ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   - Sport committee appointments (Attachments). Ratify the following sport committee appointments, effective September 1, 2016, unless otherwise specified:
     a. Men’s golf. Craig Stensgaard, assistant director of athletics/head men’s and women’s golf coach, Northwest Nazarene University, to replace Todd Ohlmeyer, head men’s golf coach, St. Edward’s University, due to term expiration.
     b. Women’s lacrosse. Julika Blankenship, head women’s lacrosse coach, Queens University of Charlotte, to replace Lelsey Graham, head women’s lacrosse coach, Saint Leo University, due to term expiration.
     c. Men’s soccer. Claudio Arias, associate director of athletics/head men’s soccer coach, Texas A&M International University, to replace Frank Kohlenstein, head men’s soccer coach, Colorado School of Mines, due to term expiration.
     d. Women’s soccer. James Moore, head women’s soccer coach, Georgian Court University, to replace Magnus Nilerud, head women’s soccer coach, University of Bridgeport, due to term expiration.
     e. Men’s and women’s swimming and diving. Barbara Parker, diving coach, University of West Florida, to replace Kelly LaCroix, diving coach, Wayne State University (Michigan), due to term expiration.
     f. Men’s and women’s track and field and cross country. Jody Russell, faculty athletics representative/athletic trainer, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, to replace Kimberly Miller, assistant director of athletics, Shaw University, due to Ms. Miller having resigned from the committee; effective immediately.
     g. Women’s volleyball. Melanie Robotham, assistant commissioner, Lone Star Conference, to replace Debbie Hendricks, head women’s volleyball coach, Metropolitan State University of Denver, due to Ms. Hendricks having left Metro State; effective immediately. In addition, Timothy McDiffett, senior associate director of athletics, University of Alaska Anchorage, to replace Jamie Bouyer,
associate director of athletics, California State University, Dominguez Hills, due to term expiration.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Opening remarks and review of schedule.** Championships Committee Chair Lisa Sweany welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda.

2. **Approval of previous reports.** The committee approved reports from the March 3, 2016, teleconference and the March 16, 2016, electronic vote, as submitted.

3. **Sport committee reports.** The Championships Committee reviewed a report from the Division II Men’s and Women’s Track and Field and Cross Country Committee’s March 9-10, 2016, meeting. The report included a recommendation to modify the current selection process for teams to the NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Championships in a manner that would allow the top two finishers in a region to automatically advance to the championships and the remaining 16 teams to be selected based on defined criteria. Championships Committee members supported the concept, particularly in the way it relies more on contemporary performance than historical data to select teams, but they expressed concern about the percentage of the field (50 percent) being devoted to at-large selection. The Championships Committee would prefer that more deference be given to teams’ performance at the regionals, and as such asked the sport committee to consider revising the proposal so that the top three teams in each regional advance and the remaining eight teams would be selected at-large. Staff noted that the sport committee would consider this request during a teleconference later in April, which means the Championships Committee could revisit the matter during its May teleconference.

4. **Other business.**

   a. **Playing rules process.** The Division I oversight committees for football and men’s and women’s basketball are asking the Divisions II and II Management Councils for input regarding a potential change in the way the playing rules process in those sports is structured. Accordingly, the Division II Management Council would benefit from receiving feedback from the Division II substructure, including the Division II Championships Committee, regarding two models under consideration. Both models increase the influence Division I has in the playing rules structure for those sports, one by tweaking the current process and one by proposing legislation to double the Division I representation on the playing rules committees in those three sports and on the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. After reviewing both models, Championships Committee members continue to express concern regarding what they perceive as insufficient rationale for the proposed changes. They also believe the proposed changes could possibly create a system that addresses student-athlete health and safety and well-being.
differently among divisions. The Championships Committee did not take a position or favor either model because members do not believe the current system is flawed.

b. 2016 women’s basketball championships. Division II Championships Committee members were extremely pleased with how the combined championships in Indianapolis were administered and conducted. The committee was impressed with the crowd, particularly with the following for both participating teams, and with all the ancillary activities to enhance the student-athletes’ experience, including their participation in the flag ceremony during the national anthem before the Division I championship game.

c. Seeding in men’s basketball. The committee also was pleased with the outcome of the Division II Men’s Basketball Committee’s proposal to seed the Elite Eight participants in order to enhance the chances of the top teams meeting in the finals. As it happened, the Nos. 1 and 2 seeds met in the championship game. Championships Committee members noted that the women’s basketball committee reviewed the issue last fall but decided to monitor the process used in the men’s tournament this year before revisiting the matter. The Championships Committee is receptive to similar proposals from other sport committees.

5. Adjournment. Ms. Sweany adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Lisa Sweany, Armstrong State University, Peach Belt Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances
                  Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances
                  Katie Willett, Academic and Membership Affairs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division II Championships Committee</th>
<th>April 7, 2016, Teleconference</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Dearing, Western Oregon University; Great Northwest Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Pat Britz; South Atlantic Conference.</td>
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<td>Kim Duyst, California State University, Stanislaus; California Collegiate Athletic Association.</td>
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<td>Greg Gilbert, University of Findlay; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Gary Gray, University of Alaska Fairbanks; Great Northwest Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Jim Johnson, Pittsburg State University; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.</td>
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<td>Julie Ruppert; Northeast-10 Conference.</td>
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<td>Mike Scales, Nyack College; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (Presidents Council liaison).</td>
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<td>Tom Shirley, Philadelphia University; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.</td>
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<td>Lisa Sweany, Armstrong State University; Peach Belt Conference.</td>
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Kim Vinson, Cameron University; Lone Star Conference.

**Absentees:**
- Michael Anderson; Gulf South Conference.
- Ty Dennis, University of Minnesota, Mankato; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
- Jacqie McWilliams, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (Management Council chair).
- B.J. Pumroy, Shepherd University; Mountain East Conference.

**Guests in Attendance:**
- Gary Brown, NCAA contractor.

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**
- Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.
- Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**
- Morgan DeSpain, Championships and Alliances.
- Leslie Havens, Championships and Alliances.