KEY ACTION AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.
   - None.

3. NCAA Division I Council Transfer Working Group Referral. The NCAA Division I Committee on Academics continued its discussion of the referrals from the NCAA Division I Council Transfer Working Group. Specifically, the committee utilized academic data associated with four-year transfer student-athletes to formulate preliminary academic models to inform the Transfer Working Group’s uniform one-time transfer rule discussion. The committee noted the preliminary academic models will be further developed in tandem with the Transfer Working Group’s broader review of transfer eligibility. [Information Item No. 1.]

4. Academic Summit. The committee received an update on the proposal to partner with external educational organizations to develop and host an academic summit focused on current and future issues facing higher education. The committee endorsed the academic summit concept, discussed potential goals and areas of focus, and agreed a small working group should oversee planning, partnerships and further development of the summit. [Information Item No. 2.]

5. Review of Implementation of Phase One of Academic-Based Revenue Distribution and Related Operational Issues. The committee received an update from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Data regarding implementation of the academic-based revenue distribution (i.e., “academic unit”). Specifically, the committee approved several requested policy recommendations to address operational issues related to the academic unit. [Information Item No. 3.]

6. Progress-Toward-Degree Review. The committee received an update from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics on the progress-toward-degree legislative review as a component of the broader Division I bylaw modernization efforts. The committee supported the subcommittee’s approach to the assessment of the existing progress-toward-degree requirements. [Information Item No. 4.]

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.
1. **NCAA Division I Council Transfer Working Group Referral.** The committee continued its review of the referrals from the NCAA Division I Council Transfer Working Group. The committee received an update on the Transfer Working Group's packaged approach including concepts to address the transfer recruiting process, ethical behavior amongst coaches, student-athletes and third parties, and transfer eligibility in both the undergraduate and postgraduate contexts. Based on the working group’s projected legislative timeline, the committee focused its discussion on the academic component of a potential uniform one-time transfer exception for all four-year transfer student-athletes. The committee acknowledged the additional working group referrals, including review of applicable NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate policies, will be explored in accordance with the Transfer Working Group’s guiding principles, legislative timeline and priorities.

   - **Uniform One-Time Transfer Eligibility.** The Transfer Working Group requested the committee review and analyze the academic data associated with four-year transfer student-athletes in an effort to identify criteria that correlate with a high propensity to remain on track to graduate following transfer. Specifically, the committee’s expertise and academic oversight will assist the working group’s development of a uniform transfer eligibility concept predicated on a student-athlete’s academic record, as opposed to sport.

   The committee received a comprehensive overview of academic data regarding the trends and outcomes associated with current Division I four-year transfer student-athletes. While the committee noted the general impact of transfer on a student’s academic progress, certain academic features and benchmarks are shown to mitigate the impact of transfer. Specifically, a combination of certain academic factors best may correlate with academic success following transfer.

   Through its discussion, the committee agreed that a uniform undergraduate transfer exception should underscore a strong, predictive academic component. The academic component should be comprised of a combination of a student-athlete’s cumulative grade-point average and percentage of degree benchmark at the receiving institution. The committee requested two academic components be modeled that correlate with a high propensity to graduate: one within a four-year period, the other within five years of initial collegiate enrollment. Additionally, both models should consider whether the timing of the student-athlete’s transfer (e.g., prior to start of third year) impacts the student’s subsequent academic progress. Furthermore, the committee noted support for an academic component that requires immediate transfer between institutions (e.g., no gap in enrollment). Whether a student-athlete should be able to use summer coursework to meet the various elements of an academic component will continue to be assessed as the models are developed.
The committee provided feedback on the other elements of a uniform one-time transfer concept under consideration by the working group. Specifically, while the committee agreed that an academic-based transfer exception should be available to student-athletes across sports, the committee did not support precluding access to such an exception to student-athletes on multi-year athletics aid agreements. The committee noted that such an element could be used to nullify access an academic-based transfer exception regardless of the student-athlete’s academic performance. The committee further noted the academic data did not support confining access to immediate transfer eligibility to one time during a student-athlete’s entire career (e.g., either undergraduate or postgraduate, not both), noting student-athletes with postgraduate eligibility have completed their baccalaureate degree in less than five years. Lastly, the committee supported precluding access to immediate eligibility in instances where the transfer institution engaged in impermissible recruiting conversations (e.g., “tampering”) with the student-athlete.

The committee will continue to develop the academic component in conjunction with the working group’s uniform one-time transfer exception concept. Data-based modeling of the committee’s preliminary concepts will facilitate further refinement of an academic component that correlates with degree completion and minimizes academic disruption following transfer.

2. Academic Summit. The committee supported the concept to develop and host an academic summit in partnership with other educational organizations in higher education. The committee agreed that an academic summit provides the desired forum for the NCAA to engage with other individuals and organizations on the critical issues that will impact and inform the future of higher education. The committee discussed potential issues and areas of focus including the impact of evolving academic delivery methods on how students engage with various curriculums, campus and faculty. Additionally, the academic summit could partner with representatives of regional accrediting agencies to explore the landscape of academic integrity issues in the 21st century. The committee suggested the academic summit engage academic leadership across levels and disciplines (e.g., presidents/chancellors, faculty, provosts, academic advisors) and identified several external organizations for potential partnership and/or co-sponsorship.

The committee requested that a small working group be formed, comprised of both committee and non-committee members, to both oversee the academic summit planning and outreach and to identify potential partnerships. The committee noted a target goal for hosting the academic summit, in potentially more than one location, in late-2018 or early-2019.
3. **Review of Implementation of Phase One of Academic-Based Revenue Distribution and Related Operational Issues.** In October 2016, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors and Board of Governors approved an initiative to distribute a portion of Division I revenue to conferences based on the academic achievement of student-athletes beginning with the 2019-20 academic year, using a portion of the annual growth in future years of the NCAA’s media rights agreement for distribution. The committee is responsible for overseeing activation of distribution and monitoring the metrics upon which distribution is based. Institutions earn academic distribution units for their conferences by meeting one of three criteria:

a. Institutional APR from the previous year equal to or greater than 985; or

b. Institutional Graduation Success Rate from the most recently available year equal to or greater than 90 percent; or

c. Difference between student-athlete and student-body rates for the most recently published Federal Graduation Rate equal to or greater than 13 percentage points.

The committee received an update on the status of implementation of distribution, including work completed by staff to educate and communicate with the membership in response to the direction provided by the committee. The committee was provided with a sample report and feedback was gathered. The committee also resolved multiple operational items related to implementation of distribution, including determining that:

a. A team’s raw single-year APR (as opposed to a squad-size adjusted single-year APR) be used in the eligibility calculation for the Academic Unit;

b. A team that is being discontinued be removed from an institution’s eligibility calculation for the Academic Unit beginning in the academic year the institution publicly announces its intention to discontinue a team and has provided appropriate notice to staff;

c. Only teams that are meeting the requirements in NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 be used in an institution’s eligibility calculation for the Academic Unit; and,

d. A team that has no student-athletes in the cohort for a reporting year be excluded from an institution’s eligibility calculation for the APR.

The exclusion of discontinued sports and sports not meeting NCAA sport-sponsorship requirements, and single-year APRs not being calculated for teams when there are no student-athletes in the cohort for a given year, aligns with current NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program policies and procedure used for calculating the APR and Graduation Success Rate.
The committee will continue to address operational issues related to implementation of distribution. Mock reports of institutions that would qualify for distribution will be available to conferences by spring 2018. The successful implementation of distribution is a priority for the committee. [See subcommittee discussion at Informational Item No. 7.]

4. **Progress-Toward-Degree Review.** The committee received an update on the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics’ approach to assessing the existing Division I progress-toward-degree requirements. The subcommittee provided the committee with the historical context for the existing progress-toward-degree requirements, which are designed to facilitate a student-athlete’s degree completion within five years and ensure minimum academic performance during the regular academic year. The committee agreed the review and any resulting recommendations should ensure the requirements continue to move student-athletes towards degree completion within five years, while providing proper flexibility and identifying opportunities to decrease burden on the membership where acceptable. The committee noted the subcommittee’s review will examine the tabled legislative concept sponsored by the Pac-12 conference during the 2016-17 legislative cycle, to provide increased academic flexibility to student-athletes who have made accelerated academic progress.

5. **Update on Initial-Eligibility Standards.** The committee received an overview of the data associated with academic certifications associated with the initial-eligibility standards that went into effect for the first time on August 1, 2016. Specifically, the committee received an updated and comparative overview of the academic certifications associated with the first class of student-athletes certified under the new initial-eligibility standards. The committee will assess the academic impact of the new initial-eligibility standards once the academic data associated with student-athletes certified under the standards becomes available (e.g., credits earned by academic redshirts during academic year in residence).

6. **Update on NCAA Response to SAT and Technical Advisory Panel.** The committee received an update on the NCAA response to the redesigned SAT. The Technical Advisory Panel, comprised of representatives from member institutions and external organizations (e.g., ACT, College Board and Educational Testing Service) and endorsed by the committee to review the redesigned SAT (e.g., concorded values to prior version, predictive validity, impact on student-athlete subgroups and concordance to ACT) is waiting for a complete cycle of data on the results of the redesigned SAT before continuing its review. There is no change to the desired outcome of a revised national concordance. The NCAA will concurrently 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.
7. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Data.**
The committee reviewed the reports of the August 10, September 7 and October 5 teleconferences of the Subcommittee on Data.

   a. **Review of Modification to the NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate adjustment directive for transfer student-athletes.** At its September 7 teleconference, the subcommittee reviewed its modification to the APR adjustment directive for transfer student-athletes. The subcommittee took no action and agreed to continue its discussion on a future teleconference.

   b. **Review of Operational Issues Related to Implementation of Academics-Based Revenue Distribution.** At its October 5 teleconference, the subcommittee addressed several operational issues related to activation of distribution. The subcommittee recommended committee action on multiple operational items, including determining that:

      (1) A team’s raw single-year APR (as opposed to a squad-size adjusted single-year APR) be used in the eligibility calculation for the Academic Unit;

      (2) A team that is being discontinued be removed from an institution’s eligibility calculation for the Academic Unit beginning in the academic year the institution publicly announces its intention to discontinue a team and has provided appropriate notice to staff;

      (3) Only teams that are meeting the requirements in NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 be used in an institution’s eligibility calculation for the Academic Unit; and,

      (4) A team that has no student-athletes in the cohort for a reporting year be excluded from an institution’s eligibility calculation for the APR. [See committee discussion at Informational Item No. 3.]

8. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics.** The committee reviewed the reports of the September 15 and September 29 teleconferences of the Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics.

   - **Update on Division I Bylaw Modernization Project.** At its September 15 teleconference, the subcommittee received an update on the progress of the Bylaw 14 modernization efforts. Specifically, the subcommittee reviewed the efforts to editorially refresh the legislative language for improved clarity and accessibility, in conjunction with the focus on identifying how to substantively modernize the rules to better support the needs and realities of current Division I student-athletes.
Review of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements. At its September 15 and 29 teleconferences, the subcommittee commenced its comprehensive review of the existing progress-toward-degree requirements. Specifically, the subcommittee discussed the historical framework and rationale for the current rules and requirements that facilitate a student-athlete’s degree progression. The subcommittee discussed preliminary goals for the comprehensive review of the existing progress-toward-degree framework and identified initial data needs to further inform its assessment. The subcommittee noted its review will examine the concept put forth in the tabled proposal sponsored by the Pac-12 during the 2016-17 legislative cycle to accommodate academically accelerated student-athletes. [See committee discussion at Informational Item No. 4.]

9. Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals. The committee received a report from the Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals.

10. Update on Educational Programming and Initiatives for Limited-Resource Institutions. The committee received an update on the educational programming and technology designed to assist institutions in academic certification efforts on campus. Specifically, online modules outlining Division I academic eligibility rules and highlighting best practices for the certification of student-athletes will be made available to the membership in late-2017 and early-2018.

11. Academic Technology Update. The committee received an update on development of the Academic Portal, which will bring all APP processes under one umbrella and impact all three divisions. The first phase (APP 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) was released to the membership in March 2017. The final phase (APR Improvement Plan and data review processing) is scheduled to be released in the summer 2018.

12. Update on NCAA Division I Committee for Legislative Relief Waiver Requests. The committee received an annual update on the number of legislative relief requests to waive the transfer year in residence requirement for student-athletes who transferred due to loss of access to postseason competition pursuant to the APP.

13. Research Update. The committee received a preview of the Graduation Success Rate data for student-athletes who entered college for the first time in 2010 and an update on the timeline for the public GSR release.
14. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors Update.** The committee received a report from the Board of Directors, including an update on the board’s agenda items for its October 24-25 meeting.

15. **NCAA Division I Presidential Forum.** The committee received a report from the Presidential Forum, including an update on the Presidential Forum’s agenda items for its October 23-24 meeting.

16. **NCAA Division I Council.** The committee received a report from the Council’s October 3-4 meeting.

17. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** The committee received a report from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee’s October 14-15 meeting.

18. **Reports of the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics June 20-21 Meeting and September 14 Teleconference.** The Committee on Academics reviewed and approved the reports from its June 20-21 meeting and September 14 teleconference.

19. **Future Meeting Dates.**
   a. February 19-20, 2018 – Indianapolis;
   b. April 9-10 – Indianapolis;
   c. June 18-19 – Indianapolis; and
   d. October 9-10 – Indianapolis.

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*Committee Chair:*  John DeGioia, Georgetown University; Big East Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:*  Shauna Cobb, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Charnele Kemper, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Binh T. Nguyen, Academic and Membership Affairs

| NCAA Division I Committee on Academics  
October 17-18, 2017, Meeting |
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<td><strong>Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University; Missouri Valley Conference.</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Blackett, Columbia University – Barnard College; The Ivy League.</td>
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<td>Frank Bonner, Gardner-Webb University, Big South Conference.</td>
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<td>Jerry Bovee, Weber State University; Big Sky Conference.</td>
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Greg Burke, Northwestern State University; Southland Conference.
Manoj Chopra, University of Central Florida; American Athletic Conference.
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.
John DeGioia, Georgetown University; Big East Conference.
Ursula Gurney, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Western Athletic Conference.
Rhonda Hatcher, Texas Christian University; Big 12 Conference.
Jennifer Heppel, Patriot League.
Genese Lavalais, Jackson State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.
Brandon Martin, California State University, Northridge; Big West Conference.
Karen Paisley, University of Utah, Pac-12 Conference.
Joe Scogin, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Southeastern Conference.
Nicole Sherwin, Northern Arizona University, Big Sky Conference.
Lynn W. Thompson, Bethune-Cookman University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.
Kurt Zorn, Indiana University, Bloomington; Big Ten Conference.

Absentees:
Pamela Eibeck, University of the Pacific; West Coast Conference.
Carolyn Callahan, University of Virginia; Atlantic Coast Conference.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Shauna Cobb, Jennifer Henderson, Charnele Kemper and Binh Nguyen.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Lydia Bell, Eric Brey, Emily Capehart, Greg Dana, Gary DeCastro, Judy Delp, Meghan Durham, Jenn Fraser, Dan Gavitt, Doug Healey, Tom Hosty, Travis Johnston, Ryan Koors, Kevin Lennon, Andy Louthain, Todd Petr, Donald Remy, Dave Schnase, Naima Stevenson, Danielle Ghiloni Walter, DeAnna Wiley, Quintin Wright and Katy Yurk.