1. Review of Values-Based Revenue Distribution and Next Steps. In October 2016, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors and NCAA Board of Governors delegated authority to the Division I Committee on Academics to oversee activation of values-based revenue distribution and monitor the academic metrics upon which distribution is based. The committee reviewed the approved distribution plan, including the rationale, criteria and timeline for distribution, the committee’s responsibilities under the approved plan, a projected operational plan for the committee, and questions and operational issues that need to be resolved by the committee. [Informational Item No. 1.]

2. Review of Resource to Help High-Level Institutional Leadership Assess Academic Achievement at Campus Level. The committee discussed how institutions could support their high-level leaders, such as presidents and chancellors, in assessing how student-athletes perform academically in comparison to the general student body. The committee supported the refinement of a resource that is intended to provide high-level leaders with a series of questions that encourage the use of data to track student-athlete academic success and outcomes and support campus-level analyses that are already in place. [Informational Item No. 2.]

3. Response to Feedback from Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Limited-Resource Institutions Academic Advisory Group on NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program Penalty Structure. The HBCU and LRI Academic Advisory Group has discussed the APP penalty structure and exploring how APP penalties are determined to ensure appropriate consideration is given to the mission of HBCUs and LRIs before application of filters. The committee reviewed feedback from the advisory group, supported collaborating with the advisory group to address the concerns of the advisory group and discussed opportunities that could result from such collaboration. [Informational Item No. 3.]

4. Review of Council-Governance Membership-Sponsored Proposal No. 2016-73 and Response to Sponsor. The Big South Conference introduced Proposal No. 2016-73 to the 2016-17 legislative cycle to amend the calculation of the NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate for men’s basketball teams related to four-year college transfers. The committee reviewed the proposal to understand its intent, rationale and impact on the APR as a metric and determine if the concerns identified by the Big South could be addressed through policy. The committee continued to recommend that the proposal be defeated. [Informational Item No. 4.]

5. Update on Certifications Under New Initial-Eligibility Standards. The committee received an update on initial-eligibility certifications under the new standards. Preliminary data has shown a minimal change in the percentage of prospective student-athletes eligible to compete after academic certification and initial-eligibility waivers. [Informational Item No. 8.]
6. **Update on Educational Initiatives for LRIs.** The committee received an update on the development of educational programming required for institutions with at least one underperforming team, including the status and timeline of programming, and the development of educational offerings for all LRIs. [Informational Item No. 10.]

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of Values-Based Revenue Distribution and Next Steps.** In October 2016, the Division I Board of Directors and the Board of Governors approved an initiative to distribute a portion of Division I revenue to the membership based on academic achievement beginning with the 2019-20 academic year. The approved plan created an academic unit, or academics-based distribution, using a portion of the annual growth in future years of the NCAA’s media rights agreement. Institutions qualify for the funds by meeting any of the following criteria:

   a. The institution’s APR for the previous year is equal to or greater than 985;
   
   b. The institution’s Graduation Success Rate for the most recently available year is equal to or greater than 90 percent; or
   
   c. The difference between the institution’s student-athlete and student-body rates for the most recently published Federal Graduation Rate is equal to or greater than 13 percentage points.

   Under the approved plan, the Board of Directors and Board of Governors delegated authority to the Committee on Academics to oversee activation of distribution and monitor the academic metrics upon which distribution is based.

   The committee reviewed the approved distribution plan, including the rationale, criteria and timeline for distribution, the committee’s responsibilities under the approved plan, a projected operational plan for the committee, and questions and operational issues that need to be resolved by the committee. The committee recognized the significant milestone achieved by the Board of Directors and Board of Governors in approving distribution of revenue based on academic achievement. The committee indicated that it would monitor the unrestricted nature of the distribution. As the committee assumes its responsibilities, the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Data will first address any operational issues and questions related to data that arise during activation of distribution before full committee review. The successful implementation of distribution is a strategic priority for the committee. [See subcommittee discussion at Informational Item No. 11-b.]
2. **Review of Resource to Help High-Level Institutional Leadership Assess Academic Achievement at Campus Level.** The committee continued to discuss how institutions could support their high-level leaders in assessing how student-athletes perform academically in comparison to the general student body. The committee supported the refinement of a resource that is intended to provide high-level leaders, such as chancellors and presidents, with a series of questions that encourage the use of data to track student-athlete academic success and outcomes. The goal of the resource is to support campus-level analyses that are already in place and help leaders understand what they need to know to assess the academic well-being of their student-athletes. The committee will review the refined resource at an upcoming meeting.

3. **Review of Feedback from HBCU and LRI Academic Advisory Group on APP Penalty Structure.** At its October 2016 meeting, the HBCU and LRI Academic Advisory Group discussed the APP penalty structure and exploring how APP penalties are determined to ensure appropriate consideration is given to the mission of HBCUs and LRIs before application of filters. The advisory group expressed an interest in alternative methods to determining penalties in which the academic performance of student-athletes is compared to the academic performance of the general student body, potentially through federal graduation rates. The committee reviewed feedback from the advisory group. While acknowledging the intent of the APP penalty benchmark and filters designed specifically for LRIs, the committee supported collaborating with the advisory group to address the concerns of the advisory group and discussed opportunities that could result from such collaboration. The advisory group will continue its discussion at the advisory group’s February 17 meeting.

4. **Review of Council-Governance Conference-Sponsored NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2016-73 and Response to Sponsor.** The Big South Conference introduced Proposal No. 2016-73 to the 2016-17 legislative cycle to amend the calculation of the APR for men’s basketball teams related to four-year college transfers. Specifically, the proposal specifies that, in men’s basketball, if a transfer student-athlete with a cumulative grade-point average of less than 2.600 becomes a member of an APR cohort at the next institution, the certifying institution shall lose an APR point (as opposed to the institution from which the student-athlete transferred). Further, the lost APR point may be regained if the student-athlete graduates from the certifying institution. The committee initially recommended that the Council defeat the proposal in September 2016. The committee continued to discuss the proposal and reviewed feedback from the Subcommittee on Data and Big South to understand the proposal’s intent and rationale, the impact of the proposal on the APR as a metric and opportunities to address the concerns of the Big South through policy. The committee provided feedback to the NCAA Division I Legislation Committee and continued to recommend that the proposal be defeated. The Subcommittee on Data will continue to review the issues the Big South hopes the proposal will resolve and collaborate with the conference. [See subcommittee discussion at Informational Item No. 11-c.]
5. Review of Council-Governance Conference-Sponsored Proposal No. 2016-78. A conference introduced Proposal No. 2016-78 to the 2016-17 legislative cycle to eliminate the annual limit of 27 total counters and the minimum equivalency value requirement in baseball. Under the current legislation, each baseball student-athlete is required to be provided athletic and other countable aid equal to or greater than 25 percent of an equivalency. The committee provided feedback to the Division I Legislation Committee on the proposal and did not support the proposal.

6. Update on Proposals for 2016-17 Legislative Cycle. The committee received an update on the status of proposals for the 2016-17 legislative cycle, including Council-governance conference-sponsored proposals previously assigned to the committee for review and Council-sponsored proposals recommended by the committee.

7. Response to Concerns by Member Conference Regarding Certification Violations Uncovered During APP Data Review. A member conference raised concerns regarding the appropriateness of the vacation of wins and records penalty for academic certification progress-toward degree violations initially uncovered during an APP data review. The committee discussed the concerns by the conference and reviewed the intent and goals of the data review process. The committee agreed that the Subcommittee on Data will review its policies and procedures to provide additional clarity regarding the purpose of data reviews and threshold for subsequent reviews within a ten-year period. The committee recognized that the conference’s specific concerns regarding the appropriateness of the vacation of wins and records penalty will be reviewed by the Division I Enforcement and Infractions Review Group.

8. Update on Certifications Under New Initial-Eligibility Standards. The committee received an update on initial-eligibility certifications under the new standards. Preliminary data has shown a minimal change in the percentage of prospective student-athletes eligible to compete after academic certifications and initial-eligibility waivers. The committee will prioritize further review of data as it becomes available.

9. Update on NCAA Response to Redesigned SAT and Technical Advisory Panel. The committee reviewed the Eligibility Center’s educational outreach initiatives regarding the process for considering scores on the redesigned SAT in academic certifications and initial-eligibility waivers during the 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 academic years. The committee also received an update regarding the Technical Advisory Panel, comprised of representatives from member institutions and external organizations (e.g., ACT, College Board and Educational Testing Service), which the committee endorsed to review the redesigned SAT (e.g., concorded values to prior version, predictive validity, impact on student-athlete subgroups and concordance to ACT). The panel is waiting for additional data on the results of the redesigned SAT before continuing its review. Over the next few years, the ACT and College Board will develop a new national concordance. Concurrently, the NCAA will conduct its own test-score validity study, as recommended by the ACT, College Board and panel, which could result in separate sliding scales for the ACT and SAT.
10. **Educational Initiatives for LRIs.** In October 2015, in connection with action by the committee to modify the APP penalty filter system for LRIs, the committee established an educational programming requirement for LRIs with at least one underperforming team. The committee received an update on the development of programming in response to this requirement, including the status and timeline of the first phase of the program. The first phase, expected to be available to the membership in spring 2017, addresses academic eligibility requirements. The second phase may address retention, as well as programming targeted for chancellors and presidents. The committee also received an update on educational initiatives being developed for all LRIs, including educational outreach during the data review process and development of a hotline to resolve certification questions during summer 2017.

11. **Report from the Subcommittee on Data.** The committee reviewed the reports of the December 1, 2016, and January 12 teleconferences and received an update from the subcommittee break-out meeting held during the full committee meeting.

   a. **Review of Graduation Success Rates and Policies.** At its December 1, 2016, teleconference, the subcommittee supported a review of current GSR policies and procedures to identify opportunities to enhance membership education on and understanding of application of the policies and procedures and otherwise ensure the policies and procedures continue to capture the APP’s original intent. The subcommittee will begin a review during an upcoming teleconference.

   b. **Review of Values-Based Revenue Distribution and Next Steps.** The subcommittee received an overview of the values-based revenue distribution approved by the Board of Directors and Board of Governors. The subcommittee recognized that it will address any operational issues and questions related to data that arise during the activation of the academic unit before being reviewed by the full committee. [See committee discussion at Informational Item No. 1.]

   c. **Review of Council-Governance Conference-Sponsored Proposal No. 2016-73.** At its January 12 teleconference the subcommittee reviewed the proposal by the Big South Conference and began to identify additional data, application issues and possible alternatives to be considered on a future teleconference. The subcommittee agreed that additional background information from the Big South regarding intent and concerns related to application of the existing policy would be helpful to the discussion as the subcommittee continues its review. [See committee discussion at Informational Item No. 4.]

   d. **Amendment to APR Adjustment Directive.** At its break-out meeting during the full committee meeting, the subcommittee approved an amendment to the APR adjustment directive to provide relief for a lost retention point in instances where a student-athlete is not retained in the next regular academic term due to participation in junior-level Olympic or international competition. The change is effective immediately and may apply to any year within the current multi-year cohort.
e. Review of Autonomy Proposal No. 2016-130. At its break-out meeting during the full committee meeting, the subcommittee reviewed autonomy Proposal No. 2016-130, which specifies that institutional financial aid awarded to an enrolled student-athlete after the first day of classes in any term may be made retroactive to the beginning of that academic year. The subcommittee confirmed that a student-athlete is in the APR cohort for any term in which the student-athlete receives retroactive athletics aid (and is enrolled full-time).

f. Request from Conference for Updated Public APR Reports. At its break-out meeting during the full committee meeting, the subcommittee considered a request from a member conference to have the public APR reports updated after any correction or adjustment to the data. Currently, the APR reports posted as part of the APR release are static, which creates a snapshot of where the school stands at a certain point in time with regard to APR and APP penalty status. The conference asserted that some of its teams have higher APRs and would like to erase the stigma of a low APR score. In addition, the conference believes the low APRs may impact a coach’s future employment potential and contribute to poor public perception of the institution. The subcommittee took no action and will explore ways to better explain the snapshot of an institution’s APR data on the reports during an upcoming teleconference.

12. Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics. The committee reviewed the report of the December 7, 2016, teleconference and received an update from the subcommittee break-out meeting held during the full committee meeting.

a. Review of Additional Fall-Term Credit-Hour Requirement for Football Student-Athletes. At its December 7, 2016, teleconference, as part of its regular review of legislation, the subcommittee reviewed the requirement that football student-athletes satisfactorily complete nine-semester or eight-quarter credits during the fall term to be eligible to compete in the first four contests against outside competition in the following playing season. The review included an assessment of the impact of the requirement on the academic performance of football student-athletes, progress-toward-degree waiver directive and progress-toward-degree waiver statistics. The subcommittee recognized the requirement has positively impacted the academic performance of football student-athletes and agreed that no modification to the requirement was necessary. In addition, the subcommittee determined that the directive effectively holds football student-athletes accountable to the legislation while granting relief from the four-game withholding when appropriate. The subcommittee, however, recommended that the directive be modified to provide flexibility for when institutions present significant mitigation for the student-athlete’s failure to meet the requirement. The subcommittee will review the recommended modification as part of its overall review of the directive in spring 2017.
b. **Review of Academic Performance of Student-Athletes who Initially Enrolled Full Time at Midyear.** At its December 7, 2016, teleconference, in response to a request by a member conference, the subcommittee examined the data on the academic performance of student-athletes who initially enrolled full time at a Division I institution for the first time after the first term of the academic year. The subcommittee noted that the number of student-athletes initially enrolling after the first term of the academic year has increased significantly over the last seven years, with the majority participating in football. Despite this trend, the subcommittee noted the data did not show any significant difference in the academic performance of these student-athletes compared to those who initially enrolled at the beginning of the academic year. The subcommittee agreed that no additional review was necessary.

c. **Review of Two-Year College-Transfer Legislation and Waiver Directives.** At its break-out meeting during the full committee meeting, as part of its regular review of the legislation, the subcommittee reviewed the two-year college-transfer legislation and waiver directives, as well as data on the academic impact of changes to the two-year college-transfer legislation. The two-year college-transfer requirements were enhanced in 2012 (i.e., increased minimum transferrable GPA to 2.500, limit on the maximum number of physical education credits to be used to meet requirements and additional natural or physical education credit-hour requirement for nonqualifiers) to address the underperformance of two-year transfer student-athletes compared to transfers from four-year institutions or nontransfers. The data showed improved academic outcomes for two-year transfer student-athletes entering Division I and at the Division I institutions. The subcommittee determined that the legislation and waiver directive should not be modified.

13. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals.** The committee received an update from the subcommittee break-out meeting held during the full committee meeting. During the break-out meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the penalty waiver and appeals process and participated in an exercise on case analysis as part of continuing education.

14. **Research Update.** The committee reviewed GSR data collected for student-athletes who entered college in 2009 and the October 2016 public release of the GSR.

15. **Academic Technology Update.** The committee received an update on implementation of the Academic Portal, which will bring all APP processes under one umbrella and impact all three divisions. The first phase (NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program and Division II Academic Tracking System data collection) was released to the membership in August 2016. The second phase (membership-wide graduation rates data collection) is scheduled to be released in March 2017. The final phase (APR Improvement Plan and data review processing) is scheduled to be released in the summer 2018. The committee recognized that a review will be conducted to address the maintenance issues that resulted in unavailability of the portal for a period of time during the fall 2016.
16. **NCAA Division I Presidential Forum Update.** The committee received an update on key items from the October 26, 2016, and January 18 meetings of the forum.

17. **Board of Directors Update.** The committee received an update on key items from the October 27, 2016, and January 19 meetings of the board.

18. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** The committee received an update on key items from the January 18-20 meeting of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

19. **Council Update.** The committee received an update on key items from the January 17-18 meeting of Council.

20. **Reports of the Committee on Academics.** The committee reviewed and approved the report of the October 10-11, 2016, meeting.

21. **Strategic Priorities.** The committee reviewed its strategic priorities. The committee developed the priorities to provide more transparency and accountability to the membership.

22. **Priority Future Agenda Items.** The following have been identified as priority future agenda items for the committee:

   a. Implementation of values-based revenue distribution.
   
   b. Review of refined resource to help high-level institutional leaders use data to track academic success and outcomes of their student-athletes.
   
   c. Review of academic metrics to address opportunities to enhance the metrics.
   
   d. Analysis of data regarding new initial-eligibility standards and subsequent review of standards and any identified issues.

23. **Future Meeting Dates.**

   a. April 19-20 – Indianapolis;
   
   b. June 20-21 – Indianapolis;
   
   c. October 16-17 – Indianapolis;
   
   d. February 19-20, 2018 – Indianapolis;
   
   e. April 9-10 – Indianapolis;
f. June 18-19 – Indianapolis; and

g. October 8-9 – Indianapolis.

Committee Chair: Roderick McDavis, Ohio University; Mid-American Conference
Staff Liaisons: Shauna Cobb, Academic and Membership Affairs
Azure Davey, Academic and Membership Affairs
Charnele Kemper, Academic and Membership Affairs
Ken Kleppel, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division I Committee on Academics
February 2, 2017, Meeting

Attendees:
Carray Banks, Jr., Norfolk State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University; Missouri Valley Conference. (via telephone, Monday)
Jacqueline Blackett, Columbia University – Barnard College; The Ivy League.
Jerry Bovee, Weber State University; Big Sky Conference.
Greg Burke, Northwestern State University; Southland Conference.
Tom Burman, University of Wyoming; Mountain West Conference.
Carolyn Callahan, University of Virginia; Atlantic Coast Conference.
David Clough, University of Colorado, Boulder; Pac-12 Conference.
John DeGioia, Georgetown University; Big East Conference.
Pamela Eibeck, University of the Pacific; West Coast Conference.
Rhonda Hatcher, Texas Christian University; Big 12 Conference.
Genese Lavalais, Jackson State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.
Brandon Martin, California State University, Northridge; Big West Conference.
Roderick McDavis, Ohio University; Mid-American Conference.
Joe Scogin, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Southeastern Conference.
Abigail Stefanides, Lafayette College; Patriot League.
Thomas Yeager, Colonial Athletic Association.
Kurt Zorn, Indiana University, Bloomington; Big Ten Conference.

Absentees:
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.
Frank Messina, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Conference USA.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Azure Davey, Charnele Kemper and Ken Kleppel.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Lydia Bell, Eric Brey, Susan Britsch, Emily Capehart, Greg Dana, Judy Delp, Doug Healey,
Jennifer Henderson, Michelle Hosick, Andy Louthain, Karen Metzger, Binh Nguyen, Tom Paskus,
Todd Petr, Tiese Roxbury, Dave Schnase, Naima Stevenson, Ali Theodore, Wendy Walters, Karen Wolf,
Katy Yurk.