

Division III Faculty Athletics Representatives Fellows Institute

Program Overview and Objectives

A. Program Overview

The Division III FAR Fellows Institute, to be held annually, will provide professional development and leadership training to 30 experienced Division III FARs representing a wide range of athletic conferences each year, plus FARs from Independent institutions.

This can be distinguished from programming offered at the Faculty Athletic Representatives Association's (FARA) *Annual Faculty Athletics Representatives Meeting and Symposium*, which is geared toward orienting new FARs and examining proposed legislation in advance of the NCAA Convention.

A call for nominations for "Faculty Athletics Representative Fellows" (FAR Fellows) will be made to conference commissioners, institutional presidents, directors of athletics and FARs (self nominations) in March. While all nominations will be considered, those from conference commissioners will be given priority. This process replaces one that was limited to commissioner-only nominations and seeks to maintain an emphasis on FAR involvement at the conference level. Due to the large number of conferences in Division III, a rotating schedule will determined offer conferences priority in specific years.

Nominations will be open from April 1 to May 31 in Program Hub. FAR participants who meet the eligibility criteria will be selected based on their potential for leadership and anticipated ability to effect change in intercollegiate athletics on their campus and in their athletic conference:

- The FAR shall have more than two years experience as the FAR.
- The FAR should be recognized for having positive leadership qualities within the institution and/or the conference.
- The FAR should be recognized as having the ability to affect change within the institution and/or the conference.

Institute programming includes:

1. A thorough examination of "best practices" and issues surrounding the role and responsibility of the FAR.
2. Development of the leadership skills necessary to carry out FAR responsibilities on campus and in the conference.

3. Activities to strengthen the network of FARs needed to serve on conference and association-wide committees.

B. Program Objectives

As a result of attending the FAR Institute, participants shall:

1. Examine the role of the FAR as a leader at the campus, conference and national levels.
2. Be empowered to build strong relationships with their Presidents, Athletics Direct Reports, Athletics Directors, Conference Commissioners and Student-Athlete Advisory Committees and raise awareness of the FAR as a valuable campus and conference resource.
3. Identify and use “strategic practices” to:
 - a. Effectively carry out regular responsibilities at the campus, conference, and national levels.
 - b. Advocate for the role of athletics in the educational process with faculty and other campus constituents, consistent with the Division III philosophy and model of intercollegiate athletics.
 - c. Support student-athlete development beyond the traditional academic and athletic environments.
 - d. Become informed on national issues impacting the conduct of a Division III intercollegiate athletics program.
4. Develop leadership abilities and a deep sense of self awareness to:
 - a. Lead change in organizations.
 - b. Give and receive feedback more effectively.
 - c. Develop others to be their best.
 - d. Manage one’s self more effectively.
 - e. Leverage differences in other people.
 - f. Set clear, achievable goals.
5. Register for program hub and be inspired to nominate student-athletes for NCAA post-graduate scholarships and leadership programs on a regular basis.

6. Examine opportunities and identify the process to serve on campus, conference or NCAA committees.
7. Implement an action plan that creates positive, FAR led change at the campus, conference or national level.
8. Be inspired to attend The NCAA Convention and FARA Annual Symposium.
9. Build a network of peer FARs to serve as a future resource.
10. Contribute to the professional development of other FARs. Consider becoming involved with FARA and/or serving as a mentor to another FAR.

As a result of offering the FAR Institute, Division III shall:

1. Create and support effective engagement of and service offered by FARs across the Division.
2. Increase the number of scholarship applications filed and student-athletes nominated for NCAA leadership and other programs.
3. Experience strong FAR participation in the governance structure, at the NCAA Convention, and at the FARA Annual meeting and symposium.