REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
FEBRUARY 16-18, 2009, MEETING

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

1. Legislative Items.

- **Amendment to NCAA Proposal No. 2008-75 – Freshman Academic Requirements – Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition – Qualifier – Exception – Early Academic Certification – Submission of Transcript.**

(1) Recommendation. The NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance recommends the NCAA Division I Legislative Council sponsor an amendment to Proposal No. 2008-75 to specify that an institution may request a waiver of this legislation, as specified by the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet.

(2) Effective Date. August 1, 2009.

(3) Rationale. The amendment specifies that the Academic Cabinet shall have the authority to authorize waivers of the submission requirement, will establish the process for granting such waivers, and shall monitor the waivers requested and granted. Providing waivers via a simple process when extenuating circumstances preclude the submission of a prospective student-athlete's high school transcript allows a reasonable accommodation to institutions without jeopardizing the integrity of the data collection. The creation of a waiver process will provide institutions with relief in instances in which it is not possible to obtain the final high school transcript and will address concerns from the membership regarding the administrative burden that would be placed on campus compliance personnel. The committee continues to strongly support the concept of this data collection and analysis in the development of sound academic policy. The proposal is intended to fill a gap in the academic data currently available to help the division make informed decisions related to academic legislation and policy in the future. The committee believes the time spent on collecting transcripts and other data will result in better academic policy and requirements. With this data, the membership will be able to validate the early academic certification requirements, to study changes in core-course taking patterns, and to model predictors of long-term academic success.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Head Coaches' NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR) Portfolio. The committee began its work to develop a publicly available Web site for reporting the APR for all Division I head coaches. The committee noted that the Head Coaches' APR Portfolio will not be a new measure for head coaches; rather, it will report existing information about the academic performance of each team during the head coach's tenure. The Web site will report each head coach's employment history and the team's single-year APR for each year of the head coach's tenure. When an institution has more than one head coach during an academic year, each head coach will have that year's APR reported on his or her portfolio. While the committee understands that the head coach is not solely responsible for a team's academic performance, it also would like to limit any additional administrative burden on the membership. As a result, the information reported will be limited to head coaches at this time and will not list any administrators. The committee particularly noted that the inclusion of other campus personnel (e.g., director of athletics, faculty athletics representative, academic support personnel, president) who also may impact a team's APR would create an even greater administrative burden at the institutional level, but could be revisited at a later date.

To build and maintain these portfolios, institutions will submit the names of head coaches of NCAA-sponsored sports that have been employed since August 1, 2003, as well as the dates each individual was employed as head coach. Coaches will have the opportunity to verify employment dates; however, there will not be an opportunity to appeal the information reported in the APR portfolio. Such opportunities for appeals would have been available during the annual NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program data collection process (e.g., data corrections and adjustments).

The committee decided on a phased implementation of the program due to the institutional burden of fully implementing the system for the fall 2009 data collection. In addition, a phased implementation will allow time for a pilot test in order to identify any issues with the process of collecting data and verifying it with head coaches. Data for the

pilot program, which will include baseball, men's and women's basketball, football and women's indoor and outdoor track, will be collected in fall 2009 and released by summer 2010. The committee included women's track to test data collection for an individual sport that may have multiple coaching designations (e.g., director of track and field, along with head women's track coach). Depending on the results of the pilot program, the committee's intent is to collect data for the remaining sports and fully implement the program during the 2010-11 academic year.

In addition, the committee began discussion of a secure password-protected Web site that would provide additional academic and other NCAA-specific information about head coaches. The Web site will provide institutional presidents and chancellors, directors of athletics and others with limited access to information pertaining to head coaches.

2. Data Collection on Two-Year College Transfers. The committee finalized the list of academic data collection items for two-year college transfers to be provided during the annual submission of Academic Performance Census data. In October 2008, the committee approved an amendment to its policies and procedures to require an institution to provide academic data on two-year college transfer student-athletes during the annual submission of its APC data. Since the October meeting, the NCAA Division I Basketball Academic Enhancement Group, the NCAA Division I Football Academic Working Group, the Academic Cabinet, and the NCAA Two-Year College Relations Panel have provided feedback regarding the data to be collected. In addition, each of these groups noted the importance of gathering data regarding the academic performance of two-year college transfer student-athletes, specifically while at the two-year institution. The data collection will begin with submissions for the 2008-09 academic year and the identified elements will be collected for at least a two-year period (i.e., data to be submitted fall 2009 and fall 2010) for the following sports: baseball, men's and women's basketball and football. At the end of this two-year period, the committee will determine if any changes should be made to the list of data collection elements and or to the data collection process.

3. Review of Proposals in the 2008-09 Legislative Cycle. The committee expressed its position on the following proposal:

- **Proposal No. 2008-77-1 – Eligibility – Transfer Regulations – Two-Year College Transfers – Submission of Information Necessary to Determine Academic Initial-Eligibility Status -- Waiver.** The committee supports this proposal as amended to specify that the Academic Cabinet shall have the authority to permit waivers of the submission requirement, will establish the process for granting such waivers, and shall monitor the waivers requested and granted. The committee agreed that providing waivers via a simple process when

extenuating circumstances preclude the submission of a prospect's high school academic information allows a reasonable accommodation to institutions without jeopardizing the integrity of the data collection. The committee strongly supports data-driven development of sound academic policy and notes that the collection of this high school academic information for two-year college transfers is vital to support the Division I governance structure's review of the academic performance of two-year college transfers.

4. Occasion-Three Historical Penalty Hearings. The committee conducted hearings for four institutions currently subject to Occasion-Three Historical Penalties.

Committee Chair: Walter Harrison, University of Hartford, America East Conference
Committee Liaisons: Julie Cromer, Academic and Membership Affairs
Diane Dickman, Academic and Membership Affairs
Kevin Lennon, Academic and Membership Affairs
Todd Petr, Research
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