explain that to the coaching staff and the rest of the administrative staff, that we’re on a different page now and headed in a different direction with what our expectations are of this office from the university and athletics department perspective.’”

Racy emphasized that the staffing and resources sections are intended only to describe personnel and resources that have been applied at successful Division II athletics communications offices. The document does not mandate any financial or personnel commitments.

Though the document contains no requirements, Herman said the division benefits from a greater understanding of what’s needed to get the job done.

“We needed to make sure that people understand that we need more staffing to accomplish the things we want to accomplish,” he said. “Now we have a tool that better explains the type of staffing that could be utilized at different institutions if they so desire.”

Herman emphasized that the document does not necessarily call for increased spending. Instead, it encourages the reallocation of resources where possible.

The development of the model strategic-communications document was highly iterative, as was the

case with the model athletics department and model conference office documents. There were at least seven versions, including one developed after the Presidents Council asked for a revise after its April meeting.

However, Herman said it's all for the good. "When I go back and look at the staffing areas and other areas that were rewritten after the presidents asked us to take another look at it, it's a much better document now than it was then."

Steve Murray, commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and the CCA representative on the project, said the partnership behind the work may serve Division II almost as well as the document itself. "Perhaps the greatest benefit of this process has been the increased and improved communication among the leadership of the division, the D2ADA, DII CCA and DII SIDA," he said.

Humenik echoed the sentiment while also praising the role that communicators played in initiating the dialogue. "The drumbeat had to start from us," he said. "The message is loud and clear out there, and we understand it. We're going to do what we have to do at our end to help the athletics and university communities view our role in a strategic context. Communicators need to embrace this need and joint desire."

DII kicks off new mentoring program

By David Pickle
NCAA.org

An important initiative to develop the next generation of Division II athletics directors began in earnest this July.

A group of 20 mentors and mentees (10 of each) from the new Division II/DII Athletic Directors Association Mentor Program gathered at the NCAA national office to begin a year-long program designed to put promising minority and women athletics administrators on track for careers as Division II athletics directors.

"This is a great opportunity to build relationships with experienced professionals," said Brandi Laurita, senior woman administrator at Findlay and one of the mentees. "They can help me get to where I want to be."

Laurita is paired with mentor Greg Bamberger, Kutztown athletics director, who said he also values the experience. "It's great to be able to share your knowledge and experience like this," he said. "This is something that happened for me in the past, so I'm happy I can give something back to the profession."

The program Tuesday included a set of roundtable discussions, a review of web-based resources and a presentation from NCAA Executive Vice President Bernard Franklin. The mentors and mentees also heard from a panel of experts about becoming athletics directors.

New Haven Athletics Director Debbie Chin, one of the panelists, encouraged the mentees to read as much as possible.

"Know as much as you can about many things and get yourself informed," she said.

She also encouraged the mentees to be aware of how they build their management styles.

"Know it, develop it and feel comfortable with it," Chin said. "Don't adopt someone else's style."

Cal State Chico Athletics Director Anita Barker told the group that while a life-work balance is important, that balance can mean different things for different people.

"I firmly believe that my work is a lifestyle commitment, and I'm OK with that," she said. Though that may mean working long and odd hours and enduring difficult moments in the public spotlight, she said she gains satisfaction from concurrently managing her career and being a mother.

Indianapolis AD Sue Willey encouraged the mentees to get comfortable with addressing conflict constructively.

"I've seen administrators who just don't deal with it," Willey said. "But up front, you should try to be specific about expectations, even with something like language. This is higher education, and if you can't communicate in a better way than using foul language, then you need to find another line of work."

In short, the day was filled with insights and networking opportunities. The mentors and mentees were encouraged to check in with one another twice a month and, if geography and finances allow, to meet face-to-face on campus. The entire group will be able to participate in once-a-month webinars (except for December). Attendance at January's NCAA Convention in Indianapolis is encouraged, and the program will wind up next June at the annual convention of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics in Dallas.

2011-12 mentor-mentee pairings	
Mentee	Mentor
Laura Clayton, West Georgia	Sue Willey, Indianapolis
Linda Cimino, Caldwell	Fran Reidy, Saint Leo
Debbie DeJong, Dowling	Dennis Helsel, Chowan
Shantey Hill, C.W. Post	Denisha Hendricks, Kentucky St.
Kristene Kelly, Saint Augustine's College	Larry Marfise, Tampa
Brandi Laurita, Findlay	Greg Bamberger, Kutztown
Meredith Long, Chowan	Tom Shirley, Philadelphia U.
Kimberly Miller, Shaw	Scott Weigandt, Bellarmine
Sandee Mott, Metro State	Jared Mosley, Abilene Christian
Tracee Passeggi, Cal Poly Pomona	Joan McDermott, Metro State

Please note this program will not appear in the "Our Programs" section of the Division II Yearbook. For more information about this program please contact Jill Willson, NCAA DII Contractor, at jwillson@ncaa.org

Our Stories -- Our Network -- Our Division

NCAA Division II Network <i>I chose</i> Division II	NCAA Division II Community Engagement <i>I chose</i> Division II	NCAA Division II Game Environment <i>I chose</i> Division II	A Student-Athlete Resource <i>I chose</i> Division II

DIIcommunity.org

National winners named for Division II scholar athlete awards

Shannon Gagne of the University of New Haven (Northeast-10) and Ian Wild of Mercyhurst College (PSAC) have been named the top female and male Division II Scholar-Athletes of the Year by the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (DII CCA).

In August, 16 regional scholar-athlete award winners were selected by the DII CCA. Gagne and Wild were named from this field of eight men's regional winners and eight women's regional winners.

In the twelve-year history of this award, Gagne gives the Northeast-10 its first national award winner while Wild is the PSAC's second winner since Jamie Wolf in 2006.

"We are all very proud of the quality student-athletes that Division II institutions produce annually," says Butch Raymond, commissioner of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference and president of the DII CCA. "The balance of academics and athletics is the hallmark of Division II and all of our award winners exemplify the best of both worlds."



Shannon Gagne

Gagne, a track and field student-athlete, was the three-time East Region Athlete of the Year (2009, 2010, 2011) as well as the Northeast-10 Scholar-Athlete Excellence Award recipient in 2011. She is a 16-time Northeast-10 Conference Champion as well as a 4-time NE-10 Conference Championship MVP. She holds conference records for the 55m dash, 100m dash, 200m dash, 400m dash and Long Jump. The Meriden, CT native was on the Northeast-10 Conference Commissioners' Honor Roll every semester eligible and was a member of the NE-10 Conference All-Academic Team 2009-10 and 2010-11. The Criminal Justice major was on the Dean's List every semester and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a 3.9 GPA.

Wild was an integral part of both the PSAC Champion football team and the National Champion men's lacrosse team. In football, Wild started all 13 games on defense finishing third on the team in tackles (79), forced a team-high three fumbles and had the sixth-best tackles for loss mark with five (-21 yards). In lacrosse, Wild helped Mercyhurst win its first ever national championship in men's lacrosse. He was fifth on the team in scoring (20 points) and claimed the Outstanding Player Award in the championship game. The Pittsburgh, PA native, a Business major with a 3.9 GPA, was the NCAA men's lacrosse recipient of the Elite 88 Award as well as the 2010 CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America First Team member among other honors.



Ian Wild

Women's regional winners along with Gagne were:

Neely Spence – Shippensburg - Cross Country/Track & Field – Human Communications (3.87)

Kate Griewisch – Lenoir-Rhyne – Cross Country/Track & Field – Biology (3.81)

Barbi Pocza – Barry University – Women's Tennis – Finance (3.71)

Lindsay Lettow – University of Central Missouri – Track & Field – Psychology (3.73)

Samantha Murphy – Grand Canyon – Basketball – Pre-Physical Therapy (3.97)

Rebecca Anderson – U of Minnesota Duluth – Soccer – Biochemistry/Molecular Biology (3.93)

Monica Kinney – Grand Valley State – Track & Field – Nursing (3.78)

Joining Wild as men's regional winners were:

Vladimir Milosavljevic – Dowling College – Soccer – Accounting and Finance (4.0)

Carter Capps – Mount Olive – Baseball – Environmental Science (3.46)

Daniel Stapff – Barry University – Golf – Finance (3.917)

Kirk Jewasko – Incarnate Word – Baseball – Business Administration (3.83)

Kyle Ciliento – Grand Canyon – Soccer – Business Administration (3.98)

Matt Braithwaite – Augustana – Cross Country/Track & Field – Biology (4.0)

Matthew Laschuk – Wayne State University – Swimming – Chemistry/ Pre-Med (3.99)

DII recognizes 10 schools for positive game environments

By David Pickle

NCAA.org

Ten Division II member schools have been recognized as Game Environment Award of Excellence winners for 2010-11.

Each winner will be provided with a \$500 award. In addition, a national winner will be recognized at the 2012 NCAA Convention in Indianapolis.

The Game Environment Award of Excellence recognizes athletics programs that have displayed a special commitment to creating competition environments that stress civility, cater to the comfort of fans and participants, and are exciting.

The 2010-11 winners are:

- Chowan, for a “Pink Zone” women’s basketball game against Lincoln (Pa.) to highlight breast-cancer awareness.
- Concordia-St. Paul, for coordinating the school’s efforts with Make-A-Wish with the homecoming football game.
- Drury, for its “Fanthers” program that provided means for positive student support at Panther athletics events.
- Grand Canyon, for building fan excitement before its nationally televised game against Brigham Young-Hawaii.
- Holy Family, for its volleyball-based “Dig for a Cure” night to promote breast-cancer awareness.
- New Haven, for its Harmony Classic. The school used the game against the Lincoln (Pa.), a historically black institution, as the centerpiece of a weekend celebrating racial diversity and harmony.
- Mount Olive, for its annual “Church Night.” Fans from local churches gained admission to the basketball doubleheader against Lees-McRae for \$1 and then participated in various game-related events, some of which raised money for Make-A-Wish.
- Saint Leo, for its ROARwards Club program that offers community incentives for attending Saint Leo athletics events.
- South Carolina Aiken, for its part in developing a “mascot summit” to keep perspective about the basketball rivalry with nearby Augusta State.
- Texas A&M-Kingsville, for events surrounding its annual fan and community appreciate day.

DII women of the year finalists

The NCAA’s Woman of the Year Award, now in its 21st year, honors female student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in academic achievement, athletic excellence, community service and leadership.

Congratulations to Hewenfei Elwen Li, Kelsey Ward and Victoria Hansen, who were among the nine finalists.



Hewenfei Elwen Li
Brigham Young University, Hawaii



Kelsey Ward
Drury University



Victoria Hansen
West Liberty University

Fairmont State puts best foot forward to win community engagement award

By David Pickle
NCAA.org



Fairmont State football crowd

A program that built community enthusiasm around a nationally televised Fairmont State football game was announced Thursday as the 2010-11 winner of the Division II Community-Engagement Award of Excellence.

Fairmont State Athletics Director Rusty Elliott accepted the honor during the 2011 Division II Community-Engagement Workshop in Indianapolis.

"You'd be surprised," Elliott told about 100 workshop attendees. "Once you get them on your campus, people say, 'Hey, you're not that bad!'"

Actually, the fans discovered that the Falcons were much more than "not bad." The team put up a fight against highly ranked West Liberty State before losing, 43-23, and fans also discovered that the Falcons were exceptional neighbors.

The engagement was called "Put Your Best Fairmont Forward." The nomination description said, "We wanted to show the nation that we are all about pride, community support and civic responsibility."

Using the "Ideas that Work" section of the Division II website, organizers settled on a "Read and Feed" program in which fans attending the game would donate books and canned goods. Student-athletes themselves distributed the proceeds to the community at a later date. The Fairmont State SAAC executed that section of the engagement.

A larger goal was to elevate awareness about Fairmont itself. "We wanted to emphasize that it was not just about Fairmont State," said the nomination statement, "it was also about the city of Fairmont – it was our chance for the country to peek in and see our community."

To increase attendance, the Fairmont State players went door to door throughout the community, visiting residences and businesses and asking citizens to attend the game.

To keep the event top-of-mind, with the help of Main Street Fairmont, the SAAC and Fairmont's student government asked groups to decorate scare-

2011 Community Engagement Conference Winners

The Community Engagement Award of Excellence recognizes Division II institutions that successfully "build bridges" with the communities in which they are located. The commitment to help member institutions build stronger civic relationships is a central part of the Division II philosophy.

- Arkansas Tech (Gulf South Conference): Project Feed Arkansas.
- Chowan (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference): Girls and Women in Sports Day.
- Colorado Christian (Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference): Extreme Community Makeover.
- Cal San Diego (California Collegiate Athletic Association): UCSD Blood Drive.
- East Coast Conference: Fitness Challenge.
- Fairmont State University (West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference): Put Your Best Fairmont Forward.
- Franklin Pierce (Northeast-10 Conference): Community Halloween.
- Holy Family (Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference): Build a Library.
- Limestone (Conference Carolinas): Playground build.
- Newman (Heartland Conference): Division II Game of the Week.
- Nova Southeastern (Sunshine State Conference): Miracle League Program.
- Pittsburg State (Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association): Ladies Night at the Pitt.
- Saginaw Valley State (Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference): GLIAC Pink Wave.
- Shippensburg (Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference): MentorSHIP Program – Kids Night Out.
- Southwest Minnesota State (Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference): SMSU Family Day/Smokefest.
- Texas A&M-Kingsville (Lone Star Conference): Living the Dream Relay.
- Wingate (South Atlantic Conference): Union County Special Olympics.

crows that represented themselves (for example, a scarecrow dressed like a Falcon swimmer, another dressed in an apron to represent the culinary department, and so on). The scarecrows were placed throughout town, giving Fairmont State a visual presence in heavily trafficked areas in the weeks leading up to the game.

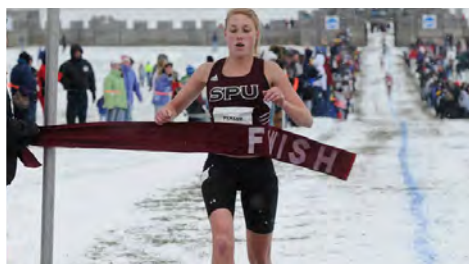
Finally, the planning allowed other entities to coordinate their events with the athletics department's. For example, the Fairmont State Alumni Association hosted a social and student government arranged for a band to play at a pregame tailgate party for students. Also, intramurals hosted pregame games and contests.

In addition to all of the social and familiarization benefits, the effort yielded one especially practical outcome: Attendance for the game was more than 5,000 – or more than double the attendance for a typical Fairmont State game.

“It was a rainy day, but people still showed up,” said Division II community-engagement consultant Rich Luker, who helped judge entries from across the country. “They wanted to see the guy who knocked on the door.”

Elliott said to expect more of the same in the future. “Years from now,” he said, “if people see an elephant at one of our games, I don’t want them to be surprised because we want it to be a circus.”

Pixler selected as Walter Byers Scholarship recipient



**Jessica Pixler, Seattle Pacific
Track and Cross Country**

The NCAA has selected Seattle Pacific runner Jessica Pixler as one of the two recipients of the 2011 Walter Byers Postgraduate Scholarships. Pixler will receive a renewable award of \$24,000.

The Byers Scholarships were established in 1988 and recognize the contributions of former NCAA Executive Director Walter Byers. Recipients must have a grade-point average of at least 3.5, demonstrate evidence of superior character and leadership, and show that participation in athletics has been a positive influence on their personal and intellectual development.

Pixler is currently pursuing her master's of English at Colorado. She plans to acquire a doctorate in English and teach at either

the college or high school level.

Pixler, a track and cross country student-athlete, graduated with a 3.93 GPA. She advises current student-athletes to reach out to others for the support they need to be successful.

“Don’t be afraid to seek out help,” she said.

Pixler, who has battled injury in her athletics career, said the experience has taught her perseverance.

Resume: NCAA Today’s Top VIII selection; NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship recipient; NCAA Woman of the Year nominee; three-time USTFCCCA Academic All-American; three-time CoSIDA Academic All-American; CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year; Junior Pan American Games 1,500-meter champion; won a combined 12 NCAA Division II championships in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track.



Median Total Expenses by Quartile (Source: 2009-10 EADA Report)

	With Football	Without Football
1st Quartile of Schools	\$7,755,000	\$6,611,000
2nd Quartile of Schools	\$5,364,000	\$3,926,000
3rd Quartile of Schools	\$4,260,000	\$2,950,000
4th Quartile of Schools	\$2,714,000	\$2,065,000
Total Average of Quartiles	\$4,839,000	\$3,449,000

Annual Totals for the Division II Make-A-Wish® Campaign

2003-04	\$45,757
2004-05	\$80,658
2005-06	\$116,950
2006-07	\$208,022
2007-08	\$316,958
2008-09	\$359,187
2009-10	\$407,683
2010-11	<u>\$405,752</u>
Total	\$1,940,967

Membership Facts

Total Members—310
 Candidacy Yr. One—10; Candidacy Yr. Two—8;
 Provisional—8; Active—284

Composition—Active Institutions
 Public Institutions—(51%)
 Private Institutions—(49%)

Undergraduate Enrollment
 Men—521,438 (44%); Women—671,692 (56%)

Student-Athletes
 Men—60,999 (59%); Women—41,592 (41%)

Participation in Division II Championships
 Men—50%; Women—50%

Scholarship Equivalencies per Division II Institution
(Source: 2009-10 EADA Report)

	Men	Women
Highest Institutional Total	177	145.6
Average	39.7	30.6

**NCAA Division II Sponsored
Championships**
(Source: 2010-11 Division II
Championships Program)

	Sports	Participants
Men	12	6,184
Women	13	6,241

**Number of Sports Sponsored
Per Institution
(Source:2010-11 Participation Report)**

	Men	Women
Low	4	5
High	13	13
Average	6.9	7.8

Undergraduate Enrollment
(Source: 2011 NCAA Membership Database)

Enrollment	Division II Schools	Percent
15,000 & Above	5	1.7
7,500-14,999	35	12.1
2,500-7,499	122	42.1
2,499 & Below	128	44.1

Average Enrollment: 4,114

**Average Number of Student-Athletes Per Division II Institution
(Source: 2010-11 Participation Report)**

	With Football	Without Football
Avg. Men	255	129
Avg. Women	148	120
Avg. Total	403	249
Smallest	165	88
Largest	913	653

DIVISION II ATTRIBUTES

Learning: multiple opportunities to broaden knowledge and skills

Service: positive societal attitude through contributions to community

Passion: enthusiastic dedication and desire in effort

Sportsmanship: respect for fairness, courtesy; ethical conduct toward others

Resourcefulness: versatile skill set drawn from broad range of experiences

Balance: emphasis on collective knowledge; integration of skills

DIVISION II FACTS & FIGURES

TALKING POINTS

- Traditional rivalries with regional institutions dominate schedules of many Division II athletics programs.
- Division II teams usually feature a number of local or in-state student-athletes.
- Many Division II coaches perform other jobs or functions at their institutions, including teaching.
- Many Division II student-athletes pay for school through a combination of scholarship money, grants, student loans and employment earnings.
- Division II athletics programs are fully integrated into the institution's operations and budget, like other academic departments on campus.
- The Division II membership is focused on an "academics first" philosophy and the division's commitment to academic excellence supports the primary mission for NCAA schools: *We are preparing student-athletes to go pro in something other than sports.*
- Division II student-athletes consistently graduate at a higher rate than the overall student body at Division II schools. This past year, Division II student-athletes on average graduated at a 6 percent higher rate than the total student population at Division II schools.
- Division II has a diverse membership, with two active member institutions in Alaska and four in Hawaii; it is the only division that has member institutions in Puerto Rico. In addition, the Division II Membership Committee has recently welcomed the first Canadian institution, Simon Fraser University, into the membership process.
- A regionalization philosophy is used to select teams for Division II national championships brackets from four, six or eight geographic regions of the country. This emphasis on being the best team in your geographic area helps schools prioritize scheduling of regional opponents, limit missed class time and manage travel expenses.
- Division II athletics events are affordable, fans are in close proximity to the action and the environment is "fan friendly."

REASONS TO BELIEVE IN DIVISION II

1. Graduation Rates.
2. Athletics Scholarships.
3. Championships Opportunities.
4. Community Partnerships.
5. Proud Alumni and Fans.

"FIRSTS"

- Division II initiated the sports festival concept in the NCAA with a spring festival in May 2004, conducted its second sports festival in the fall of 2006 in Pensacola, Florida, and its third and fourth festivals in the spring of 2008 and winter of 2009 in Houston, Texas. Louisville, Kentucky, hosted the most recent edition in Fall 2010 and will host the Spring 2012 Festival. Division II is currently the only division conducting these Olympic-type events where multiple sports gather in the same city to determine national champions.
- The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee initiated a fundraising campaign with the Make-A-Wish® Foundation and is currently finishing its eighth year in partnership with the program. In 2010-11, Division II student-athletes raised \$405,752 for the Make-A-Wish® project, bringing the total raised to almost \$2,000,000.
- Division II distributed more than \$1,000,000 in diversity grants to institutions and conferences in 2010-11 to help hire full-time athletics administrators and coaches.
- Division II has partnered with the CBS College Sports Network to create a unique relationship to bring Division II regular season football, basketball, and volleyball games to national television and broadband audiences.



DIVISION II

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Presidents Council

Long Range Budget Plan



Drew Bogner

After 18 months of prioritizing, analysis and discussion, Division II has a new long-range budgetary plan.

At its spring meeting in Indianapolis, the Division II Presidents Council approved a plan that provides the division with financial structure through 2023-24 when the NCAA's media rights agreement with Turner and CBS will expire.

The extended budget provides for annual financial growth for Division II championships and other prominent programs while also allowing for the addition of up to 75 new member institutions over the 14-year period.

Council vice chair Pat O'Brien, president of West Texas A&M University and chair of the Long-Range Projections Task Force that developed the plan, highlighted several principles that guided the long-term budget:

- It is consistent with Division II's strategic plan and strategic-positioning platform.
- Championships are the highest priority, with the necessary funding provided for institutions and student-athletes to compete.

Presidents Council Members

Judith Bense, University of West Florida

Drew Bogner, Molloy College

Mickey Brunim, Bowie State University

Javier Cevallos, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

James Gaudino, Central Washington University

Tom Haas, Grand Valley State University

Dianne Harrison, Californian State University, Monterey Bay

Carolyn Mahoney, Lincoln University (Missouri)

Ernest McNealey, Stillman College

Nancy Moody, Tusculum College

Patrick O'Brien, West Texas A&M

Judith Ramaley, Winona State University

David Rankin, Southern Arkansas University

Michael Scales, Nyack College

- Current active member benefits are preserved.
- Membership growth is accounted for.
- Sufficient reserves are provided.

Division II is entitled to 4.37 percent of NCAA revenue, as described in Constitution 4.01.2.1. The new media rights agreement (the NCAA's primary source of revenue) will expand by about 3 percent annually, meaning that Division II's annual allocation will grow from \$32.9 million this year to \$43.7 million in 2023-24.

The long-range budgeting exercise would have been relatively simple if the number of member conferences and institutions stayed constant over the period. However, the Long-Range Projections Task Force determined that the Division II membership values growth, especially in regions where current membership is sparse.

Because the 3 percent annual increase in revenue would not be enough to accommodate significant additional membership over time without compromising benefits for existing members, the Long-Range Projections Task Force freed additional resources by reducing the built-in surplus for championships by \$1 million annually then indexing a 2 percent annual increase off the reduced number (proposed championships expenses actually dip in 2011-12, but only because the built-in surplus will be reduced). The plan also relied on the purchase of business-interruption insurance to reduce the amount of reserve needed in case a loss of NCAA revenue affected Division II.

Those approaches, along with the annual expansion of overall revenue, enabled the long-range budget not only to provide for the 2 percent annual growth in championships funding but also for a 2 percent annual expansion of the Division II Enhancement Fund and the conference grant program. In addition, the long-range budget accommodates valued Division II programs such as championships and regular-season telecasts, the Division II National Championships Festival, year-round drug testing, and matching grants to aid professional development for women and minorities.

Council chair Drew Bogner, president of Molloy College, said the outcome was the result of hard work and the inclusion of interested constituents throughout the Division II membership.

“It was very collegial,” Bogner said. “Early on, there were some conversations about perhaps some shifting of some priorities, minor conversations, but clearly it was more of an educational process. Once people understood what we meant and how we did things, we came to a conclusion that those priorities made sense.”

The management of membership growth – the other part of Division II’s long-range planning effort – was examined Wednesday during a joint meeting of the Presidents Council, presidential chairs of Division II conferences and Division II conference commissioners.

The group, about 60 people in all, considered legislative concepts developed by the Division II Membership Committee and considered at the April meeting of the Management Council. Most of the concepts were accepted without discussion, but the talk did reveal concerns over whether a collection of prospective member institutions should be able to enter concurrently as a new conference (the approach on the table requires separate processes, which some regarded as a creating a chicken-and-egg problem). Some participants also thought a proposed five-year waiting period for automatic qualification for new conferences would be punitive for student-athletes in those conferences.

“I thought there were a lot of very, very good questions that were asked,” O’Brien said. “Some of the questions dealt with clarifications, the way the language was written. Some individuals were not clear as to active membership requirements for institutions or conferences and they just wanted a better understanding. I think it really served a good educational purpose.”

Most members seemed satisfied with the explanations they received, especially the one about automatic qualification, which includes a recommendation to maintain at least 50 percent of the fields for at-large selections. Ironically, concern had been expressed at the Management Council meeting earlier in the month that the five-year waiting period for AQ was not long enough. Bogner acknowledged that the discussion was occasionally difficult, although he said much of the challenge came from the conversation being based on possible legislation.

“Part of what I felt we were struggling as a group

to talk about various scenarios that you knew could play out,” he said. “People were testing Scenario A, Scenario B, Scenario C, and some of those scenarios were clearly not hypothetical but ones that they suspected could be happening now or might happen.”

Still, Bogner said the inclusive aspect of the discussion was good.

“If we truly want to make good decisions, then we have to spend the time to look at it from multiple perspectives and have an open conversation,” he said. “So for me, I thought it was a great meeting and highly beneficial.

“I didn’t walk away feeling that anyone came away from that meeting feeling that their point of view wasn’t heard or that the general sense is a bad thing. I think everybody understands the general way in which we’re moving and wants that to happen. But let’s make sure that we don’t have an unintended consequence of the legislation.”

O’Brien elected as chair of Presidents Council

West Texas A&M President Pat O’Brien has been chosen as the new chair of the Division II Presidents Council.

O’Brien, a member of the Council since 2007, will succeed Molloy President Drew Bogner, who has chaired the Council for the last two years.

During his time on the Council, O’Brien has played a lead role in planning. In particular, he chaired the Long-Range Projections Task Force, which developed an extended budget plan for Division II in the wake of the NCAA’s 2010 media rights agreement with Turner Broadcasting and CBS. In addition to his NCAA service, O’Brien also has chaired the Lone Star Conference Council of Presidents.

O’Brien assumed his position at West Texas A&M in 2006. He immediately initiated a review of the university’s strategic plan and oversaw an academic realignment that, among other things, created a new College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

He came to West Texas A&M from Loyola (Louisiana), where he served as dean of the college of business administration and professor of economics beginning in 1995.

O’Brien started his career in academia as an instructor at Oklahoma State before accepting po-

sitions as an assistant professor of economics at Bowling Green State (1974-77) and then at the Alaska Fairbanks.

He remained at Alaska Fairbanks until 1991, leaving his position as professor and head of the department of economics to accept a dean's appointment with the College of Commerce and Business Administration at Jacksonville State (1991-95).

O'Brien is a member of the board of directors for the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors.

This is a collection of stories that can be found on NCAA.org. To access the actual meeting summaries go to www.ncaa.org/dii and click on "Committees and Project Teams."

Management Council

DII Recruiting-contact changes



Rick Cole, Chair

During their summer meeting, the Division II Management Council took its first spin through legislation designed to ease administrative burden – and then upped the ante by proposing to create a common, and much earlier, date at which all off-campus and electronic contact, including telephone calls and text messaging could begin.

The Council took the ambitious step of proposing that the off-campus, in-person recruiting contact date be moved up an entire year, from June 15 before a prospect's senior year to June 15 before the prospect's junior year. The decision to recommend the legislation followed votes to sponsor legislation that would eliminate restrictions on the number of off-campus contacts and that would permit unlimited electronic contact of all sorts beginning June 15 before the prospect's junior year.

It's a potentially bold move designed to help Division II coaches and institutions sell Division II as an option to prospective student-athletes while at the same time eliminating the compliance burden of monitoring the number of telephone calls and distinguishing among various kinds of electronic

communication.

The change to the off-campus contact date was not in a grouping of ease-of-burden recommendations from the Division II Legislation Committee, but Management Council chair Rick Cole, director of athletics at Dowling, said the Council's action made sense.

"We want to do what's right for Division II," Cole said. "The contact date now is so late that many prospects have already made up their minds before our coaches have a chance to talk to them face-to-face. This is a way to create a better introduction to Division II while at the same time eliminating the need for our compliance administrators to track communication after a certain date."

NCAA President Mark Emmert addressed the

Management Council Members

Bob Boerigter, Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletic Association

Clint Bryant, Augusta State University

Brenda Cates, Mount Olive College

Rick Cole Jr., Dowling College

Kris Dunbar, Lake Superior State College

Bob Fortosis, Eckerd College

Barbara Hannum, Hawaii Pacific University

Dan Kenney, University of North Carolina Pembroke

Timothy Ladd, Palm Beach Atlantic University

Leonza Loftin, Fayetteville State University

Ann Martin, Regis University

Wendy Taylor May, University of California, San Diego

Sandra Michael, Holy Family University

Janet Montgomery, University of West Alabama

Jared Mosley, Abilene Christian University

Jim Naumovich, Great Lakes Valley Conference

Frances A. Nee, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Erin O'Connell, Seattle Pacific University

Steve Poston, Wingate University

Will Prewitt, Great American Conference

Butch Raymond, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference

Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference

Bren Stevens, University of Charleston

Kathleen Turner, Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Willie Washington, Benedict College

Brent Wren, University of Alabama in Huntsville

Management Council and was encouraged by the direction of the discussion. Echoing a point that Cole had made earlier in the meeting, Emmert told the Council that the recruitment of student-athletes should be considered in tandem with overall institutional recruitment efforts. In that vein, he said the division needs to determine how it wants to recruit and build requirements from there. Legislating for a minority should not be a consideration if the division is legislating based on an established recruitment philosophy.

The recommendation followed discussions at the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee-Management Council Summit over the weekend. Though no formal votes were taken, the sense was that most of the student-athletes saw texting as a more personal form of communication and favored more restrictions on that medium.

Over the years, however, the Council has experienced the growing challenge of trying to regulate recruiting from a technology perspective. The landscape changes frequently, and legislation is often outdated by the time it is considered, introduced, debated, approved and made effective. Most current high school students use texting rather than phone calls or email, but there's no assurance that texting will be the norm two or three years from now.

As an example of the odd applications of technology, one discussion pertained to how Skype (real-time online video communication) counts now as a telephone call. If a coach can hear and see the recruit in real time, Council members concluded, how does it make sense to permit one date for in-person contact and another for electronic communication and telephone calls?

Also, some coaches whose phones integrate texts and emails have unwittingly violated Division II legislation by responding to a text, thinking it was email. Email correspondence currently is permitted after Sept. 1 of a prospect's junior year; texting is currently not permitted until the prospect has signed an National Letter of Intent or written offer of admission or financial aid.

Council members, along with members of the Legislation Committee, are aware of the potential for coaches to abuse the provision for unlimited communication either electronic or by telephone. They concluded, however, that the rule might be

self-policing since any coach making use of unwanted texts or phone calls would almost certainly alienate prospects. Further, they noted that lower-profile recruits might value contact and information from Division II coaches at an earlier stage of their college decision-making process.

Dan Kenney, a Management Council representative to the Legislation Committee and athletics director at North Carolina-Pembroke, said the Legislation Committee had considered moving up the permissible date for in-person contacts, but only as a down-the-line possibility. He said members would be surprised, probably pleasantly, to hear of the Management Council's action.

The proposal were reviewed and sponsored by the Division II Presidents Council, which met Aug. 11, and will be voted on by the Division II membership at the 2012 Convention in Indianapolis.

In addition to recruiting contacts, the Management Council approved several other legislative concepts to ease administrative burden. They included proposals to:

- Eliminate the requirement that international student-athletes must complete the eligibility form before being able to compete. The proposal also would specify that each student-athlete must complete an NCAA form to certify activities that occur after the prospect requests a final amateurism certification and before enrollment at a Division I or II institution.
- Specify that all government grants for educational purposes be excluded when determining the permissible amount of a full grant-in-aid or the cost of attendance for a student-athlete. The grants would also be excluded in the institutional limitations.
- Specify that a student-athlete may receive financial aid through an established and continuing program to aid students, provided the donor doesn't restrict the choice of institutions and there is no direct correlation between the donor and the student-athlete's institution.

Martin elected DII Management Council chair

Ann Martin, director of athletics at Regis (Colo.), has been elected chair of the Division II Management Council.

She will replace Rick Cole of Dowling, who still

has one year remaining on his Management Council term. The Division II Presidents Council ratified Martin's election at its Oct. 27 meeting.



Ann Martin

Martin has been a member of the Management Council since 2006. Other NCAA experience includes the Division II Legislation Committee (chair), the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.

In 2008, Martin served on the NCAA Division II Strategic Planning Project Team for 2009-2012. She was a facilitator for the Division II Leadership Academy in the 2007-08 and 2008-09 academic years. She also served as a facilitator for the NCAA Student-Athlete Development Conference during the 2009 conference.

She is a NACWAA/HERS West 2005 graduate and serves as a member of the NACWAA Education and Professional Development Committee. NACWAA awarded Martin the initial Judith M. Sweet Commitment Award in 2008. Locally, she serves on the Sportswomen of Colorado Nominating Committee, a position she has held since the fall 2006.

Martin began her tenure as Regis AD in 2010. She has been with the program seven years, previously serving as associate director and assistant director. Previous to becoming AD, Martin oversaw all areas of NCAA compliance, marketing and promotions; had sport oversight; and represented Regis on several Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference committees. She also is senior woman administrator for Regis.

Martin previously served as the assistant commissioner at the RMAC in 2004-05. Before that, Martin was assistant women's basketball coach at Colorado State-Pueblo. Martin, who was at CSU - Pueblo from 2002 through 2004, also served as the student development coordinator, assistant compliance coordinator, SAAC sponsor, an adjunct professor and a challenge course instructor during her time with the Thunderwolves.

Martin earned her bachelor's degree from Rockhurst and her master's degree from Northern Colorado.

This is a collection of stories that can be found on NCAA.org. To access the actual meeting summaries go to www.ncaa.org/dii and click on "Committees and Project Teams."

Academic Requirements Committee

APC Data Discussed

The committee received an update on the third year of APC data. Data continue to indicate that partial qualifiers and nonqualifiers have significantly lower retention and eligibility rates, and first-year grade-point averages when compared to qualifiers. Similarly, two-year college transfers have lower high school grade-point averages, test scores and first-year outcomes than four-year transfers and non-transfers.



Linda Van Drie-Andrzewski

In addition, research staff presented the expected impact of several different models for the use of high school core-course grade-point averages and/or test scores to determine initial eligibility. The data were based on "likely graduates" in the cohort of 2006 fall enrollees – those who have graduated, are still enrolled or left in good academic standing. The data showed that at least four grade-point average/test score models would yield likely graduation rates among qualifiers that are as good as or better than those resulting from the current eligibility standard (for example, 2.000 grade-point average and 820 test score), while enabling more minority student-athletes to be qualifiers.

The committee members agreed that they would like to retain partial qualifier and nonqualifier status in some form.

Academic Requirements Committee Members

Laura Clayton, University of West Georgia
 Kristen Ford, Emporia State University
 Bob Fortosis, Eckerd College
 Denisha L. Hendricks, Kentucky State University
 Katie McGann, University of California, San Diego
 Ernest McNealey, Stillman College
 Jim Naumovich, Great Lakes Valley Conference
 Christopher Phenicie, Limestone College
 Margaret Poitevint, North Georgia College & State University
 Linda Van Drie-Andrzewski, Wilmington University
 Keith R. Vitense, Cameron University

Examination of initial eligibility and transfer requirements

Building off of the committee's discussions during the spring meeting, the committee discussed possible changes to initial eligibility and two-year college transfer requirements during its fall meeting.

The committee agreed that an increase in the two-year college transfer and initial-eligibility requirements is needed and would lead to student-athletes enrolling at Division II institutions to be better prepared to succeed academically. While improving graduation outcomes for student-athletes is the end goal, members of the committee made it clear that access to practice and financial aid and how new regulations will impact "ease of burden" for institutional staff members need to be at the forefront of all discussions.

The committee is currently seeking feedback on the following concepts related to two-year transfers:

- 1) The addition of transferable degree credit in a natural/physical science.
- 2) Establishing a limit on the number of physical education courses that may be used to certify the transferable degree credit of a two-year college transfer.
- 3) Establishing a grade-point average for access to practice and athletically related financial aid and a separate grade-point average for access to practice, athletically related financial aid and competition.

The committee is currently exploring the following options related to initial eligibility:

- 1) Establishing a sliding scale based on grade-point average and test score.
- 2) Establishing a grade-point average only requirement.
- 3) Establishing a conjunctive scale, including a minimum grade-point average and minimum test score for a student-athlete to have access to practice and athletically related financial aid.

This is a summary of the major news coming out of the academic Requirements Committee. To access the actual meeting

Championships Committee

Regional maps redrawn

Regional maps for Division II have been redrawn for 2011-12 and again for 2012-13 to accommodate the new Great American Conference.

For 2011-12, the Great American Conference (composed of institutions in Arkansas and Oklahoma) has been placed in the South Central Region, along with the Lone Star and Heartland Conferences and the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. As a new conference, the Great American Conference will be eligible only for at-large selections in 2011-12.

Effective in 2012-13, the Great American and the MIAA will join the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference in the Central Region, and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference will move to the South Central Region with the Heartland and Lone Star Conferences. By 2013-14, the Great American Conference will be eligible for automatic qualification.

"During our deliberations, we considered three models," said Bill Fusco, former chair of the Championships Committee and athletics director at Sonoma State. "We considered a number of factors in totality rather than as stand-alone items. However, at no time did we consider competitive factors, such as the historical or perceived strength of conferences."

Those factors included:

- Conference membership and location of institutions.
- Number of institutions in each region (to ensure fair access ratios to championships).
- Geographic size of each region.
- Possible future growth of new conferences.
- Maintaining no more than three automatic-qualification conferences per region.



Erin Lind, Chair

- Transition time for institutions to adjust or begin scheduling institutions in their new regions.

Fusco noted that the realignment will be especially helpful in shortening travel distances in the affected regions.

“In these difficult economic times, we’re pleased that these new alignments will actually reduce travel in our two regions in the Midwest,” Fusco said. “We did consider an approach that would have reduced travel even more in those areas, but the model that was accepted did the best job of balancing the number of teams, protecting championship-access ratios and tightening the distance between schools within the regions.”

Division II Management Council chair Rick Cole, athletics director at Dowling, said the process of accommodating the new conference was consistent with previous practice.

“There was ample time for the membership to comment and to offer suggestions and feedback,” Cole said. “Regionalization was discussed at a Convention education session. In short, the approach was similar to the one we have used for the last 5, 10 or 20 years.”

The Championships Committee also added a regionalization principle to clarify that teams in the Atlantic and East Regions will be able to consider games against the University of District of Columbia as in-region contests. District of Columbia will join the East Coast Conference this fall after having been an independent

DII men’s Lacrosse bracket to expand

The Division II men’s lacrosse championship bracket will expand from four to eight teams be-

Championships Committee Members

Bob Boerigter, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association

Robert Dranoff, East Coast Conference

Kris Dunbar, Lake Superior State University

Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference

Claudie J. Mackey, Elizabeth City State University

Francis X. Reidy, Saint Leo University

Rich Sanders, Northwest Nazarene University

David Sharp, Ouachita Baptist University

Patsy Smith, Missouri Western State University

Joel R. Smith, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference

ginning with the 2013 season.

“The expansion provides more opportunities to student-athletes and institutions to compete in the postseason NCAA tournament, which is what they work hard for all season,” said John Jez, Division II Men’s Lacrosse Committee chair and head men’s lacrosse coach at C.W. Post. “Overall, this is a great thing for the sport of lacrosse and all Division II men’s lacrosse student-athletes, and we are confident the new additions will create an exciting environment.”

Sport sponsorship has recently grown by about two institutions per year, and the growth is expected to continue at the grass-roots level. Forty-four Division II schools currently sponsor men’s lacrosse.

DII increases cross country and track & field championship opportunities

NCAA Division II championships in men’s and women’s cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field will have increased student-athlete participation beginning with the 2012-13 academic year.

The number of teams in the cross country championships will increase from 24 to 32 per gender and from 16 to 24 automatic qualifiers per gender for individuals. Overall, the total number of competitors for each gender in cross country will increase from 184 to 248.

The top three teams from each regional meet will automatically advance to the finals, an increase of one team per region. Each region will be allotted one additional team berth for each team finishing in the top eight in the previous year’s national championships, which is consistent with the current procedures for selecting the finalists.

In indoor track and field, the number of student-athletes selected to the championships will increase from 200 to 270 student-athletes per gender. In outdoor track and field, the increase is from 310 to 377 per gender.

The changes were recently approved by the Division II Championships Committee and supported by the Division II Management Council, Presidents Council and Planning and Finance Committee. To finance the increases, \$250,000 will come from the Division II Reserve Fund, and the rest of the support will come from the current budgets for each championship.

Members of the Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee recommended the increase to align access ratios with those of other individual-team sports for Division II.

"We've had a big influx with a lot of National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics schools coming into Division II," said Committee Chair Kim Duyst, who is also the associate athletics director at Cal State Stanislaus. "That has brought in more cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field teams. Our ratios were pretty high compared to the targets you like to have."

The current access ratio for the indoor track and field championships is 1:20 for men and 1:19 for women. When the additions go into place next year, those ratios will drop to approximately 1:15 for men and 1:14 for women.

In the outdoor track and field championships, the current ratio is 1:17 for men and 1:16 for women. The increase in participant numbers result in a ratio of approximately 1:14 for men and 1:13 for women.

Additionally, the 3,000-meter run will be added as a championship event for both genders in the indoor track and field championships.

"It is an international event for indoor meets, and we haven't had it in the past," Duyst said. "To stay in line with other traditional indoor championships, we've decided to add it."

All of the championships will be conducted in the same number of days as they currently are. The cross country meets will finish in one day, the indoor track and field championships will end in two days and the outdoor track and field championships will conclude in three days.

The previous is a collection of stories that can be found on NCAA.org. To access the actual meeting reports go to www.ncaa.org/dii and click on "Committees and Project Teams."

Legislation Committee

Ease of Burden

Over the past year, the Legislation Committee has been focused on alleviating the compliance and financial bur-



Jill McCartney

dens that current regulations place on Division II intercollegiate athletics. With this being no easy task, the committee has worked hard to come up with ideas that will give back time and resources to institutional personnel that can be spent elsewhere, while not simply shifting this burden onto another group. The first group of proposals resulting from the Legislation Committee's work on this topic will be voted on at the 2012 Convention, with additional proposals expected at the 2013 Convention. A more detailed description of the proposals can be found under the Management Council update.

The Legislation Committee is not through with its work related to the "ease of burden" initiative. In the upcoming year, the committee will continue to seek feedback from Division II institutions and conferences about other areas that would benefit from further examination. The group asks individuals providing feedback to consider the three intended goals of this initiative:

- 1) Ease the Compliance burden
- 2) Assist Division II administrators and coaches with better time management
- 3) Identify potential cost savings for better allocation of resources.

The Legislation Committee has created the following email account to encourage additional recommendations and feedback from the membership regarding this initiative:

diieaseofburden@ncaa.org

To access the actual meeting reports go to www.ncaa.org/dii and click on "Committees and Project Teams."

Legislation Committee Members

Curtis Campbell, Stillman College

Sarah Hebbard, Pfeiffer University

Dean Johnson, Caldwell College

Eliane Kebbe, South Atlantic Conference

Dan Kenney, University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Jill McCartney, Washburn University of Topeka

Frances A. Nee, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

S. Jay Newton, University of Southern Indiana

Charles Pinckney, Livingstone College

Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association

Ann M. Traphagen, Augustana College (South Dakota)

Christina Whetsel, Angelo State University

Membership Committee

Five new active members join Division II

Five institutions were granted active Division II membership at the summer meeting of the Division II Membership Committee.

The committee also advanced seven institutions into provisional membership and another eight into Year Two of candidacy. In addition, 10 institutions were accepted into Year One of candidacy.



Sandra Michael

The new Division II active members are:

- California State University-East Bay (California Collegiate Athletic Association)
- Dominican University of California (Pacific West Conference)
- Maryville University of St. Louis (Great Lakes Valley Conference)
- Ohio Dominican University (Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference)
- University of Arkansas, Fort Smith (Heartland Conference)

Provisional members for 2011-12 will be Academy of Art, Cedarville University, Minot State University, Notre Dame College (Ohio), Simon Fraser University, University of Sioux Falls and William

Jewell College.

Institutions advancing to Year Two of candidacy were Black Hills State University, California Baptist University, Lindenwood University, Malone University, McKendree University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Ursuline College, and Walsh University.

The institutions accepted for the first year of candidacy were Azusa Pacific University, Fresno Pacific University, McMurry University, Point Loma Nazarene University, Roberts Wesleyan University, Shorter University, Southern Nazarene University, Trevecca Nazarene University, Union University and Young Harris College.

Strategic membership growth

Working with the Long-Range Projections Task Force, the Membership Committee has put forward a package of three proposals that will be considered at this year's Convention. These proposals are intended to address the effects of anticipated membership growth in the division. In the development of these proposals, the Membership Committee focused on finding ways to ensure the long-term stability and viability of current and new institutions and conferences.

The first proposal centers around the minimum number of active member institutions that must comprise a conference for it to be considered active. The proposal would raise the number of active members to ten, for a conference applying to become an active Division II conference. Current conferences would be given five years to increase their number of active conference members to eight and ten years to fully transition to the new standard of ten members.

The rationale for the proposed changes centers around the fact that conferences with less than 10 institutions often face increased financial challenges and scheduling issues. Making these changes will assist conferences with long-term stability.

The second proposal seeks to maintain stability in Division II by lengthening the period of time a Division II conference must wait before it receives an automatic qualifying bid, allowing ample time for a conference to find new members after an institution departs, and balancing regional post-season opportunities between automatic qualifiers

Membership Committee Members

Barry Blizzard, West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

David R. Brunk, Peach Belt Conference

Deborah Chin, University of New Haven

Dixie Cirillo, Colorado School of Mines

Erin O'Connell, Seattle Pacific University

Daniel B. Mara, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference

Sandra Michael, Holy Family University

Steven Rackley, University of Findlay

Dustin Smith, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith

Brian Swanson, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Sue Willey, University of Indianapolis

and at-large bids.

The third proposal would specify that an institution seeking to move into active membership would need an invitation from an active (or applying) Division II conference. The proposal would also empower the Management Council to establish an annual limit on the number of athletic conferences moved into active membership.

The previous is a collection of stories that can be found on NCAA.org. To access the actual meeting reports go to www.ncaa.org/dii and click on "Committees and Project Teams."

National SAAC

SAAC discusses "ease of burden"

Over the past year, SAAC members have worked with many groups within the governance structure to discuss the idea of deregulating recruiting restrictions as part of the "ease of burden" initiative.

During the group's summer meeting, balancing student-athlete concerns with, the Division II ease of burden initiative dominated the agenda. Central to the discussions with Management Council was when and how technology should be involved in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes. The idea of moving the first permissible contact date earlier in the recruiting process, and opening up all forms of private communication (mail, phone, text messaging, Skype, email, etc.) after an initial date was discussed thoroughly. National SAAC members understood the rationale behind easing the recruiting restrictions, but some SAAC members expressed concern about the potential negative impact "unlimited" communication could have on recruits and coaches.

During the November SAAC meeting, the group finalized a best practices document that addresses their concerns of a deregulated recruiting environment.

Make-A-Wish support remains strong

Not even a depressed economy can stop Division II's Make-A-Wish fund-raising efforts.

Despite facing the most difficult financial climate

in decades, Division II student-athletes across the country raised \$405,752 for Make-A-Wish in 2010-11, almost precisely matching the record of \$407,683 set the year before.

"Make-A-Wish is our 'baby' and something we can all take pride in and, despite whatever economic situation people are going through, there's always something worse going with how people's lives are affected," said Nathan Kafer, Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee chair and a recent graduate of Regis (Colo.). "So, whatever we can do to make that better and lessen the burden for those families who are going through those hard times, we really take pride in that."

As usual, the Northeast-10 Conference led the

National SAAC Members

Amber Braaten, Palm Beach Atlantic University

Jamie Bruce, Benedict College

Sara Bowden, Grand Canyon University

Jennifer Chow, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Hilary Cox, North Georgia College & State University

Jonathan Darby, Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Megan Davis, Saint Joseph's College (Indiana)

Aimee Drabyn, Holy Family University

Joshua Edenborough, Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Teya Everett, Kentucky State University

Kirsten Ford, Emporia State University

Robert Guzman, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Sarah Hebberd, Pfeiffer University

Brandon Joyner, Valdosta State University

Nathan Kafer, Regis University (Colorado)

Frank Keenan, Fairmont State University

Allison Kolezynski, Chowan University

Lainey McMillan, Catawba College

Vanessa Moreira, Dowling College

Jaclyn R. Puga, Northwest Nazarene University

David Pillen, Abilene Christian University

Sydnee Reeves, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania

Trevor Reeves, Wayne State College (Nebraska)

Cortland Seaver, Saginaw Valley State University

Lauren Silva, American International College

VaShawn Taylor, Eckerd College



Nathan Kafer, Chair

way, this time raising \$30,653. It was followed by the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference at \$24,799. North Georgia was tops among individual schools, raising \$10,265.

<u>Top Conferences</u>	<u>Top Institutions</u>
1) Northeast-10 \$30,653.30	1) North Georgia \$10,265.00
2) Pennsylvania State Athletic \$24,799.61	2) Texas A&M-Kingsville \$8,005.78
3) Peach Belt \$24,169.72	3) Abilene Christian \$7,907.34
4) Lone Star \$24,151.73	4) Massachusetts Lowell \$7,132.63
5) South Atlantic \$20,489.85	5) Pittsburgh-Johnstown \$6,370.00

The Northeast-10 has led conference Make-A-Wish fundraising since the effort was initiated in 2004, but it was the first time for North Georgia to lead the institutional list.

“They’re definitely an example to Division II at large,” Kafer said. “We’re glad that this is sort of taking off for different schools, and I’m really proud of North Georgia for their effort.”

The Division II SAAC was presented with a special-recognition plaque from Make-A-Wish. The year was special in other ways. At the summer meeting of the Division II Student-Athlete Committee, the SAAC was presented with a special-recognition plaque from Make-A-Wish, featuring a print from Jeff Hanson, an accomplished Make-A-Wish recipient/artist.

“As an athlete, it’s always great to have your accomplishments recognized,” Kafer said. “We can take this back to the rest of the student-athletes and say, look, we’re doing something right, we’re being noticed, let’s continue to do so.”

As for fundraising for 2011-12, the SAAC is pointing toward a special Division II Make-A-Wish day to highlight the national effort. Details on timing and structure will be available soon.

The previous is a collection of stories that can be found on NCAA.org. To access the actual meeting reports go to www.ncaa.org/dii and click on “Committees and Project Teams”.

Planning & Finance Committee



Pat O'Brien, Chair

The Planning and Finance Committee has worked with numerous groups within the Division II governance structure, developing the long range budget plan and conveying that information back to the appropriate groups. Using the long range budget plan, Division II groups can better plan and create future initiatives. A more detailed description of the Planning & Finance Committee’s work can be found in the Presidents Council Update.

Planning & Finance Committee Members

Drew Bogner, Molloy College
 Pat O'Brien, West Texas A&M University
 Thomas J. Haas, Grand Valley State University
 Nancy Moody, Tusculum College
 Albert Walker, Bluefield State College
 Rick Cole Jr., Dowling College
 Clint Bryant, Augusta State University
 Jared Mosley, Abilene Christian University
 Bren Stevens, University of Charleston (WV)

Thank you Dave Pickle.

Dave Pickle, whose original articles appear on ncaa.org, is the author or inspiration behind most of the council or committee summaries.



I chose
Division II

LEARNING

PASSION

SERVICE

RESOURCEFULNESS

SPORTSMANSHIP

BALANCE

Committee Service Recognition

Division II would like to acknowledge the following individuals who have recently joined committees and wish them luck as they contribute their time and effort in service to our division and to the student-athlete experience

Committee Name	Name	Institution
Baseball Rules Committee	Jayson King	Franklin Pierce University
Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct	John Semeraro	Saint Leo University
Division II Academic Requirements Committee	Katie McGann	University of California, San Diego
Division II Academic Requirements Committee	Kirsten Ford	Emporia State University
Division II Academic Requirements Committee	Margaret Poitevint	North Georgia College & State University
Division II Baseball Committee	Kenny Leonesio	California State University, Stanislaus
Division II Baseball Committee	Kevin Brooks	Angelo State University
Division II Baseball Committee	Nathan N. Salant	Gulf South Conference
Division II Championships Committee	Francis X. Reidy	Saint Leo University
Division II Championships Committee	Rich Sanders	Northwest Nazarene University
Division II Field Hockey Committee	Kevin Wood	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
Division II Football Committee	Ruben Perez	Southern Intercol. Ath. Conf.
Division II Legislation Committee	Ann Traphagen	Augustana College (South Dakota)
Division II Legislation Committee	Charles Pinckney	Livingstone College
Division II Legislation Committee	Curtis Campbell	Stillman College
Division II Legislation Committee	Eliane Kebbe	South Atlantic Conference
Division II Legislation Committee	Sarah Hebbard	Pfeiffer University
Division II Management Council	Anita S. Barker	California State University, Chico
Division II Management Council	Denisha Hendricks	Kentucky State University
Division II Management Council	Joseph R. Polak	Southern New Hampshire University
Division II Management Council	Karen Stromme	University of Minnesota Duluth
Division II Management Council	Kathleen Heitzman	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
Division II Management Council	Larry Marfise	University of Tampa
Division II Management Council	Timothy Ladd	Palm Beach Atlantic University
Division II Management Council	Will Prewitt	Great American Conference
Division II Membership Committee	Deborah Chin	University of New Haven
Division II Membership Committee	Dixie Cirillo	Colorado School of Mines
Division II Membership Committee	Dustin Smith	University of Arkansas, Fort Smith
Division II Men's and Women's Swimming Committee	Andrew I. Waeger	Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Division II Men's and Women's Swimming Committee	Doug Young	Urbana University
Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Craig Turnbull	Catawba College
Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Ron Cox	Northeastern State University
Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Ruth Ann Gardner	Grand Canyon University
Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Terry Alexander	Morehouse College
Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee	Christopher Asher	California State University, Los Angeles
Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee	Penny Allen-Cook	GreatLakesIntercollegiateAthleticConference
Division II Men's Basketball Committee	Kevin Hatcher	California State University, San Bernardino
Division II Men's Golf Committee	Todd Ohlmeyer	St. Edward's University
Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee	Timothy Boyle	Dowling College
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Eric Alsop	Limestone College
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Hugh Seyfarth	Florida Southern College
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Thomas T. Madsen	Truman State University

Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Tim Gotto	Lewis University
Division II Nominating Committee	Daniel Bridges	California State University, Los Angeles
Division II Nominating Committee	Natasha Wilson	Lincoln University (Pennsylvania)
Division II Planning and Finance Committee	Albert Walker	Bluefield State College
Division II Presidents Council	Arthur F. Kirk Jr.	Saint Leo University
Division II Presidents Council	Javier Cevallos	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
Division II Presidents Council	Judith A. Bense	University of West Florida
Division II Presidents Council	Michael Scales	Nyack College
Division II Presidents Council	Robert Wyatt	Coker College
Division II Presidents Council	Robin C. Capehart	West Liberty University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Dianne Harrison	California State University, Monterey Bay
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Jonathan Darby	Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Trevor Reeves	Wayne State College (Nebraska)
Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee	Lainey Edwards	Catawba College
Division II Women's Basketball Committee	David Marsh	Northwood University (Michigan)
Division II Women's Basketball Committee	Kiley Hill	Valdosta State University
Division II Women's Golf Committee	Rebecca Mailloux	Grand Valley State University
Division II Women's Golf Committee	Robin Dezarn	University of West Florida
Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee	April Pollock	American International College
Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee	Cecil C. Pilson	Mercyhurst College
Division II Women's Rowing Committee	Adam Thorstad	Florida Institute of Technology
Division II Women's Soccer Committee	Nick Cowell	St. Edward's University
Division II Women's Softball Committee	Joan M. McDermott	Metropolitan State College of Denver
Division II Women's Softball Committee	Keri M. Becker	Grand Valley State University
Division II Women's Volleyball Committee	Jason Holt	Missouri University of Science and Technology
Division II Women's Volleyball Committee	Jill Stephens	Florida Southern College
Division II Women's Volleyball Committee	Linda Bell	Elizabeth City State University
Division II Wrestling Committee	Dax Charles	Colorado State University-Pueblo
Football Rules Committee	Peter Rossomando	University of New Haven
High School Review Committee	Linda Van Drie-An-drzejewski	Wilmington University (Delaware)
Men's and Women's Rifle Committee	Mike Greene	Columbus State University
Men's Basketball Rules Committee	Mark A. Corino	Caldwell College
Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee	John Jez	C.W. Post Campus/Long Island University
Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee	Dianthia Ford-Kee	Lincoln University (Pennsylvania)
Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee	Wayne Coito	Pacific West Conference
Olympic Sports Liaison Committee	Robert Guzman	Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Playing Rules Oversight Panel	Erin Lind	Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference
Research Committee	David Scott Gines	Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Women's Basketball Rules Committee	Tanya Haave	Metropolitan State College of Denver
Women's Bowling Committee	Joseph Ambrose	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee	Alicia Groveston	Grand Valley State University
Women's Softball Rules Committee	Susan Cassidy-Lyke	Molloy College
Women's Volleyball Rules Committee	Carrie Bodkins	Alderson-Broadbudd College

Committee Service Recognition

Division II would like to thank the following individuals who have recently rolled committees for thier dedication and service to our division and to our student-athletes.

Committee Name	Name	Institution
Baseball Rules Committee	Stan Skip Fite	Augusta State University
Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct	LaToya G. Lindsey	Mount Olive College
Division II Academic Requirements Committee	Denisha Hendricks	Kentucky State University
Division II Academic Requirements Committee	Paul Leidig Ph.D.	Grand Valley State University
Division II Academic Requirements Committee	Tracee Passeggi	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Division II Baseball Committee	Jeff Schaly	Lynn University
Division II Baseball Committee	Jeremiah W. Robbins	Western Oregon University
Division II Baseball Committee	Justin L. Maskus	Missouri Southern State University
Division II Championships Committee	Dale Clayton	Carson-Newman College
Division II Championships Committee	Jeffrey M. Eisen	Mount Olive College
Division II Championships Committee	William J. Fusco	Sonoma State University
Division II Committee for Legislative Relief	Kathleen Heitzman	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
Division II Field Hockey Committee	Jeff Michaels	Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Division II Football Committee	Jay Adcox	Southern Arkansas University
Division II Legislation Committee	Diana Kling	Peach Belt Conference
Division II Legislation Committee	Eileen McDonough	Barry University
Division II Legislation Committee	Marcus Grant	Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association
Division II Legislation Committee	Melissa Barrett	Belmont Abbey College
Division II Management Council	Bob Fortosis	Eckerd College
Division II Management Council	Butch Raymond	Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference
Division II Management Council	Frances A. Nee	Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Division II Management Council	Julie Ruppert	Northeast-10 Conference
Division II Management Council	Patricia A. Thomas	University of the District of Columbia
Division II Management Council	Wendy Taylor May	University of California, San Diego
Division II Management Council	Willie Washington	Benedict College
Division II Membership Committee	Karen Stromme	University of Minnesota Duluth
Division II Membership Committee	Kimberly Pate	Brevard College
Division II Membership Committee	Monique AJ Smith	Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association
Division II Men's and Women's Swimming Committee	Mary Samko	Bentley University
Division II Men's and Women's Swimming Committee	Wendy Snodgrass	Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Derrick Racine	University of West Florida
Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Robin Langley	University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee	Kim J. Duyst	California State University, Stanislaus
Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee	Lou Andreadis	Grand Valley State University
Division II Men's Basketball Committee	Rich Sanders	Northwest Nazarene University
Division II Men's Golf Committee	Brett Esely	Missouri Western State University
Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee	John Jez	C.W. Post Campus/Long Island University
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Francis X. Reidy	Saint Leo University
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Greg Gilbert	University of Findlay
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	John Richard Smith	University of the Incarnate Word
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Michael M. Banks	Gulf South Conference
Division II Men's Soccer Committee	Tim Gotto	Lewis University
Division II Nominating Committee	Anthony Bennett	Winston-Salem State University
Division II Nominating Committee	Mark A. Corino	Caldwell College

WHY WE ARE PROUD



ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS

Many of our student-athletes receive athletics scholarships and other forms of financial aid to pay for school.

PERSONAL ATTENTION

Our student-athletes receive a quality education and our institutions often feature an exceptional teacher-to-student ratio.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

The Degree-Completion Scholarship Program provides our deserving student-athletes who have exhausted their collegiate ability with financial assistance.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We feature unparalleled opportunity for our student-athletes to advance to national championship competition as a result of our generous championships access ratios.

Division II Presidents Council	Albert Walker	Bluefield State College
Division II Presidents Council	Cheryl Norton	Southern Connecticut State University
Division II Presidents Council	David Rankin	Southern Arkansas University
Division II Presidents Council	Dorothy Leland	Georgia College & State University
Division II Presidents Council	Drew Bogner	Molloy College
Division II Presidents Council	Nancy Moody	Tusculum College
Division II Presidents Council	Philip P. Gerbino	University of the Sciences
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Aimee Drabyn	Holy Family University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Brandon Joyner	Valdosta State University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Cortland Seaver	Saginaw Valley State University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Jaclyn R. Puga	Northwest Nazarene University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Jennifer Chow	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Kirsten Ford	Emporia State University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Lainey Edwards	Catawba College
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Lauren Silva	American International College
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Nathan Kafer	Regis University (Colorado)
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Paul Muecke	Southwest Minnesota State University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Sarah Hebbard	Pfeiffer University
Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Vanessa Moreira	Dowling College
Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee	Tim Gotto	Lewis University
Division II Women's Basketball Committee	Ann Walker	Sunshine State Conference
Division II Women's Golf Committee	Julie Garner	Rollins College
Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee	Kristen L. Salvage	Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee	Suzette McQueen	Adelphi University
Division II Women's Rowing Committee	John G. Gartin	Nova Southeastern University
Division II Women's Soccer Committee	Jeff Hansen	Missouri Western State University
Division II Women's Softball Committee	Lisa M. Sweany	Grand Valley State University
Division II Women's Softball Committee	Lori Meyer	Minnesota State University, Mankato
Division II Women's Volleyball Committee	Jamie Moore	Kentucky State University
Division II Women's Volleyball Committee	Jody A. Butera	University of Indianapolis
Division II Women's Volleyball Committee	Leanne R. Piscotty	Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Division II Wrestling Committee	Marc Bauer	University of Nebraska at Kearney
Executive Committee	J. Patrick O'Brien	West Texas A&M University
Executive Committee	Richard Cole Jr.	Dowling College
Football Rules Committee	F. Todd Knight	Ouachita Baptist University
International Student Records Committee	Donald P. Delgado	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Men's Basketball Rules Committee	Robert Corn	Missouri Southern State University
Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee	Brad Jorgensen	Saint Leo University
Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee	Wayne Tanna	Chaminade University
Playing Rules Oversight Panel	Larry Marfise	University of Tampa
Research Committee	Jeff Cawfield	Missouri University of Science and Technology
Student-Athlete Affairs Advisory Committee	Jaime Lundgren	University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown
Women's Basketball Rules Committee	Lynn Plett	Missouri Western State University
Women's Bowling Committee	Robert F. Cincotta	Adelphi University
Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee	Julie Redman	Converse College
Women's Softball Rules Committee	Jerry Snyder	University of South Carolina Aiken
Women's Volleyball Rules Committee	Kristy Bayer	Arkansas Tech University

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

To be eligible for an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, a nomination must be submitted by a faculty athletics representative (FAR) or by an FAR designee. It is the responsibility of the FAR or FAR designee to ensure that 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. Emails will be sent from the online system to the student-athlete and three individuals for recommendations. The emails are generated after the FAR submits his or her nomination section.

The nomination sections are as follows:

1. FAR nomination (includes a formal recommendation for the nominee).
2. Student-athlete section (to be completed by the nominee, includes a personal statement).
3. Head Coach recommendation.
4. Athletics administrator recommendation.
5. Professor recommendation.

The NCAA Postgraduate Scholar 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.

For more information about the NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program, please contact Jamie Fluker; Assistant Director of Student-Athlete Affairs and Leadership Development Programs, at jfluker@ncaa.org



Division II Faculty Athletics Representatives Advanced Leadership Institute

The recipe for the first Division II Faculty Athletics Representatives Advanced Leadership Institute is equal parts of identity and advocacy. Although the 2011 meeting was the seventh overall institute for Division II FARs, it was the first to feature an advanced curriculum involving participants from previous institutes. A total of 16 FARs were invited to attend.

The institute, conducted Oct. 14-16, marked only the beginning of work on a model document for FARs. The document describes the best practices that can enable the success of a faculty athletics representative, and the different expectations among Divisions I, II and III FARs. A first draft was completed at the institute and work will continue through the year, with eventual approval expected next year by the Division II Presidents and Management Councils. When adopted, it will join similar documents

describing model Division II athletics programs, conference offices and strategic communications.

As for communications, the FARs received guidance from Erik Christianson, NCAA director of public and media relations. Christianson stressed the need for communication to be strategic. As such, it should be:

- Planned and deliberate.
- Based on integrated actions and messages.
- Leadership driven.
- Credible, useful and persuasive.
- Effects-based.

In addition, strategic communications should directly advance the organization's mission.

While meshing those objectives seems complicated, Christianson said it comes down to understanding and believing in college sports (and Division II in particular) and being willing to share that belief with others.

Roster

- Douglas Blais, Southern New Hampshire
- Brenda Cates, Mount Olive College
- Allen Clabo, Francis Marion
- Dabney Gray, Stillman
- Barb, Hannum, Hawaii Pacific
- Scott Harris, Montana State Billings
- Ann Jirkovsky, Bellarmine
- Timothy Ladd, Palm Beach Atlantic
- John Mayer, Cal State Stanislaus
- John Mansuy, Wheeling Jesuit
- Eileen McDonough, Barry
- Julie Rochester, Northern Michigan
- Joanne Stejskal, Winona State
- Craig Stevens, West Chester
- Keith Vitense, Cameron
- Diane Husic, Moravian (facilitator)



Division II FAR
Advanced Leadership Institute

NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum

The mission of the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum is to engage a diverse and dynamic representation of student-athletes, coaches, faculty and administrators and provide pertinent and customized sessions that will enhance personal awareness and leadership skills needed to impact student-athlete development at the campus and conference level, and beyond the collegiate realm. The 2011 Leadership Forum took place in Chicago, with over 300 student-athletes and administrators from across all three divisions attending.



Participants took part in team sessions focused primarily on building leadership by identifying personal values and behavior.

“Being aware of yourself enables you to better lead those around you,” said Grand Valley State sophomore runner Leah Hess. “If you’re not aware of yourself, then that makes it a little more difficult for people to follow you.”

In addition to leadership development, the forum also provided an opportunity for the student-athletes to learn more about Division II and the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Representatives from the NCAA governance staff and Division II National SAAC spoke with student-athletes, gathering their feedback, brainstorming new ideas and empowering them with knowledge to take back to campus.

One of the forum’s biggest highlights was a community-service project. In an attempt to put the leadership lessons learned throughout the event into practice, while inspiring future leaders, the student-athletes worked with children from a local Chicago non-profit to make hundreds of fleece blankets. The group cheered as an excited local Salvation Army representative picked up the blankets for donation exclaiming “These will keep somebody warm tonight!”



The event ended with a call to action by guest speaker Kevin Carroll, whose unlikely journey and inspiring message captivated the audience, while challenging all of those in attendance to take what they learned at the forum and use it to positively impact others.

For more information about the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum, please contact Stephanie Thorburn, Associate Director of Leadership Development, at sthorburn@ncaa.org



Regional Careers in Sports Forum

The NCAA Regional Career in Sports Forum is a forum where selected student-athletes will learn and explore skills that will assist in their transition to a career in sports. The Regional Forum is open to all institutions in the identified region, unless otherwise specified. Each institution is permitted to

Program objectives:

- Participants will be educated about careers in athletics by key decision makers from member institutions and the NCAA.
- Participants will learn a realistic view of the role of coach or administrator in collegiate athletics or conference offices, as well as, within the sports entertainment industry.
- Participants will learn a realistic view of the role of coach or administrator in collegiate athletics or conference offices, as well as within sports law and the sports entertainment industry.
- Participants will network with key decision makers from member institutions, sports law, sports media and entertainment, and the NCAA.
- Encourage diverse populations to pursue careers in athletics.

nominate a maximum of 6 student-athletes for this opportunity. Registration will be based on a first come, first served basis. Graduate level college students may be nominated to participate in the Regional Career in Sports Forum; however, due to limited space availability, priority is given to current student-athletes.

All actual and necessary expenses will be covered by the NCAA. This includes hotel accommodations on Friday and Saturday night, meals during the Forum and parking passes. Selected participants are required to carpool with other student-athletes attending from their institution.

For more information about the NCAA Regional Career in Sports Form, please contact Courtney Lovely, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Affairs, at clovely@ncaa.org

WePledge...

We have joined institutions across 22 conferences and independents in committing to safe, fun, and entertaining sporting experiences on Division II campuses. We have signed the pledge to create and continue family-friendly experiences for everyone.



DIVISION II GAME ENVIRONMENT PLEDGE

NCAA Division II presidents and chancellors affirm that athletics events should reflect the values of higher education and the mission of each institution. Division II emphasizes learning and development in a personal setting. As chancellors and presidents, we are concerned about the uncivil behavior exhibited at college athletics contests and thereby pledge to work together to make respectful, family-friendly events a standard of the Division II experience.



OUR PROGRAMS

Learn more at www.diicommunity.org

Strategic Alliance Matching Grant Program

Selected institutions and conference offices receive grant funding for three years, with diminishing contributions by the NCAA. The NCAA will fund 75 percent of the position during the first year, 50 percent the second year, and 25 percent during the third year. Second and third year funding of the grant is contingent upon the submittal of a year-end status report from the institution and conference office supervisor and grant recipient, verifying the position and how the funds were used. Site visits will be conducted during the course of the grant.

Participating NCAA Division II institutions or conference offices are required to maintain the position for a minimum of two years after grant funds are exhausted, preferably incorporating the position into their ongoing operations. All applying institutions and conference offices must express a demonstrated commitment to maintaining and continuing the position, regardless if it is funded by the NCAA.

The selection committee consists of university presidents, conference office administrators, current grant recipients or supervisors, and outside representation. The following criteria will be used to evaluate submissions for eligibility and awards:

1. Support from the senior leadership of the institution or conference office.
2. Overall quality and adequacy of design of the proposal, clarity of the organizational chart, sport responsibility oversight, depth of administrative responsibilities and direct line of supervisory responsibilities.
3. Innovation and creativity. Proposals may be inclusive of all athletics positions. The position should demonstrate and articulate significant administrative responsibilities.
4. Potential funding viability and/or expansion during the five-year term of the grant.
5. Degree of impact (potential or ongoing effectiveness) and factors that increase ethnic and gender diversity, especially where diversity is underrepresented.
6. Plans for mentoring accessibility, professional development and growth.
7. Qualitative and quantifiable measurement tools to assess overall project effectiveness of program initiatives in terms of added value.
8. Explanation of how the program will enhance diversity within Division II.

2011 Grant Recipients

Angelo State University
Compliance and Student Services Coordinator/Head Coach

Chadron State College
Assistant Athletics Director/Compliance Coordinator

Coker College
Assistant Athletics Director

Northeastern State University
Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance

Pacific West Conference
Assistant Commissioner for Compliance

Timeline for 2012 Applications:

The application window for the 2012 Strategic Alliance Matching Grant Program runs from September 19th, 2011 until January 20th, 2012. The 2012 grant recipients will be selected in April, 2012.

For more information about the program please contact Courtney Lovely, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Affairs, at clovely@ncaa.org

NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program

The NCAA Postgraduate Internship is a one-year program that provides on-the-job learning experiences for college graduates who express an interest in pursuing a career in intercollegiate athletics administration based at the NCAA national office in Indianapolis, Indiana.

“This has been a fantastic opportunity to develop in a professional setting while contributing to the work and goals of the Association”

-Casey Richards, Digital Communications

This is one of the best internships available for three main reasons: 1) Abundant professional development opportunities 2) Access to one-of-a-kind resources 3) Top of the line real world experience.

-Matt Goff, Student Athlete-Affairs

The NCAA offers the following internship positions: Academic and Membership Affairs/Student-Athlete Reinstatement; Administrative Services, Championships and Alliances; Communications (Digital Communications, Image Management and Communication Strategy, Public and Media Relations); Enforcement; Governance; Student-Athlete Affairs and Inclusion; and the NCAA Eligibility Center.

The application deadline for the 2011-12 intern class has already passed, but stay tuned for the next application cycle in early autumn of this year.

2011-2012 NCAA Intern class: Caitlin Carducci, Kelsey Cermak, Tiandra Finch, Matt Goff, Monika Graf, Michelle Graner, Libby Harmon, Liz Horvat, Josh Klinger, Grant Leiendecker, Kiera Miller, Bill Nesnidal, Jarrett Newby, Emily Newell, Casey Richards, Brad Rochman, LaChelle Sutphen, Curtis Walker, Emily Wollet

For more information about the NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program, please contact Jaime Fluker; Assistant Director of Student-Athlete Affairs and Leadership Development Programs, at jfluker@ncaa.org

Degree Completion Award Program

Established in 2001, the purpose of the Division II Degree Completion Award Program is to provide deserving student-athletes with financial assistance in order for them to complete their first baccalaureate degree. Eligible candidates are Division II student-athletes who have exhausted their athletics eligibility and who 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, athletics achievement and involvement in campus and community activities.

Information regarding the application will be mailed out to all active Division II institutions in early February. The deadline to apply for the program is in early April.

Requirements of the program:

- Applicant must be a student-athlete who has completed eligibility at an active NCAA Division II member institution within the past calendar year.
- Applicant must have previously received athletically-related financial aid from that NCAA Division II member institution.
- Applicant must be within 32 semester hours (48 quarter hours) of completion of an undergraduate degree.
- The degree must be completed within 10 semesters (15 quarters).
- Applicant must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or above.
- Applicant cannot concurrently receive athletics financial aid from the institution.

Division II Coaching Enhancement Grant

The program, which provides funds to help Division II institutions create new assistant coaching positions, is designed to address the issues of access, recruitment, selection and long-term success of women, ethnic minorities and other individuals in the division who seek to overcome hiring barriers. The grant provides \$16,000 annually. Recipient institutions are required to contribute \$8,000 annually and commit to funding the position for the two-year grant, as well as an additional three years.

All applications are reviewed and confirmed by a selection committee of non-NCAA staff. The selection process takes place every two years. No more than 18 positions will be funded over a two-year period.

Selections will be based on an institution's demonstrated commitment to diversity and history of inclusiveness. Emphasis will be placed on selecting conferences with continued success and those that have demonstrated recent improvement.

Detailed information, including those institutions selected to participate and how the coach positions will be allocated, must be specified in the application. Each position created by the grant must be a new assistant coach position; it cannot be an assistant coach position that was in existence the previous year.

Each position must also be for a full-time coach, and that coach must have at least a bachelor's degree. Preference will be given to those individuals with no previous collegiate coaching experience and to those individuals who are graduates of a Division II institution.

Application for the 2012 Division II Coaching Enhancement Grant Program will be accepted until January 20th, 2012. The 2012 grant recipients will be selected in April, 2012.

For more information about the program please contact Courtney Lovely, Coordinator of Student-Athlete Affairs, at clovely@ncaa.org

Division II Conference Grant Program

Each conference is allocated a base amount of \$90,000 for its first five members. A \$12,000 premium is paid for a sixth member, with an additional \$4,000 premium paid for members up to 18. For example, a conference with 12 members receives a grant of \$126,000 (\$90,000 base plus a \$36,000 premium).

At least 10 percent of the grant must be directed to each of five Division II strategic positioning outcome areas (50 percent total):

- Academics and life skills.
- Athletics operations and compliance.
- Game day and conference and national championships.
- Membership and positioning initiatives.
- Diversity and inclusion.

The remaining 50 percent may be spent in any of the five areas, as determined by the needs of the conference. Each year, member conferences are required to assess and rank their success and achievement in each of the five outcome areas. They are prohibited from using funds to assist with capital improvements, to increase countable grants-in-aid for member schools, to provide for an administrative fee or to supplement funds for the Division II Strategic Alliance Matching Grant Program. The program is administered by the Division II Planning and Finance Committee.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Our student-athletes have received the NCAA's highest individual honors including winning the Walter Byers Scholarship Award (the NCAA's top student-athlete) and the NCAA Woman of the Year Award.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We have initiated national community partnerships with the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Habitat for Humanity.

UNIQUE FISCAL MODEL

We offer a unique fiscal model for intercollegiate athletics that redefine the institutional value for sponsoring sports and offering athletics scholarships.



I chose
Division II

OUR CHAMPIONS

"As we got near the end of the game waiting for that last out, you could feel the excitement, it's amazing to win it. I've experienced both extremes. We were the worst team around. We took it to heart and look where it got us. It got us a national championship."

-Greg Pron, Baseball Student-Athlete

"It's a surreal experience and the best feeling in the world, we've worked so hard for this and it's a moment I'll never forget. I don't think it has fully sunk in yet, but winning a championship is an amazing feeling."

-Justin Benedetti, Men's Basketball Student-Athlete

"This was possibly one of the most intense games we've ever played in..."

-Christina Curffari, Women's Soccer Student-Athlete



Women's Indoor Track & Field, Grand Valley State University

All stories summarized
from NCAA.com



Monica Kinney of Grand Valley State
edges Shippensburg's Neely Spence.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. -- The Grand Valley State women ran away with the team title at the 2011 NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The Lakers dominated the two-day event, scoring 83 points, easily outdistancing second place Lincoln (Mo.) and its 51 points. Meet host Adams State College finished third with 37 points, while New Haven concluded the event with 32, Nebraska-Omaha had 29 and Central Missouri had 28.50.

Grand Valley dominated the mile run, as no less than three Lakers finished in the top six in the final. The Lakers' Monica Kinney led from start to finish, dominating the race with a winning time of 4:44.41. Meanwhile, Mesa State's Alex is Skarda was second at 4:55.61 and Western State's Sarah Lyle was third at 4:57.98. Eileen Creutz of Grand Valley State was fourth (4:59.38) and teammate Rebecca Winchester (5:01.74) was sixth.

Andria Nussey of Angelo State claimed the 800-meter race with a clocking of 2:10.42, while Grand Valley's Chanelle Caldwell was second at 2:11.30. Concord's Shawnee Carnett (2:11.97) was third and Bentley's Amy Varsell (2:12.26) was fourth.

Grand Valley went one-two in the shot put competition, as Lauren Buresh won the competition on her last toss – a 16.11 meters (52-10 ¼) effort to best teammate Sam Lockhart (15.71). Winona State's Rebecca Stier (15.55) was third and Missouri Southern's Nicole Green (15.18) was fourth.

The Lakers' Monica Kinney out-sprinted Shippensburg's Neely Spence to claim the 5,000-meter run and the title. Kinney finished in 16:28.02, while Spence came in at 16:28.33. Western Washington's Sarah Porter (16:44.04) was third and Adams State's Kristen McGlynn (16:45.89) was fourth.

Wrestling, University of Nebraska Omaha

KEARNEY, Neb. -- UNO totaled 102.5 points, finishing 12 points better than St. Cloud State. Augustana (S.D.) (81.5), Upper Iowa (66) and Western State (64) rounded out the top five.

"To go wire-to-wire being ranked No. 1 and to stay consistent all year is incredibly hard," said Denney, coach of UNO wrestling, whose squad had seven All-Americans this weekend.

Earlier in the day Denney received a quote by text that said, 'The achievements of an organization are the results of a combined effort of each individual.'

"If you look at how many bonus points we had and how many guys came through you see a complete team effort," Denney said.

"And it's special for those three seniors, who've all been through adversity, to be able to wrap this thing up by winning in the finals. The work that those guys have put in throughout their careers is the reason we won."

Division II Championship Matches: 125-Trevor Franklin (Upper Iowa) dec Alex Meger (Augustana), 3-0; 133-Todd Wilcox (Grand Canyon) dec BJ Young (Newberry), 7-2; 141-Mario Morgan (Nebraska-Omaha) dec Dalton Jensen (Nebraska-Kearney), 12-5; 149-Nick Walpole (Indianapolis) dec T.J. Hepburn (Nebraska-Kearney), 4-2; 157-Jon Sundgren (St. Cloud State) dec Dillon Bera (Wisconsin-Parkside), 3-0; 165-Michael Lybarger (Findlay) dec Zach McKendree (Gannon), 3-1; 174-Ryan Pankoke (Nebraska-Omaha) dec Luke Rynish (Wisconsin-Parkside), 3-2; 184-Aaron Densen (Nebraska-Omaha) dec Charlie Pipher (Western State), 6-4; 197-Donovan McMahonill (Western State) dec Mitch Knapp (West Liberty), 9-3; 285-Matthew Meuleners (Northern State) dec Jake Kahnke (St. Cloud State), 4-3



University of Nebraska Omaha
celebrates their team title.

Men's Indoor Track & Field, Abilene Christian University



Desmond Jackson at the start of the 200m, he would finish second.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Seniors Amos Sang, Desmond Jackson and Ramon Sparks and redshirt junior Nick Jones scored 49 points among them – all on Saturday's final day of competition – to lead the Wildcats to the most unlikely national championship in the history of one of the most legendary collegiate track and field programs in the country, regardless of division.

ACU finished with 49 points, while Ashland (Ohio) – which qualified 22 student-athletes for the meet – was second with 42 points. Lincoln (Mo.) finished third with 41 points.

"When we had our team meeting (Saturday morning), we told those guys that the most we could score was 60 points, so let's go for 60 and see what happens," said ACU head coach Roosevelt Lofton, who won his first national championship to become the sixth ACU head coach to lead a Wildcat team to a national championship. "They put it out there and what they did was enough to win a championship. I'm so proud of each of those four guys for laying it on the line."

ACU, which began the day without a single point to its credit, got off to a flying start when Sparks won the triple jump and Jones finished fourth in the shot put. The strong field events showing was followed up on the track with Jackson, who finished second in the 60m and 200m dash, and Sang, who finished second in the mile and won the 5000m run, to clinch the title for ACU.

The championship is ACU's first indoor national championship since 2005 and first national championship of any kind since it won the 2008 outdoor national championship. ACU – the first program in NCAA Division II history to win 13 indoor national championships – has now won 63 overall national championships in school history with 58 of those coming in track and field. The Wildcats have won 53 NCAA track and field titles, the most titles in one sport by any school in NCAA history.

Women's Basketball, Clayton State

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. -- Clayton State Lakers beat the Michigan Tech Huskies 69-50 on Friday to win the NCAA Division II women's basketball national title. Clayton State started the first half with their full court pressure, causing the Huskies to get out of their offense and turn the ball over 11 times. The fast-paced game featured five ties and three lead changes. The largest first half lead was five points.

Teshymia Tillman led Clayton State with 10 points and four rebounds at the half. Clayton State went into the locker room leading 31-24. The second half didn't start the way that the Huskies would have liked. Clayton State came out with more pressure than the first half, causing turnover after turnover and increasing the lead to 19 points with 15 minutes left in the game.

Clayton State coach Dennis Cox still lauded the effort. "The way we play is fun. We love the competition," Cox said. Michigan Tech, only averaging 12 turnovers a game on the season, had a total of 25 against the Lakers.

Clayton State's Tillman lead all scorers with 26 points, and Drameka Griggs added 12.



Forward Teshymia Tillman (34) brings the ball up court.

We Chose a Positive Game Environment

Find out how at www.diicommunity.org



Is it Civil? Comfortable? Entertaining?

Men's and Women's Swimming, Drury University



The Drury Men's and Women's teams celebrate their third consecutive year of sweeping the Men's and Women's team titles.

SAN ANTONIO -- A year ago in Canton, Ohio, Drury became the first school in NCAA Division II history to sweep the men's and women's national championships in swimming and diving in consecutive years. Now, after another dominating performance by the DU men and a solid four days of work by the DU women, that total stands at three years in a row.

The Drury men captured their seventh consecutive national Division II title and the DU women their third consecutive -- and fourth in the past five years -- on Saturday night at the Palo Alto Natatorium.

For the men, it was virtually no contest after the first couple of days of the four-day competition, as they took a 205-point lead into Saturday's final night and coasted. DU finished with a total of 600 points to easily out-distance runner-up UC-San Diego (345). Wayne State (Mich.) was third with 295 points, followed by Grand Canyon (292.5) and Wingate (252) to round out the top five.

The Drury women, however, had some work to do on Saturday. Wayne State gained major ground with its showing in diving -- which the Panthers had no competitors enlisted in the event -- and made a race of it before DU pulled away. Drury added a victory in the meet-closing 400 freestyle relay to seal the deal.

Drury finished with 483.5 points to outdistance runner-up Wayne State (388). UC-San Diego finished third with 338, followed by Clarion (272) and Ashland (240) to round out the women's top five.

"It was just a total team effort, every kid, every race," Drury coach Brian Reynolds said. "The kids work so hard all year training for this moment, and it's always such a joy to see them get to experience it. It never gets old."

The Drury men have now won nine NCAA Division II championships in total, with titles in 1999 and 2003 preceding their current run of seven consecutive crowns. The Drury women picked up their eighth DII title overall, with others coming in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Men's Basketball, Bellarmine University

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. -- Bellarmine players stormed center court as time expired, riding the high of the greatest thrill of their lives, their fans roaring on their feet as the ball from a desperation 3-pointer by BYU-Hawaii's Jet Chang bounced behind the backboard.

The Knights (33-2) were NCAA Division II national champions for the first time in program history, surviving a grueling battle against the Seaside (22-9) with a 71-68 victory in riveting national final.

Joy overwhelmed the players as they celebrated being on top of the basketball world, and afterward, senior guard Justin Benedetti shared his thoughts on what it meant to be a champion.

"It's a surreal experience and the best feeling in the world," Benedetti said. "We've worked so hard for this and it's a moment I'll never forget. I don't think it has fully sunk in yet, but winning a championship is an amazing feeling."



The Bellarmine bench anxiously watches, as their team shoots key free-throws in the closing seconds.

Baseball, University of West Florida



West Florida celebrates its first national title.

CARY, N.C. --- Greg Pron lost 32 games during his 2008 freshman season at West Florida. The idea of him ever celebrating a national championship on a June afternoon in North Carolina seemed as likely as finding a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

But when closer Shane Waller threw strike three over the plate against Winona State's Seth McMullen in the bottom of the ninth inning of the NCAA Division II national championship game Saturday, Pron joined his teammates on the mound in a frenzied celebration, a 12-2 win in the books, hats scattered across the field and those 32 losses a distant memory.

"As we got near the end of the game waiting for that last out, you could feel the excitement," Pron said. "It's amazing to win it. I've experienced both extremes. We were the worst team around. We took it to heart and

look where it got us. It got us a national championship."

The national championship is the first for West Florida (52-9), which cranked out 15 hits and never looked back after jumping in front 4-0 in the first inning.

The fourth-ranked Argonauts became the fifth team from the Sunshine State in the last seven years to win a title.

Softball, University of California San Diego



University of California San Diego shortstop Mya Romero (12) tumbles as she forces out Stephanie Needham (15) of the University of Alabama Huntsville.

SALEM, Va. – UC-San Diego jumped on the board early and never looked back, winning the 2011 NCAA Division II Softball National Championship by a 10-3 score against Alabama Huntsville.

With one out and runners on first and second, the Tritons swiped second and third. Krystal Johnson rifled the ball toward third base, but it was thrown wide of the bag and ended up in left field. That allowed Kris Lesovsky to trot home for a 1-0 UC San Diego lead.

The Tritons were far from done. After Jennifer De Fazio walked and a fly ball resulted for the second out of the frame, Tess Granath singled home Sarah Woofter, who had earned her way on base by being hit by a pitch for a 2-0 advantage.

UC-San Diego (45-13) continued to pour it on in the first. Esther Strom ripped a double down the right field line, plating De Fazio and Granath, increasing the margin to 4-0. Katrin Gabriel's single to left center brought home Strom. A pop fly ended the stanza, but not after the Tritons amassed five runs on three hits.

UAH (48-6-1) had a chance to close out the second inning unscathed but a dropped foul ball proved costly by keeping the inning alive. De Fazio singled up the middle, allowing Woofter to scamper to third. Swanberg blooped a single to right on an 0-2 pitch driving in a run. Granath then barely got the ball into the outfield but with UAH playing in, the ball dropped. That scored De Fazio for a 7-0 lead.

Strom sliced a bleeder over the shortstop's outstretched glove for an 8-0 margin. On the throw home, runners moved to second and third. Gabriel slapped a shot into left for a 9-0 lead before UAH brought in Whitney Gilbert to pitch for Whitney Toler. Toler gave up nine runs on nine hits with just five runs earned. She struck out two and walked two.

UAH plated three runs in the top of the seventh, but it was not enough as Gaito completed what she started. The hurler gave up three runs on nine hits on the day. She struck out seven while walking just three.

Men's Golf, CSU-Monterey Bay

FLORENCE, Ala. -- Cal State-Monterey Bay got a hole-in-one from sophomore Dylan Jackson and has won the NCAA Division II National Championship, defeating top-seed Lynn University, 3-2 in the title match at Robert Trent Jones The Shoal Course in Alabama.

Jackson aced the 178-yard, par-3 13th. He also made birdie on the par 3 18th to win his match again Lynn's Ricardo Gouveia, 66-67.

The clinching moment came from Otter Senior John Jackson, who sank his final putt on the 18th hole to take a one-stroke lead against Lynn's Daniel Young. That win, coupled with D.J. Milligan's two-stroke victory against Roberto Francioni and Dylan Jackson's one stroke win against Ricardo Gouveia gave CSUMB the three points it needed for the title.

Lynn got two points with wins from Paul McPhee and Jose Joia. McPhee defeated Scott Yeakel by two strokes and Joia topped Oskar Nystrom by one stroke.

The Otters got personal best rounds from Jackson and Milligan. Jackson carded a 6-under-par 66 to tie the lowest score posted of the tournament. Milligan tied his best round of collegiate golf with a 3-under par 69.

In route to the championship match, the Otters concluded stroke play 17-over-par for a tie for third place. The Otters entered match play as the third seed, defeating Newberry College 3-2 in the opening round. CSUMB pulled out a 2-2-1 tie against Abilene Christian with the Otters winning the tiebreaker by fewest strokes.



Scott Yeakel of CSU-Monterey Bay hits from the sand.

Women's Golf, Nova Southeastern University



Nova Southeastern celebrates its third consecutive title.

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Nova Southeastern claimed its third consecutive national championship on Saturday. The Sharks carded a four-round 1,157 (+5) on the 6,111-yard, par-72 The Meadows course.

“When we had our first team meeting back in the fall of this year, we talked about the perfect finish,” head coach Kevin Marsh said. “We really wanted to see one of our seniors hit the final putt at nationals and that’s exactly what happened. The motivation for the entire year was for that perfect finish. With Taylor, Sandra and Abbey finishing in the top three, that was the perfect finish we were looking for from the very beginning.”

Not only did NSU claim their third straight team title, but for the second year in a row a Shark player laid claim to the individual national title as well. Many expected the four-time PING/NGCA Player of the Year Sandra Changkija to walk away with the individual title this year, especially since she won it in 2010. However, it was NSU's Taylor Collins' record-setting performance that stole the show as she posted an NCAA Division II Championship record for best score in relation to par after four rounds with a 10 under 278. The previous record was held by Rollins' Joanna Coe set in 2008.

“I think what a lot of people forget is that Taylor is a First-Team All-American and one of the top-three Division II players in the country,” Marsh said. “I expected her to have the best finish of her career at nationals, but she has also put in a ton of work to get there. Today, and throughout this tournament, she proved that to everyone by winning the individual title.”

Men's Lacrosse, Mercyhurst College



Zach Nash (30) of Mercyhurst College makes a save.

BALTIMORE -- Mercyhurst captured its first Division II national lacrosse title Sunday, beating Adelphi 9-8 on four goals from junior midfielder Ian Wild, the game's Most Outstanding Player.

Junior attackman Kyle Kallay added two goals and sophomore attackman Brian Scheetz had a goal and three assists in helping lift Mercyhurst (14-2) to the first national title in the program's 15-year history. The Lakers lost to Le Moyne in the 2007 final on a last-second shot.

Junior attackman Joe Vitale had three goals and two assists for Adelphi (16-3), which was in the finals for the first time since winning its seventh national championship in 2001.

Junior midfielder Kieran Riegel and junior attackman Danny Blau added two goals apiece for the Panthers, who lost despite winning 16 of 21 faceoffs.

Kallay and Trevor Rice scored extra-man goals during a 4-0 run that gave Mercyhurst a 7-4 lead at the 10:08 mark of the third quarter. Adelphi outscored Mercyhurst 4-2 the rest of the way and got within one on a no-look flip shot by Blau with 6:29 remaining in the fourth period.

Mercyhurst stalled away more than two minutes before Adelphi regained possession to get one last opportunity to tie. However, Riegel's 5-yard shot with 2 seconds left was saved by Mercyhurst goalie Zach Nash.

Women's Lacrosse, Adelphi University



Marissa Mills (12) of Adelphi University runs around Limestone's Brittany Howard (33).

GARDEN CITY, N.Y. – Top-ranked Adelphi won its third consecutive Division II Women's Lacrosse Championship with a 17-4 victory against No. 3 Limestone. Adelphi ends their season at a perfect 20-0. The 13-goal victory was the largest margin of victory in a national championship game in the history of Division II women's lacrosse.

For the Panthers, Erica Devito scored four goals and handed out three assists, while Elizabeth Fey and Marissa Mills each scored four goals. Claire Petersen handed out four assists and Frankie Caridi set aside six shots in the win.

"Our focus at the beginning of the season was to play our best lacrosse at the end of the season and play our best game in the National Championship," said fourth-year Head Coach Joe Spallina.

The Panthers got out to a hot start, scoring the game's first six goals. Sophomore Demianne Cook scored the first goal of the game in unassisted fashion, just under six minutes into the contest. A little more than a minute after Cook's tally, Petersen set up Devito with a behind-the-back pass for a 2-0 Adelphi advantage. Mills would then score the next two Adelphi goals, both unassisted. With 20 minutes left in the half, Petersen set up Devito once again for a score, while senior Kaitlyn Carter scored Adelphi's sixth goal of the half just over two minutes after Devito's second goal. The Panthers would go into the lockerroom with a 8-1 lead.

The second half played out much like the first, with Adelphi scoring early and often. The Panthers cruised to a 17-4 victory.

"Every year we have a different group of players," said Spallina. "This group genuinely cares for one another and when you combine that with our high skill level it, makes them very special. Also, our assistant coaches did a tremendous job throughout the year and were amazing this season."

Adelphi is now the only team in Division II Women's Lacrosse history to win three consecutive national titles. The Panthers' 20-0 season was also their second undefeated season in three years. Adelphi's current winning streak has reached 26 games, dating back to last season.

Men's Tennis, Valdosta State University

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, Fla. – Second-ranked Valdosta State claimed the NCAA Men's Tennis Championship, winning its second national title as it defeated No. 5 Barry 5-2 on Saturday morning at Sanlando Park. The Blazers, who dropped a 5-4 decision at the 2010 championship to the Buccaneers, avenged last year's loss and captured their first title since 2006.

Down 2-0, the Buccaneers staged a stirring comeback at No. 3 doubles to cut the lead in half going into singles. Finding themselves down 4-0 midway through the match, the team of Sergio Velez and Oliver Lemaitre stormed back to take eight of the next 10 points, including breaking Valdosta with the score 7-6, to collect the come-from-behind win.

This time, singles proved to be a different story. In what could only be described as the most grueling and intense singles matches of the tournament, the Blazers collected the necessary five points before a charging Barry squad could make a comeback.

Barry tied the match at two apiece when Romain Costamagne ousted Otto Lenhart in straight sets 6-1, 6-3. Regaining the lead, the Blazers' Kutschenko edged Lamaitre in first set tiebreaker 7-6 (7-2) before downing his opponent 6-1 in the second to take the No.5 slot.

With Barry making a charge at Nos. 1 and 2 singles, Hansen sided the fourth point to the Blazers as he took out No. 35 Mokrzycki after a difficult first set tiebreaker 7-6 (6-4), 6-4. Mere moments after the fourth point, Valdosta State sealed the deal at No. 4 singles. The No. 30-ranked Loeffler, after edging Vachez in taxing first set 7-6 (8-6), sent a forehand down the line to clinch the 6-3 second set win and give the Blazers the trophy.



Otto Lenhart and Berney Wallner of Valdosta State celebrate a point.

Women's Tennis, Barry University



Julie Stas of Barry University returns a ball from Jessica Yanoff and Andrea Berkova of Lynn University.

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, Fla. – No.2-ranked Barry overcame a 2-1 doubles deficit to defeat No.3 Lynn 5-3 and win the 2011 Division II Women's Tennis Championship. It is the first NCAA national championship for the storied Bucs' program as BU finished the season with a 25-1 record.

With Lynn and Barry splitting the first two doubles matches, Lynn got the upper hand when Jessica Yanoff and Andrea Berkova staved off Julie Stas and Olivia Matuszak 8-4 at the No. 3 spot. Lynn, needing only three wins to register the national title, dealt with a refocused and reenergized Barry squad in singles.

The Buccaneers claimed early control of the singles portion, taking a 3-2 lead behind the efforts of the sixth and third spots. Monsour breezed past her opponent 6-0, 6-1, before No. 44 Wendling posted the identical scores in her match victory with Raich at the third flight.

The Fighting Knights, sensing the match slipping away, responded with a point at No. 2 when the No. 9-ranked Iannozzi dumped Werschel in straight sets 6-2 and 6-1.

Matuszak sided the fourth point to Barry as she walked with a 6-4, 6-0 win against No. 27 Ivan at No.4 singles. Both No. 1 and No. 5 singles featured a pair of three-set thrillers, but it was the Buccaneers third-ranked Pocza who, after splitting the first two sets, took the final tally 6-0, 3-6, 6-3. The victory clinched the match and the national title for Barry.

Men's Track & Field, Abilene Christian University



Paris Robertson of Abilene Christian competes in the 4X100 meter relay.

After a two-year hiatus, the Wildcats won their eighth NCAA Outdoor Track & Field title in 10 years Saturday at Al Brenda Track on the campus of California State University, Stanislaus. Desmond Jackson won the 200 meters and Nick Jones won the discus to lead the 68-point effort.

Adams State was the runner-up for the second time in seven seasons, finishing with 55 points. Lincoln finished third with 51 points, Emporia State was fourth with 43, and two-time defending NCAA Champion St. Augustine's finished fifth with 41. Western State and Johnson C. Smith (37 points apiece), Central Missouri (31.5), and Southern Connecticut State, Cal State L.A., and Angelo State (20 points each) rounded out the top 10.

"We knew it was going to be a battle getting off the plane," said Abilene Christian Head Coach Roosevelt Lofton. "We knew there would be about five teams competing for the title and we'd have to fight for every point we got. I was proud to see our kids do that."

Jackson also finished third in the 100 meters and ran the second leg of the second-place 4x100-meter relay team. Teammate Ramon Sparks finished third in the triple jump, while Amos Sang finished fourth in the 5,000 meters.

Women's Track & Field, Grand Valley State University

TURLOCK, Calif. – Grand Valley State won its first NCAA Women's Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships in dominating fashion at Al Brenda Track on the campus of California State University, Stanislaus on Saturday. The Lakers logged 10 All-Americans Saturday in windy and rainy conditions, outdistancing runner-up Lincoln (Mo.) 82.5-68.

In doing so, Grand Valley State completed a cycle of sorts, having also won the NCAA Cross Country Championships and Women's Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships in 2010-11.

"One thing we pride ourselves in is having a well-rounded program," said Grand Valley State head coach Jerry Baltes. "We came out and battled today. The conditions weren't great, a couple of our top girls didn't do as well as we expected, but we had some [other] girls step up."

Adams State finished third with 51 points, Johnson C. Smith was fourth with 36, and UC San Diego came in fifth with 35. Central Missouri and Western Washington (29.5 points each), Western State (28), New Haven (24) and Augustana of South Dakota (23) rounded out the top 10.



Grand Valley State celebrates their overall team title

Women's Rowing, Western Washington University

GOLD RIVER, Calif. -- Winning both the four and eight grand finals for the first time in three years, Western Washington University captured its seventh consecutive team title at the 10th annual NCAA Division II National Championships held on Lake Natoma at the Sacramento State Aquatic Center.

The Vikings entered the competition ranked No.1 nationally in the USRowing/Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association NCAA II Poll, receiving every first-place vote throughout the season. Their string of seven national team titles is unprecedented in any rowing division since the NCAA began a championship in 1997.

"I can't describe it, it just feels so good," Western coach John Fuchs said. "They worked so hard this year, it was pretty flawless. The prep work, the cross-training from the first practice in the fall, it just worked. We changed a lot of things and I'm really happy with everything that we did. It all worked out better than I expected. The combination of all those things made the team better."

Both Western's four and eight shells were victorious by wide margins in posting grand final victories on Sunday. After performing that feat the first four years of their string, the Vikings were second in the fours in 2009 and runner-up in the eights last year.

The record for consecutive women's national titles in any Division II sport is 10. Western is now tied for fourth. The Vikings also are tied for the longest Division II men's and women's active string of national titles with Drury, which has won seven consecutive in men's swimming and diving.



Western Washington during the Fours Grand Final

Football, University of Minnesota Duluth



Nadeau kicks the game winning field goal.

FLORENCE, Ala. -- The University of Minnesota Duluth completed its second perfect season in three years with a come-from-behind 20-17 victory against Delta State to claim the Division II football national championship.

It's the second national title in school history for Minnesota Duluth, which also went 15-0 in winning the 2008 championship. This year's team also posted a 15-0 record en route to the national title, ending a great run by a young Delta State team.

As time expired, Minnesota Duluth's David Nadeau kicked a 32-yard field goal that barely curled inside the left upright to cap a wild finish to a wild game that featured five lead changes.

"From my angle, I knew it was close," UMD head coach Bob Nielson said. "I saw the officials' arms go up and, honestly, for a minute there, I was a little stunned. Winning that way is a pretty special way to win."

On the field, Nadeau also had doubts. "When it came off my foot, I knew it was going to be close. It wasn't the best kick that I ever hit in my life by any means."

Like the rest of the game, it was just good enough. UMD, the nation's top-ranked team, struggled all game. The Bulldogs converted only one of 11 third-down attempts until late in the fourth quarter. Delta State's spread offense moved the ball with ease most of the game, but turnovers and three failed fourth-down attempts inside the 10 yard line allowed UMD to hang around.

"They are [15-0] for a reason. They know how to win." Said Delta State Coach Ron Roberts.

* 2011 Championship game occurs after the yearbook goes to print*

Men's Cross Country, Western State College



Ryan Haebe winning the men's individual title.

SPOKANE, Wash. -- Ryan Haebe took home the individual title with a time of 30:45.1 and Tyler Pennel finished three seconds behind him as Western State won its eighth NCAA Division II national championship and ninth overall with a team score of 35 points at the Plantes Ferry Athletic Complex.

It's the first national championship for the Mountaineers since 2005. The men won the NAIA championship in 1986, and Division II titles in 1995, 1999-2002 and 2004-05.

Haebe became the first individual national champion for the Mountaineers since 2001, and only the second student-athlete in Western State history to win a men's cross country national championship. Michael Aish won national titles in 1999 and 2001.

The Mountaineers finished with all five scoring runners in the top 13 of the overall results and top 12 of the scoring runners. After Haebe and Pennel, David Goodman placed fifth in 31:05.1, Gabe Proctor in seventh in 31:11.7 and Trevor Blackman rounded out the scorers by checking in at 13th place with a time of 31:36.8. No other team had more than three runners in the top 20. Western State finished with six All-Americans.

Field Hockey, West Chester University

BLOOMSBURG, Pa. -- West Chester has been crowned NCAA champion as it battled past UMass-Lowell to a 2-1 victory, winning its first national title.

UMass-Lowell started the game by putting two of three shots on target and earning one corner opportunity in the first 5:30 of the contest. However, the Golden Rams would be the first to strike at the 6:16 mark of the half. Kayla Gluchowski set up the West Chester goal by sending a cross into the circle where Nicole Fiorilla ripped a shot for a 1-0 lead.

West Chester kept the pressure on, earning two penalty corners, which ultimately led to their second goal of the game. Senior captain Brynn Adams punched in the second goal on the second corner attempt to give the Golden a 2-0 edge with 19:46 to play in the first half.

Neither team scored for the remainder of the half as West Chester marched into halftime with a 2-0 lead. Shots in the first half were in favor of the Golden Rams 12-10 and so were penalty corners 7-4.

The Golden Rams came out in the second half looking to build on their two-goal lead, firing eight shots to UMass-Lowell's two, but it was the River Hawks who made the most of their opportunities.

UMass-Lowell was awarded a penalty corner around the 56th minute, which set up a shot by Sarah Wilcox that was blocked by a West Chester defender. Wilcox recovered the ball and drove a pass to Ali

Ferraro, who buried a shot into the upper right corner for a goal, cutting the West Chester lead to one.

"We are thrilled to win our first national championship at the Division II level. These kids worked hard every day since March for this. We talked before the game that there were only six teams in the country that have this chance at a national championship," West Chester head coach Amy Cohen said.



West Chester battled to a 2-1 win against UMass-Lowell.

Women's Cross Country, Augustana College (South Dakota)

SPOKANE, Wash. -- Augustana (S.D.) is the NCAA Division II women's cross country national champion. The Vikings earned the program's first national title and the school's second overall team national championship with their stellar performance Saturday. The national title is the first for Augustana since 1991 when the softball team won.

Augustana netted just 75 points on a snowy Planter's Ferry Athletic Complex course. The Vikings beat runner-up Western State by only four points.

Leah Hanson led the Vikings Saturday, finishing 12th and running the 6,000-meter course in 21:40.40. Runa Falch finished directly behind her teammate in 21:42.40; Kristin Brondbo (21:47.90) and Kyle Blakeslee (21:53.30) rounded out this cluster of Augustana runners by finishing 15th and 18th, respectively. Kelly Kougl finished scoring by placing 29th in 22:08.40.

Other Viking runners included Annie Pfieffe, who placed 46th in 22:34.60, and Maddy Jourgensen, who took 108th in 23:49.90.

Shippensburg's Neely Spence took home the individual championship with a time of 20:53.8.



Augustana wins their program's first national title.

Men's Soccer, Fort Lewis College

PENSACOLA, Fla. -- Berek Blackwell knocked home a header off Joey Madigan's corner kick 1:31 into in the first overtime to lift Fort Lewis (24-1-0) to a 3-2 win against Lynn (14-5-3) in the national championship game, securing the third national championship for the Skyhawks.

The goal capped off a wild game in which Lynn outshot the Skyhawks 12-3 overall and controlled possession for much of the contest.

"I thought we knew it was going to be a tough game," said third-year FLC head coach Oige Kennedy, who also guided the Skyhawks to the 2009 NCAA Division II crown. "It was all pretty even and to go behind and come back and put yourself in the lead, then fall back again, to come out and win it in the end is tremendous."

Lynn scored first when Harald Gracholski netted his 12th goal of the season on a 25-yard free kick from outside the box at 13:15.

Fort Lewis equalized when Alberto Capdepon-Rodriguez took a long free kick that glanced off the head of Lynn's Jason Sangha for an own goal at 24:05. Sanga outleaped FLC captain Fabian Kling, who was trying to get a head the shot toward goal.

The Skyhawks took the lead at 31:23 when Thomas Hoang flicked a pass forward to Cory Dean. Dean sent a pass left to Kosta Kordistos, who one-timed a left-footed shot from the left side past Lynn goalkeeper Matt DiCerbo from 12 yards out. The goal was Kordistos' ninth of the year.

Gracholski buried another free kick, this one from 30 yards out, to level the score at 2-2 in the 72nd minute.



Fort Lewis defeats Lynn 3-2 in overtime, winning their teams third national title.

Women's Soccer, College of Saint Rose

Pensacola, Fla. -- If you look at the box score of the 2011 Division II Women's Soccer Championship game, you will find two teams evenly matched in all categories. But it was something that can't be measured with statistics that proved to be the difference in the College of Saint Rose's 2-1 victory against Grand Valley State on Saturday afternoon.

Some would describe that intangible as guts. Some prefer the term heart and soul. Whatever it was that helped them defeat the two-time defending national champions, the Golden Knights had more of it in the title game as they captured the school's first-ever NCAA team trophy.

With a senior class of seven strong, Saint Rose earned its third consecutive trip to the NCAA semi-finals this season, but advanced to the program's first-ever title game with a 2-0 victory against Armstrong Atlantic State on Thursday.

"They came out at halftime believing – they believed that they could do this," Darling Gutheil said. "They could have easily given up, but they fought back and I think that was a result of us overcoming so many obstacles during the season. We've had a lot of injuries and I've played them all over the place. This group is all about the team – not about one individual – but what they can collectively do as a team."



College of Saint Rose celebrates its national title

Women's Volleyball, Concordia University, St. Paul

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. -- For the first time in Division II women's volleyball history, Concordia captured a fifth consecutive NCAA Division II Championship by defeating top-ranked, previously unbeaten and tournament host California State-San Bernardino in consecutive sets 25-20, 31-29, 25-18 on Saturday night at Coussoulis Arena.

The Golden Bears (34-2) have won 30 consecutive NCAA tournament matches and have eliminated CSUSB in four consecutive years. This is the second time that the Golden Bears have defeated CSUSB on its home floor in the national tournament, also doing so in the 2003 NCAA Semifinals. It's also their second victory against CSUSB in the national championship match, winning in five sets in 2008.

For CSUSB, the loss ended the nation's longest home winning streak at 66 consecutive matches as the Coyotes closed the season with its best record in school history at 32-1 in the 25-20, 31-29, 25-18 loss.

"There really are two mindsets with [Saturday night]," Coyotes coach Kim Cherniss said. "One, I'm happy for Concordia-St. Paul. For them to win five consecutive NCAA titles and making history, it's a credit to Brady and his team. And two, it's heartbreaking for the kids."



Concordia defeats top-ranked California State-San Bernardino in consecutive sets.

Elite 89 Winners



Kate Barton, Volleyball
California State University, San Bernardino
 Business
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



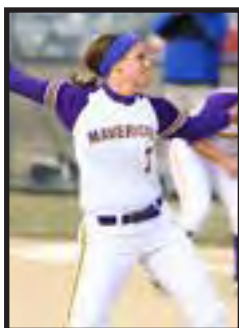
Dalton Moberly, Cross Country
University of Central Missouri
 Social Studies Education
 Elite 89 Winner (3.95 GPA)



Megan Foster, Soccer
California State University, Chico
 Undeclared
 Elite 89 Winner (3.942 GPA)



Whitney Bishoff, Indoor Track & Field and Cross Country
Anderson University (South Carolina)
 Early Childhood Education
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Kendra Huettl, Softball
Minnesota State University, Mankato
 Nursing
 Elite 89 Winner (3.99 GPA)



Nick Trull, Basketball
Anderson University (South Carolina)
 Kinesiology
 Elite 89 Winner (3.945 GPA)



Marianne Andersson, Golf
Florida Southern College
 Business Administration
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Brian Holik, Outdoor Track & Field
Angelo State University
 Exercise Science
 Elite 89 Winner (3.978 GPA)



Shawn Boss, Indoor Track & Field
University of Central Missouri
 Computer Information Systems
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Nancy Stehman, Field Hockey
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
 Special Education
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Angela Guisfredi, Basketball
Michigan Technological University
 Exercise Science
 Elite 89 Winner (3.947 GPA)



Filip Cojbasic, Tennis
Columbus State University
 Business Administration
 Elite 89 Winner (3.969 GPA)



Jordan Larsen, Wrestling
Colorado School of Mines
 Civil Engineering
 Elite 89 Winner (3.927 GPA)



Matthew Laschuk, Swimming
Wayne State University
 (Michigan)
 Chemistry
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Kelly McBryan, Tennis
Indiana University of
Pennsylvania
 Sports Administration
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Ian Wild, Lacrosse
Mercyhurst College
 Business Finance
 Elite 89 Winner (3.905 GPA)



DJ Milligan, Golf
California State University,
Monterey Bay
 Business
 Elite 89 Winner (3.90 GPA)



Micah Davis, Football
Delta State University
 Chemistry
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Tanya Sylvester, Swimming
Truman State University
 Pre-Medicine
 Elite 89 Winner (4.00 GPA)



Zach North, Baseball
University of West Florida
 Communication Arts &
 Advertising
 Elite 89 Winner (3.970 GPA)



**Kristen McGlynn, Outdoor
 Track & Field**
Adams State College
 English
 Elite 89 Winner (4.0 GPA)



Kristin Jones, Lacrosse
Adelphi University
 History
 Elite 89 Winner (3.893 GPA)



Harald Gracholski, Soccer
Lynn University
 Business Administration
 Elite 89 Winner (GPA 4.0)



Bethany Brun, Rowing
Mercyhurst College
 Social Work & Psychology
 Elite 89 Winner (3.962 GPA)



NCAA Division II Community Engagement has recently been expanded to serve the growing needs of the DII community. This redesigned site now features...

A global NCAA Division II Network homepage

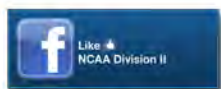
- Provides a quick overview of all the subsites within the Division II Network (Community Engagement, Game Environment, D2sa.org and any future subsites)
- Features latest news headlines with links to the full story
- Features newly released videos

New global navigation

- Provides easy access for users to access the subsite of interest (Community Engagement, Game Environment, D2sa.org and any future subsites)
- One-click access to award and recognition information
- Provides a global landing page for information on DII

Robust resource sections

- Updated on each site with an easy-to-search archive of helpful resources
- Searches are filtered by topic or media type and results are sorted by alphabetical listing or date of creation
- Prominent feature boxes draw attention to the newest resources



<http://www.facebook.com/NCAADivisionII>



<http://www.youtube.com/NCAADivisionII>



<http://www.twitter.com/NCAADII>

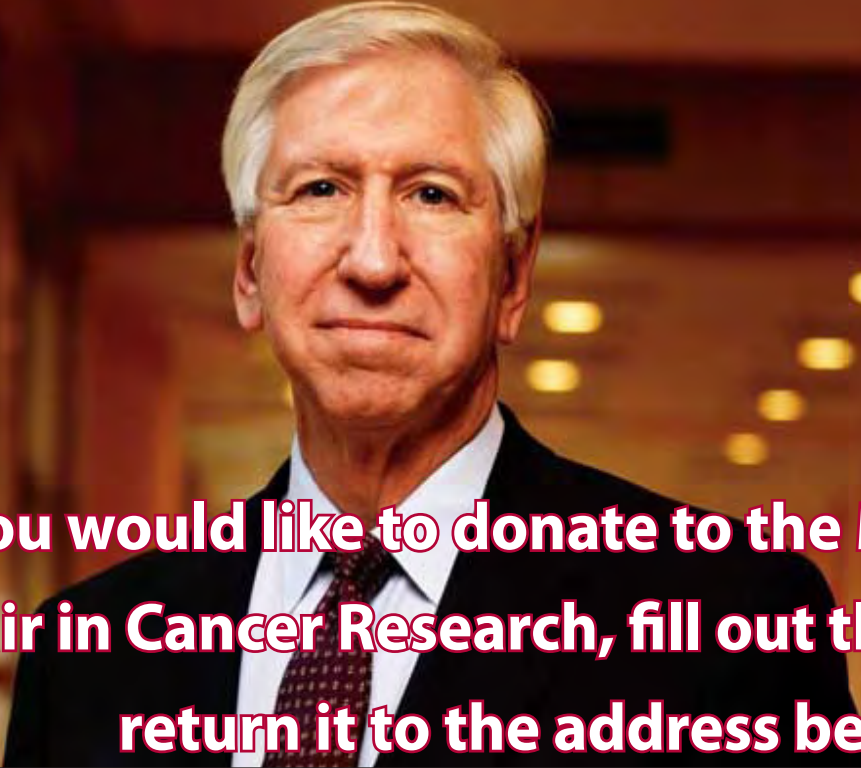
**Division II
Strategic
Communications
Toolkit**

Division II Strategic Communications Toolkit

Visit the Division II Strategic Communications Toolkit and access resources such as:

- Logos
- Web banners
- Print ads
- Presentation Templates
- Audio PSAs
- Videos and much more!

VISIT OUR REDESIGNED SITE AT DIICOMMUNITY.ORG OR DIINETWORK.ORG



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SEE YOU IN GRAPEVINE, TEXAS FOR
THE 2013 NCAA CONVENTION!