ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.
   a. Automatic Qualification.
      (1) **Recommendation.** That the following 11 conferences receive automatic bids for the 2016 Division I Rowing Championship: American Athletic Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; and West Coast Conference.
      (2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.
      (3) **Rationale.** All of the conferences listed have submitted paperwork signifying that they meet the requirements to be eligible for automatic qualification to the 2016 NCAA Division I Rowing Championship.
      (4) **Budget Impact.** None.
      (5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** None.
   b. Championship Selection Criteria.
      (1) **Recommendation.** That the Division I Competition Oversight Committee approve removing “regional ranking” as a stated selection criterion.
      (2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.
      (3) **Rationale.** The committee noted that stating regional ranking is redundant, as it is currently covered under items H and I in the selection criteria outlined in the pre-championships manual. Items H and I state that results versus regionally ranked teams in region and results versus regionally ranked teams out of region will be examined as part of the selection process.
(4)  **Budget Impact.**  None.

(5)  **Student-Athlete Impact.**  None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1.  **2014 Annual Meeting Report.**  The Division I Women’s Rowing Committee approved the 2014 annual meeting report.

2.  **Chair Appointment.**  The committee approved Ashley Armstrong, associate athletics director at the University of California, Los Angeles, as chair for the 2015-16 academic year.  Ms. Armstrong will replace current chair Sharon Sanford when Ms. Sanford’s term expires at the end of August.

3.  **Review of 2015 Championship.**

   a.  **General Overview.**  Overall, the committee was extremely pleased with the conduct, layout and overall execution of the championship event.  The committee did encourage hosts to address the following in advance of the championship returning to Gold River, California, in 2016:  (1) better directional signage should be located throughout the facility, (2) two hot-water stations should be made available following boat weigh-in, (3) review the number of port-o-lets available and ensure daily servicing, (4) re-examine the position or location of the merchandise tent due to congestion, and (5) there is no need for tables to be placed in student-athlete shade tents.  Additionally, the committee asked that public access (via bicycles and in general) be better managed in 2016 to secure the venue once under NCAA control.

   b.  **Community Ergs.**  The committee noted that a total of 56 community ergs should be made available for student-athlete use given the size of the championship and the demand for use.  This will be discussed with the host to explore all possible options.

   c.  **Media Information.**  The committee noted that the rowing championships should be better publicized and promoted on NCAA.com.  Members recommended that results and highlights should be easily accessible by being placed on the front page of NCAA.com.  Additionally, the committee asked about working with the currently contracted timing company to create a results application that can be used for easy upload and review of results on a mobile device.
d. **Competition Schedule.** The committee reviewed the championships schedule in advance of the joint divisional meetings and voted to recommend to all divisional committees that 12-minute centers be implemented between every race. Additionally, the committee recommended keeping the same time gap between sessions one and two on Friday and also maintaining the traditional race order throughout the three days of competition.

With the adjustment to 12-minute centers, the committee also voted to recommend in the joint divisional meetings that the course open for practice each day of competition at 6:15 a.m., with practice ending at 7:12 a.m. The committee then voted to recommend that the first race each day begin at 8:12 a.m.

e. **Contingency Schedule Plan of Action.** The committee developed the following four philosophies to be followed in numerical order when giving consideration to adjusting the schedule due to weather (i.e., high wind).

1. Move all races up earlier in the day and keep race order and centers intact.
2. Flip-flop the schedule and move the higher-priority races earlier in the day and keep centers intact.
3. Compress centers of lower-priority races and maintain the existing centers for higher-priority races.
4. Compress centers for all races.

f. **Warm-up Area.** The committee discussed asking the Sacramento State Aquatic Center in advance of 2016 about possibly extending the permit to allow for approximately another 50 meters in the warm-up area. Members also discussed asking the aquatic center, if the permit cannot be extended, if the warm-up area can be reconfigured or adapted in another way (i.e., triangle) to better handle the volume of boats and flow of boat traffic.

g. **GoPro’s.** The committee voted to recommend in the joint divisional meeting that GoPro’s be allowed for use during the championship, as long as they are not transmitting information to land. The committee also voted to recommend in the joint session that GoPro’s with tri-pod not be allowed on boats during competition.

h. **Credentialing.** The committee voted to recommend in the joint session that it be required for institutions to submit names for the additional four administrator credentials that institutions are allowed to purchase. This is to help ensure that the credentials being purchased are used solely for institutional staff.
i. **Banquet.** The committee will continue to evaluate and research potential speakers for the 2016 banquet. The committee emphasized the importance of identifying speakers who are inspirational, relatable to the student-athletes and experienced in public speaking. The committee also recommended that more fruit be available at the banquet brunch in 2016.

j. **Hotels.** Committee members noted that many of the institutions staying at non-full-service hotels struggled to coordinate team meals. The committee and staff will work with full-service hotels in advance of the 2016 championships to see if they can accommodate team meals for institutions not staying at their property. They will also work to identify local catering companies that may be willing to help those institutions that need larger catered meals.

k. **T’s and Racks.** The committee requested that the a-frame racks be available upon request in 2016 rather than being pre-set by the host. This information will be included in the participant manual in an effort to accommodate those teams that wish to use the a-frame racks.

l. **Chief Referee.** The committee voted to recommend to the joint committee that Sheila Tolle be appointed as chief referee in 2016.

m. **Fairness Committee.** The committee noted that the objective of the fairness committee is to serve as a subcommittee that monitors and evaluates current situations in order to make recommendations to the full committee. However, the full committee is still responsible for making the ultimate decision on matters of fairness (i.e., lane changes, schedule changes, etc.).

n. **In-Stadium Production and Announcers.** The committee was extremely pleased with the number of television monitors and the large-screen video board provided for the student-athletes, coaches and fans. They also praised the Pac-12’s execution and plan for the awards presentation, noting that it was energetic, exciting and fun both for the fans and student-athletes.

The committee voted to recommend in the joint session that the same three in-stadium announcers be invited back in 2016. However, the committee addressed the perception that the announcers could at times seem overly enthusiastic for a particular team or teams. The committee emphasized that announcers remain neutral and fair in their delivery of championship announcing, and that they also should wear apparel that is not institution-specific.
o. **Webcast.** Overall, the committee felt the webcast was improved in 2015 by adding the second on-water camera. However, the committee still believes that the quality of the camera feed was lacking at times, especially in the first 1,000 meters, and recommends that the concerns be shared with WebStream to explore solutions prior to the 2016 championships.

4. **Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) and Regional Alignment.** The committee reviewed the current RAC composition and noted vacancies that need to be filled for the 2015-16 academic year. In addition, the committee noted changes to expected regional alignment based on institutional movement among conferences.

5. **Regional Advisory Committee Ranking Procedures.** The committee reviewed the regional advisory committee ranking procedures. At the request of the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association (CRCA), the committee decided to publish the final regional advisory committee ranking moving forward since this is a criterion that the CRCA uses in their year-end awards.

6. **Automatic Qualification Deadline.** The committee confirmed that the deadline to submit automatic qualifications for 2016 will be Monday, May 16, at 1 p.m. Eastern, which corresponds with the same date and time as 2015.

7. **Results and Line-up Reporting.** The committee reviewed the significance of lineup posting and noted that the same requirements will be in place for 2016. Teams that do not post their lineups on their institutional athletics pages by midnight Eastern each Monday following the regatta will be subject to a $200 fine for failure to adhere to championship policies and procedures.

   Additionally, Row2k will continue to serve as the officials results reporting site for results that are eligible for championship qualification consideration.

8. **Selection Policies and Procedures.** In addition to Nonlegislative Item No. 2-b above, the committee elected to add a note that the published criteria are not listed in any preferential order in an effort to better clarify the selection process.

9. **Review of Championship Manuals.** The committee reviewed the pre-championship manual and made minor editorial adjustments, including clarifying the medical substitution
language in cases where a sick or injured competitor is later restored to health. All updates will be made to the manual prior to it being posted by January 15, 2016.

Committee Chair: Sharon Sanford, University at Buffalo, State University of New York, Colonial Athletic Association
Staff Liaison: Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances

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<tr>
<th>June 22-23, 2015, Annual Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees</strong></td>
<td><strong>Absentees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Armstrong, University of California, Los Angeles</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>Jimmy King, West Virginia University</td>
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<td>Glenn Putyrae, Gonzaga University</td>
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<td>Scottie Rodgers, The Ivy League</td>
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<td>Sharon Sanford, University at Buffalo, State University of New York</td>
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<td>Jeff Smith, University of Massachusetts, Amherst</td>
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<td>Andy Teitelbaum, The Ohio State University</td>
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<td><strong>Other Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Mlynski, NCAA</td>
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<td>Molly Simons, NCAA</td>
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<td>Ryan Tressel, NCAA</td>
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