REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I AWARDS, BENEFITS, EXPENSES AND FINANCIAL AID CABINET
SEPTEMBER 21, 2010, MEETING

***KEY ITEMS*.**

1. **Review of sand volleyball financial aid legislation.** The NCAA Division I Awards, Benefits, Expenses and Financial Aid Cabinet reviewed feedback on NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2009-70 from the NCAA Division I Sand Volleyball Working Group and agreed to modify Proposal No. 2009-70 to include a provision that if a student-athlete who only participates (practices or competes) and is a counter in sand volleyball during her first year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution participates in women's volleyball during her second year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, that the certifying institution must consider the student-athlete as a counter in women's volleyball for her first year of enrollment. [See Legislative Informational Item No. 1-b(1)]

2. **Equivalency computations – calculation of books.** The cabinet, prompted by its review of Proposal No. 2010-75, agreed that it needed more information about practices currently being used by member institutions to provide books to their student-athletes. The cabinet took no position on Proposal No. 2010-75, and directed the staff to collect information from the membership on those practices and to report back to the cabinet at its February 2011 meeting.

3. **Examination of maximum grant-in-aid limitations/equivalency versus head count designations.** The cabinet prioritized this examination during its June 2010 meeting. The cabinet reviewed historical information provided by the staff and agreed that additional information was necessary to allow the cabinet to conduct a thorough examination of the topics. The cabinet discussed models that could be used going forward (e.g., hybrid model currently used in sports like baseball and ice hockey) and the need for feedback from the membership and directed the staff to collect additional information, including information related to unduplicated counts, the ratio of available grants-in-aid to participants and information on participation trends in youth sports. The cabinet will review the information during its February 2011 meeting.

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

1. **Legislative Items.**

   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- None.

***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS*.**

1. Legislative Items.

a. Comments on proposals in the 2010-11 legislative cycle forwarded to the cabinet. The cabinet reviewed Division I legislative proposals forwarded to it for review that will be considered by the Division I membership as part of the 2010-11 legislative cycle and offered the following comments:

(1) Proposal No. 2010-25. The cabinet agreed to support Proposal No. 2010-25 as written, which would permit a student-athlete to use career counseling and internship/job placement services available exclusively to student-athletes, provided the student-athlete is not placed in a position in which the student-athlete uses his or her athletics ability. The cabinet agreed with the sponsor's rationale.

(2) Proposal No. 2010-58. The cabinet took no position on Proposal No. 2010-58 which would establish a summer academic preparation and college acclimatization model, as specified. Although the cabinet expressed no concerns with the proposal's financial aid requirements, the cabinet expressed concerns about continuing student-athletes who attend summer school and engage in summer athletics development activities being required to successfully complete a minimum of six credit hours in order to be eligible to compete in the first term of the following academic year.

(3) Proposal No. 2010-66. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-66 as written, which would permit an institution to provide one training-table meal per day to a student-athlete who does not receive athletically related institutional financial aid that covers the full cost of board; further, to specify that the provision of the one training-table meal per day to such a student-athlete shall not be considered financial aid. The cabinet noted that, except in specific, legislated circumstances, meals are considered a type of financial aid. The cabinet also expressed concern about the provision of such a meal being used as a recruiting advantage for those institutions that elect to provide such a meal.

(4) Proposal No. 2010-68. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-68 as written, which would specify that a student-athlete may receive financial aid from an established family friend, provided specified conditions are met. The cabinet noted the difficulties with legislating these specific circumstances and indicated that those situations that involve extenuating circumstances can be addressed through the NCAA Division I Legislative Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief waiver process.

(5) Proposal No. 2010-70. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-70 as written, which would specify that a student-athlete who has not received athletically related aid from the certifying institution during a previous academic year may receive athletically related financial aid to attend the institution's summer term or summer school, provided the student-athlete has been awarded athletically related financial aid for the following academic year and the aid is awarded only in proportion to the amount of athletically related financial aid the student will receive for the following academic year. The cabinet noted the lack of sufficient safeguards to guard against abuse and that the NCAA Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund currently may be used to provide financial aid for summer school.

(6) Proposal No. 2010-74. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-74 as written, which would, in baseball, specify that for an ensuing academic year, the combination of executed athletically related financial aid awards and outstanding written offers of athletically related financial aid to prospective student-athletes and student-athletes shall not exceed the maximum number of permissible awards by more than one equivalency; further, to specify that the overage may be divided among not more than two individuals (student-athletes or prospective student-athletes). The cabinet noted that recent legislative changes in baseball addressed some of the concerns noted in the rationale. The cabinet also noted reasons for allowing oversigning vary amongst campuses and that, as a result, issues related to oversigning should be addressed by each campus.

(7) Proposal No. 2010-75. The cabinet took no position on Proposal No. 2010-75, which would increase the financial aid equivalency figure for calculation purposes for books from $400 to $800; further, to specify that if a student-athlete receives any portion of a book allowance, $800 shall be used in the numerator and denominator of the equivalency calculation. The cabinet agreed that it needed more information about practices currently being used by member institutions to provide books to their student-athletes and directed

the staff to collect information from the membership on those practices and to report back to the cabinet at its February 2011 meeting.

(8) Proposal No. 2010-76. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-76 as written, which would, in women's basketball, reduce the annual limit on the number of counters at each institution from 15 to 13. The cabinet noted that the current financial aid limitation for women's basketball is appropriate and expressed concern with reducing the number of scholarships without ensuring that those resources would go to other women's programs.

(9) Proposal No. 2010-77. The cabinet took no position on Proposal No. 2010-77 which would change the voting line of Bylaw 15.5.6.2 from federated to Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) dominant and to change the voting line of Bylaw 20.9.8 and its subsections from federated (FCS) to Football Championship Subdivision (FCSD).

(10) Proposal No. 2010-78. The cabinet agreed to support Proposal No. 2010-78 as written, which would specify that, in football, an initial counter who replaces a midyear graduate may be counted against the initial limit for the year in which the aid is awarded (if the institution's annual limit has not been reached) or for the following academic year. The cabinet agreed with the sponsor's rationale.

(11) Proposal No. 2010-79. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-79 as written, which would specify that, on one occasion during the final academic year of a student-athlete's athletics eligibility, an institution may provide complimentary admissions for the student-athlete's parents or legal guardians to attend an institutional awards banquet at which the student-athlete is being honored. The cabinet noted that the proposal addresses a situation that occurs one-time during a student-athlete's final academic year of athletics eligibility and that those situations can be addressed through the NCAA Division I Subcommittee for Legislative Relief waiver process.

(12) Proposal No. 2010-80. The cabinet agreed to support Proposal No. 2010-80 which would specify that, in swimming and diving, if an institution does not have access to a diving platform within the mileage limitations of Bylaw 16.8.1.1, the institution may provide expenses for diving practice sessions at a site located outside the mileage limitations that includes a diving platform. The cabinet agreed with the sponsor's rationale.

(13) Proposal No. 2010-81. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-81 as written, which would establish travel squad limits for regular season, away-from-home competition, including exhibitions/scrimmages, nonchampionship segment competition and conference championships and neutral site competitions, as specified. The cabinet noted that many conferences already have policies related to travel squad limits and that such decisions should continue to be left to the discretion of institutions and conferences.

(14) Proposal No. 2010-82. The cabinet agreed to oppose Proposal No. 2010-82 as written, which would specify that if an student-athlete does not use team travel to NCAA championships, national governing body championships in emerging sports and postseason bowl games during a vacation period, the institution may only provide actual and necessary transportation costs for the student-athlete to travel from: campus to the event site and back to campus; campus to the student-athlete's home and back to campus; or the student-athlete's home to the event site and back home; further, to specify that reimbursement for automobile mileage shall not exceed the rate provided to institutional staff members and shall be limited to not more than 400 miles one-way; finally, to increase, from $20 to $55, the amount of money that an institution may provide to each member of the squad to cover unitemized incidental expenses during travel and practice for such events. The cabinet recommends the sponsor modify the proposal to eliminate the increase from $20 to $55 for incidental expenses at NCAA championships, national governing body championships in emerging sports and licensed bowl games. The cabinet would support the proposal if modified. Further, in the event the sponsor does not accept the cabinet's recommended modification, the cabinet agreed to sponsor an alternative proposal. The cabinet noted that the current amount that may be provided to each member of the squad to cover unitemized incidental expenses during travel and practice for such events is appropriate.

(15) Proposal No. 2010-83. The cabinet agreed to support Proposal No. 2010-83 as written, which would specify that, in championship subdivision football, institution shall not provide lodging (e.g., hotel, motel) to any student-athlete in conjunction with a home contest. The cabinet agreed with the sponsor's rationale.

(16) Proposal No. 2010-84. The cabinet agreed to support Proposal No. 2010-84 as written, which would increase the limitation on the maximum value of the annual participation award for a senior by $100 and to increase the limitation

on the maximum value for all other participation awards by $50, as specified. The cabinet agreed with the sponsor's rationale.

b. Modifications to cabinet sponsored proposals.

(1) Proposal No. 2009-70. The cabinet reviewed the information provided by the NCAA Division I Sand Volleyball Working Group and agreed to modify Proposal No. 2009-70 which would establish the maximum equivalency and counter limitations in sand volleyball, to specify that if a student-athlete who only participates (practices or competes) and is a counter in sand volleyball during her first year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution, participates in women's volleyball during her second year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution, that the certifying institution must consider the student-athlete as a counter in women's volleyball for her first year of enrollment. The cabinet noted that the inclusion of this provision would provide safeguards against the stockpiling of student-athletes. The cabinet also noted that the modification would not impact a student-athlete who only participates (practices or competes) and is a counter in sand volleyball during her first year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution and participates in women's volleyball after her second year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution.

(2) Proposal No. 2010-65. The cabinet agreed to modify Proposal No. 2010-65, which would establish a definition of "recruited student-athlete" for purposes of Bylaw 15, to specify that an individual who becomes a recruited prospective student-athlete at an institution only due to the fact that an institutional staff member or athletics representative initiated or arranged a telephone contact with the prospective student-athlete, the prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians on more than one occasion for the purpose of recruitment, shall not be considered recruited for purposes of Bylaw 15. The cabinet noted that the modification is intended to prevent confusion by using the definition of recruited prospective student-athlete found in Bylaw 13.02.13.1.

c. Nonlegislative items.

(1) Outreach to financial aid community. The cabinet received an update from the staff related to outreach efforts (e.g., communication, education) to the financial aid community. Since the June 2010 meeting, the staff has provided a presentation to National Association of Student Financial Aid

Administrators to communicate NCAA financial aid legislation and issues. The cabinet will continue to receive updates on the staff's progress with these initiatives during future meetings.

(2) Review of the NCAA Compliance Assistant software's financial aid module. The cabinet received a presentation from the staff on the functionality and benefits of the NCAA Compliance Assistant software. The staff demonstrated the program to the cabinet and reviewed existing financial aid-related educational resources (e.g., User Guide, training videos, NCAA Regional Rules Seminar presentations, etc.) available to the membership. The cabinet will continue to receive updates on modifications that affect the program's financial aid module.

Committee Chair: *Sarah Bobert, Marquette University, Big East Conference*
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