

**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE**

The NCAA Division I Management Council Governance Subcommittee submits the following report from its October 21, 2007, meeting:

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Presentation to the Division I Board of Directors.** The Governance Subcommittee received an update from its chair on his August 9, 2007, presentation to the Board of Directors regarding the subcommittee's work. The subcommittee was informed the Board appeared to generally support the subcommittee's recommendations but the Board instructed the subcommittee to change its recommendations to provide that the Committee on Infractions and Infractions Appeals Committee should report to the Board of Directors rather than the Leadership Council.
- 2. Clarifications and Potential Modifications.** The subcommittee was provided an opportunity to offer any suggested modifications to its recommendations to date. During the course of this review the subcommittee confirmed that the administrative review function should be performed by a subcommittee of the Legislative Council under the new structure and that the Legislative Review and Interpretations Committee should be renamed the Legislative Interpretations Committee and that it should report as a standing committee to the Legislative Council. Last, as part of this review, the subcommittee reaffirmed that the jurisdiction of the proposed Administrative Cabinet was appropriate having been assigned governance issues, committee selections and membership administration. The subcommittee determined though that the cabinet should not help manage the Division I legislative agenda as originally suggested as this will be the charge of the new Legislative Council.
- 3. Representational Issues.** The subcommittee reaffirmed its conviction that the proposed new Division I governance structure should be populated by representatives that provide a diversity of gender, ethnicity, position and background. Additionally, the subcommittee confirmed that this new structure should seek to identify and develop new representatives to serve within the structure, for the true strength of the governance structure is the people serving in it. Given the subcommittee's commitment to ensuring meaningful diversity in the new structure, the subcommittee recommends that the role of the Division I Board of Directors in overseeing the governance appointment process be enhanced so that the Board

has explicit responsibility in evaluating the overall conference submitted slates of governance nominees. Further, the subcommittee is recommending that the Board of Directors assign to the Leadership Council as its first agenda item the issue of ensuring and growing diversity in the Division I governance structure while balancing the need for flexibility in the conference nominating process. Examples of issues the Leadership Council could consider as part of this examination include whether conferences should be required to develop governance succession plans; whether each conference should be required to meet representational requirements over a specific period of time; whether the minimum percentages for gender and ethnic representation are appropriate and whether the practice of “double counting” should be eliminated.

- 4. Communications Plan.** The subcommittee again discussed the importance of ensuring good communication occurs between the various proposed governance bodies and that there exist a high level of coordination regarding the work of these bodies. To assist with this communication and coordination the subcommittee recommends that the chairs of the eight proposed governance bodies meet via conference call (or in-person if the meeting schedule allows) to share information on the agendas of the various bodies and ensure the bodies have a coordinated approach to addressing issues identified by the Board of Directors and Leadership Council. While the subcommittee determined it was premature to set a meeting schedule for this group, the members suggested that depending on the issues being discussed this group may have cause to meet before the cabinet meetings and then again in advance of the councils’ meetings. The subcommittee noted this group could play an important role in communicating with the Division I membership regarding key governance issues and major association-wide themes. Finally, the subcommittee noted that this council of chairs should not be referred to as an administrative committee or the executive committee as such titles could be too easily confused with the new Administrative Cabinet and other existing governance bodies.
- 5. Meeting Schedule.** The subcommittee started to discuss a possible meeting schedule for the reorganized Division I governance structure and agreed to modify its original recommendation to provide that the six cabinets and the Legislative Council along with the Board meet on the same basic meeting schedule as the current cabinets, Management Council and Board. (Note: Originally, the subcommittee recommended that the Legislative Council and the Board of Directors should meet approximately two weeks later in the fall than the bodies currently do.) This means that under the suggested meeting schedule the cabinets would meet within a three week window in September, February and June as the current cabinets do and that the Legislative Council and Board would meet at approximately the same times as the Council and Board currently do. The subcommittee

declined to suggest a meeting schedule for the Leadership Council feeling that group needed a level of flexibility in planning its meetings but the subcommittee did note a tentative meeting of that group should be scheduled for the summer of 2008 perhaps in conjunction with the summer Board meeting.

6. **Sport Committees.** The subcommittee discussed the fact that under the proposed new governance structure there is an expectation that sports committees will address not only championships issues but also sports administration issues in light of the fact most sports do not have assigned issues committees.
7. **Conference Rotational Issues.** The subcommittee reviewed a proposed conference representation rotational chart, which not only provided for all conference seats to rotate at the same time but allowed for seats within the same subdivision to rotate at the same time. The subcommittee discussed whether having all seats held within a subdivision rotate at the same time might have unintended consequences but the group ultimately concluded that there would be a sufficient level of continuity within the structure and that there may be benefits to having a class of representatives start their governance service at the same time.
8. **Staffing Issues.** The subcommittee was informed that the governance staff has started examining staffing issues under the proposed new structure and it is not anticipated that the new structure will result in a need for many more staff members assigned to governance duties or in over taxing the current staff.
9. **Transitional Issues.** The subcommittee discussed the fact that if the Board of Directors uses its emergency legislative authority to adopt the Governance Subcommittee's recommendations at its November 1 meeting, the subcommittee would be the group, along with the NCAA governance staff, to address the issues associated with transitioning to the new Division I governance structure. During this conversation it was noted that those currently serving in the governance structure who have interest in continuing to serve should be encourage to work with their conference offices to ensure they are nominated for service in the new structure. It is anticipated that appointments to the new governance bodies will occur in April 2008.

Committee Chair: Rich Ensor, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

Staff Liaisons: S. David Berst, vice-president for division I

Beth DeBauche, director of division I governance.