



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 13-14, 2017, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

**1. Review February report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its February 23, 2017 teleconference.

**2. Election of committee chair.** Angel Mason, Senior Associate Athletics Director and Senior Woman Administrator at Pomona-Pitzer Colleges, was elected Chair of the Division III Financial Aid Committee.

**3. Level I reviews.** The committee reviewed 37 Level I financial aid reporting cases. During the deliberations, members of the committee recused themselves as necessary in accordance with NCAA and conflict of interest policy. On review, the committee took the following actions:

**a. Voted to take no action on the following 14 Level I review cases:**

- (1) 2005-3-03;
- (2) 2005-3-12;
- (3) 2006-1-16;
- (4) 2013-2-03;
- (5) 2015-1-10;
- (6) 2016-1-01;
- (7) 2016-1-02;
- (8) 2016-1-04;
- (9) 2016-1-08;
- (10) 2016-1-10;
- (11) 2016-1-12;
- (12) 2016-1-17;
- (13) 2017-1-03; and
- (14) 2017-1-07.

**b. Voted to forward the following 23 Level I review cases to Level II:**

- (1) 2006-1-11;
- (2) 2006-1-15;
- (3) 2006-3-01;
- (4) 2006-3-04;
- (5) 2007-1-05;
- (6) 2007-1-07;
- (7) 2007-2-06;
- (8) 2008-1-08;
- (9) 2009-1-01;
- (10) 2010-2-02
- (11) 2011-1-05;
- (12) 2011-2-03;
- (13) 2012-1-04;
- (14) 2012-1-08;
- (15) 2014-2-04;
- (16) 2015-1-08;
- (17) 2016-1-06;
- (18) 2016-2-03;
- (19) 2017-1-01;
- (20) 2017-1-04;
- (21) 2017-1-05;
- (22) 2017-1-06; and
- (23) 2017-1-08.

- 4. Review of findings from an analysis of current financial aid review triggers.** The committee reviewed the impact of changes made to the financial aid review criteria established prior to the 2015-16 reporting cycle where the sport filter was introduced. Across three reporting cycles, the sport filter has resulted in 155 Level I reviews. Forty-five of those were institutions reviewed for the first time and 31 of the 155 would not have triggered a review under the previous review criteria. Overall, 263 institutions, 59 percent of the Division III membership have triggered a review by the committee across the 13 years of the reporting program. The committee endorsed the current review criteria noting its effectiveness in identifying potential compliance issues at a broader range of institutions than the previous review criteria. Findings from further analyses will be presented at future committee meetings.
- 5. Review of Division III financial aid interpretive requests.** The committee reviewed a summary of interpretive requests received by the Academic and Membership Affairs staff between January 1, 2017 and August 1, 2017. NCAA Bylaws 15.2.3.4 (No Relationship to Athletics Leadership, Ability, Participation or Performance) and 15.4.5 (Athletics Staff

Involvement) were the most commonly cited within the requests. This will become a standing item on future committee agendas.

6. **Division III financial aid compliance resources.** The committee reviewed three currently available compliance resources – Staying Compliant with Division III Rules, Division III Consistent Financial Aid Package Resource, and Division III Financial Aid from Outside Sources. The committee noted the importance of these documents and encouraged staff to continually look for opportunities to disseminate them broadly across the Division III membership.
7. **Review of major infractions cases.** The committee reviewed the latest financial aid major infractions cases involving Methodist University and Elmhurst College.
8. **Financial aid hot topics: review of the Maryland ban on scholarship displacement.** The committee reviewed available information on the Maryland state legislation banning scholarship displacement at public colleges and universities. Displacement is a process where a student's institutional aid amount could be reduced when the student has received outside aid. The committee discussed the potential consequences of this legislation on other states, private higher education institutions and compliance with Division III financial aid bylaws. The committee agreed to continue to track the issue at future meetings.
9. **Review of financial aid items from the 2018 Division III membership survey.** The committee reviewed the draft of the financial aid regulations section of the survey. Their suggestions included the potential addition of two questions and an open-comment field. The two proposed questions covered the topics of the adequacy of financial aid compliance resources and the potential of expanding the financial aid reporting program data collection beyond first-year students.
10. **Introduction to Tableau (a data visualization tool).** NCAA staff demonstrated how Tableau could be used with the currently warehoused financial aid data. The committee agreed that the most immediate and relevant use of the tool would be at their Level II review meeting where data trends for institutions under review could be easily examined. The committee also discussed the possibility of using Tableau as a replacement for the institution-level Summary Report that is created on an annual basis. The possibility of integrating the warehoused financial aid data with the Division III Institutional Performance Program (IPP) was also discussed. The committee noted potential issues with this, including relevance and confidentiality, but agreed to continue discussion at future meetings.

**11. Adjournment.** The committee adjourned 12:05 p.m. Eastern time, November 14, 2017.

*Committee Chair:* Kathy Kelly, Mount St. Joseph University; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference

*Staff Liaisons:* Eric Hartung, Research  
 Chris Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs

<b>NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee November 13-14, 2017, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Stephanie Bender, Goucher College; Landmark Conference.
Richard Dunsworth, University of the Ozarks (Arkansas); American Southwest Conference.
Crystal Finefrock Gaff, Plymouth State University; Little East Conference.
Tina Hill, Randolph College; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
Kathryn Kelly, Mount St. Joseph University; Heartland College Athletic Conference.
Angel Mason, Pomona-Pitzer Colleges; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Todd Moravec, Plattsburgh State University of New York; State University of New York Athletic Conference.
Ron Noborikawa, Pacific Lutheran University; Northwest Conference.
Charlyn Robert, Nichols College; Commonwealth Coast Conference.
Larry Scheiderer, Denison University; North Coast Conference.
Kandis Schram, Maryville College; USA South.
Steve Taylor, Concordia University (WI); Northern Athletics Conference.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Eric Hartung and Chris Brown.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Jay Jones and Keke Liu.