NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Committee

Report to NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Oversight Committee from October 25-26, 2016, meeting
Key Item

Selection of vice chair for 2016-17 and committee chair for 2017-18.

- The committee voted Rhonda Lundin Bennett, senior associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at University of Nevada, as vice chair for 2016-17 and committee chair for the 2017-18 season. Ms. Bennett is currently serving her third year as a member of the committee.
Informational Items

• Welcomed three new members: Jill Bodensteiner, University of Notre Dame; Debbie Richardson, Atlantic-10 Conference; and Tamica Smith Jones, University of California, Riverside.

• Reviewed the success of the August Mock Selection exercise. A committee meeting the evening before helped prepare the committee for the exercise the next day, and the overall feedback continues to be very positive.
Informational Items

- ESPN research presented a webinar to the group on ratings, methods for data collection and how different generations are consuming television, more specifically, sports.

- Reviewed programming schedule, game time windows and talent changes for the 2017 championship.

- Discussed the timeline for top 16 reveals and how to give ESPN more insight into the work of the committee. Invitations have been extended to the committee’s January meeting to select talent and production staff so they better understand the work leading up to selection weekend.
Informational Items

• Approved ESPN’s request to delay the announcement of second-round game times until the conclusion of the first round, continuing the practice from last year.

• Discussed the pause in regional site selection process and anticipated timeline for the spring. Also reviewed the successful attendance of the 2014 regional on-campus sites; the committee supports further exploration of returning to campus sites for future regionals.
Informational Items

• Discussed ways to continue encouraging and attracting new audiences to WFF, including possible cross programming with coaches and administrators of NACWAA would consider moving their annual convention to coincide with WFF.
Discussion and Questions.