

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ATHLETICS
February 23, 2011**

ACTION ITEMS.

Association-wide.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Interpretation.**

- (1) Recommendation: The Committee on Women's Athletics (CWA) supports the policy request regarding transgender student-athlete participation submitted by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport (CSMAS) and requests that the NCAA Executive Committee Subcommittee on Gender and Diversity Issues recommend adoption of similar policy by the NCAA Executive Committee.
- (2) Rationale: Issues of student-athlete well-being and protection of competitive equity require an association-wide policy that addresses transgender student-athlete participation. This request from CSMAS seeks fair opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds, while insuring that women's sports will be equitably conducted.
- (3) Estimated budget impact: None.
- (4) Student-athlete impact: None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

Association-wide.

- 1. New committee members.** The committee welcomed Portia Lowe Hoeg, senior woman administrator at Lake Forest College, and Carmen Leeds, associate athletics director at Emporia State University, as new members.

2. **Divisions I, II, and III governance updates.** The committee received updates on the Divisions I, II and III governance reports.
 - a. **Division I Postseason Bowl Sponsors.** It was noted the Division II and III Presidents' Councils and Management Councils, as well as the Division I Leadership Council endorsed the CWA's position concerning the certification of GoDaddy.com as a Postseason Bowl sponsor and the need to ensure Postseason Bowl certification and licensing conform to NCAA advertising policies.
 - b. **Division I Capital One Cup.** The committee discussed the Capital One Cup, a proposed awards program to honor athletic department achievement through success with selected, tiered sports as a part of a points system. Members of the committee noted their concern about the structure of the point system, including the tier structure where certain sports are given more weight than other sports. It was also noted that this awards program only involves Division I Bowl Championship Series schools and does not include Division I Football Bowl Series, Division II, or Division III institutions.
3. **Faculty Athletic Representatives Association resolution.** The committee reviewed a resolution presented by the Faculty Athletic Representatives Association which recommended as follows: (a) substantive changes in the NCAA advertising policies to preclude advertisement, endorsement or sponsorship of products associated with NCAA banned and impermissible drugs; and (b) changes in the process and membership oversight of NCAA promotion and advertising decisions.
4. **Structure of NCAA Executive Committee Subcommittee on Gender and Diversity Issues.** The CWA supports the adoption of a revised committee structure that provides a continuation of the individual efforts of CWA and the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee (MOIC), but allows for a formal joint committee of CWA and MOIC representatives to address overlapping areas of issue, as well as beginning to address broader issues of inclusion. This revised model also expands CWA and MOIC membership to include presidential representation from each division, which the committee supports as an important step in addressing inclusion goals for the Association.

5. Senior Woman Administrator survey results. Nicole Bracken, NCAA assistant director of research, and Bonnie Tiell, faculty athletics representative from Tiffin University, provided their initial analysis of the data collected from a survey of senior woman administrators (SWAs) and athletics directors regarding the roles of SWAs in athletics departments, a CWA requested research effort. Bracken and Tiell noted they are still in the process of compiling the qualitative data into topic areas, as well as examining other ways to analyze and breakdown the survey results. However, highlights from the initial review of the quantitative data included:

- a. There was a total response rate of 1202 individuals. The overall SWA response rate was 62.1 percent (681 out of 1,096 surveys). The overall athletics director response rate was 54.8 percent (601 out of 1,096 surveys).
- b. There was "significant improvement" regarding the SWA designation also being accompanied by an administrative title. In Division I, 96 percent of SWA respondents also had an administrative title, which was a 3 percent increase from a 2005 survey of SWAs. Seventy-nine percent of the SWAs in Division II and 71 percent of SWAs in Division III reported having an administrative title, which represented approximately a 20 percent increase in each division when compared to the 2005 survey results.
- c. Tiell noted a consistent perception gap between athletics directors and SWAs in regard to training and mentorship, and whether the SWAs are in decision making roles.

The committee discussed the preliminary results, specifically the perception gap between athletics directors and SWAs, and possible ways to bridge this gap. The committee plans to continue to review the data, and develop an action plan at its June meeting.

6. Emerging sports for women program updates.

- a. **Squash.** It was noted that squash was removed from the emerging sport list effective August 1, 2011.
- b. **Rugby.** The committee received an updated on the status of rugby as an emerging sport. Specifically, it was noted that rugby will reach the 10 year mark in 2012, and CWA will have to examine whether it has shown growth

Women Coaches Academies, Women's Leadership Symposium, NCAA Gender equity Forum, and NACWAA Regional Executive Leadership Seminar. The committee also discussed the creation of the Alliance for Women Coaches, which will provide a voice to women coaches from all divisions and all sports on their experience as athletics professionals.

- 10. NCAA Woman of the Year.** The committee received an update regarding the NCAA Woman of the Year Selection Committee and process for 2011. This year's award announcement will be October 16 in Indianapolis.
- 11. Title IX update.** The committee received an update on Title IX related matters, including current national discussions regarding how to count multi-sport athletes. It was noted that this could become a notable issue for the NCAA, especially in track and field. The committee will continue to track this issue.
- 12. Future meeting dates and sites.**
 - a.** June 21-23, 2011, in Indianapolis, Indiana.
 - b.** October 11-12, 2011, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in conjunction with the NACWAA Fall Convention and partially with MOIC.

Committee Chair: Stan Williamson, Campbell University

Staff Liaisons: Karen Morrison, gender inclusion
Brynna Barnhart, enforcement
Lynn Holzman, academic and membership affairs