

MINUTES OF THE
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
WALTER BYERS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Teleconference

March 14, 2006

Participants:

Eugene Hermitte, Johnson C. Smith University
Lee A. Meserve, Bowling Green State University
Jack Ohle, Wartburg College
Robert Thomas, University of Missouri, Kansas City, chair
Elizabeth L. Wilkes, Wofford College
Ann Kearns, NCAA, recording secretary

[Note: These minutes contain only actions taken (formal votes or stated "sense of the meeting") in accordance with NCAA policy regarding minutes of all Association entities. While certain items on the committee's agenda were acted on at various times throughout the meeting, all final actions within a given topic are combined in these minutes for convenience of reference.]

Tuesday, March 14

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. Eastern Standard Time by the chair, Mr. Thomas. All members were present as noted above.

1. Opening Remarks. Mr. Thomas welcomed those in attendance. All members introduced themselves and then Ms. Kearns reviewed the purpose of the telephone conference and the process for selecting the finalists.
2. Selection of Finalists. The candidates were narrowed to three finalists and one alternate each for the men and women.
 - a. The male finalists were:
 - (1) Brian Flaherty, University of Denver;
 - (2) Tyler Harlan, Vanderbilt University; and

- (3) Bryan Norrington, Colorado College.
 - b. The male alternate was David Werry, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
 - c. The female finalists were:
 - (1) Anne Bersagel, Wake Forest University;
 - (2) Jessica Guyer, Bowling Green State University; and
 - (3) Erin Hanna, Colgate University.
 - d. The female alternate was Jamie Pelusi, University of Pittsburgh.
3. Interview Questions. The committee determined the topic areas for the interview questions and who would ask the question for each topic. The same committee member will ask the same question of each candidate. The interview question topics are:
 - a. Community service;
 - b. Academics;
 - c. Vision for the future;
 - d. Athletics; and
 - e. Distinguishing characteristic(s).
4. Update the Application Packet. Ms. Kearns noted that changes suggested by the committee for the 2005-06 academic year were not implemented but will be for the 2006-07 academic year. They are:
 - a. Add language to section 3b of the nominating instructions that asks candidates to write specifically about long and short-term goals.
 - b. Add language to section 3c of the nominating instructions that directs the candidates not to list any one item on more than one factual list and not to list any honors/awards in the activities list.
 - c. Add language to section 3c of the nominating instructions that directs candidates to indicate the number of weeks per year and the number of hours per week they were involved in each community service activity.

Additional changes suggested by the committee for the 2006-2007 year are:

- a. Add language to section 3c of the nominating instructions that directs the candidates to provide a brief explanation of a community service project when referencing a project by its formal name.
 - b. Add language to section 3c of the nominating instructions that directs the candidates to provide separate lists of academic and athletic honors received while in college.
 - c. Add language to section 3c of the nominating instructions that directs the candidates to refrain from substituting the use of a resumé in lieu of separate factual lists of (1) principal activities; (2) honors while in college and (3) principal involvement in community activities.
5. Review of Byers Scholar Recognition at the 2004 FARA Fall Forum. Mr. Meserve briefly reviewed the successful efforts to recognize the 2004-05 Byers Scholars at the 2005 FARA Fall Forum.
 6. Agenda for the April 23-24 meeting. Ms. Kearns reviewed the agenda for the April 23-24 meeting during which the committee will interview the six scholarship finalists.
 7. Other Business. Ms. Kearns reviewed the budget request for the upcoming budget cycle. A New Initiative request was submitted to increase the Walter Byers Scholarship Committee budget \$30,000 annually, which would go to supplying the four finalists who are not named a Walter Byers Scholar with a one-time \$7,500 finalist scholarship. Ms. Kearns explained that this is in place of the Post-Graduate Scholarship Committee awarding four of its awards to the Byers finalists as it had done in the 2004-05 cycle. The NCAA rule stating that a student-athlete can receive only one postgraduate award will stand; therefore, if a student accepts a Byers finalist scholarship, he or she will not be able to accept a Post-Graduate Scholarship. The \$7,500 amount was chosen because this is the current value of the Post-Graduate Scholarship award. Ms. Kearns informed the committee that the budget request had been approved.
 8. Adjournment. The telephone conference adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

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