



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ATHLETICS
FEBRUARY 23, 2018, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements.** Committee Chair Sherika Montgomery welcomed everyone to the teleconference. The chair reviewed the roster and acknowledged committee members, staff and guests. The committee welcomed the following new members to their first teleconference: Hannah Hinton and Samantha Kastner. The committee also welcomed Sarissa Lammers, a proxy for NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee member Gabby Cabanero.
2. **Review of September 18-19, 2017, meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report with one edit of adding the name of a committee member's institution that was inadvertently omitted.
3. **Discuss emerging sport proposals.** The committee reviewed emerging sport proposals from the following sports:
 - a. Acrobatics and tumbling;
 - b. STUNT; and
 - c. Wrestling.

The committee discussed the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women Process Guide that it published in 2016, noting the guide is being used for the first time to review proposals for the emerging sport list. The committee clarified that in the phrase "A minimum of 20 varsity teams and/or competitive club teams exist at NCAA membership institutions," the word "exist" means that 20 varsity and/or club teams must be competing during the academic year in which the proposal is being reviewed. Additionally, the committee discussed the guide's definition of a sport, which includes the requirement that a sport have at least five regularly scheduled contests within a competitive season. The committee concluded that for a sport to meet the guide's requirements, it needs to have a minimum of 20 NCAA varsity and/or competitive club teams with at least five contests on its competitive schedule during the current academic year.

While noting that all three of the sport proposals showed strengths and potential for continued participation growth for female student-athletes, the committee determined the three sport proposals did not sufficiently demonstrate that a minimum of 20 varsity teams and/or competitive club teams exist at NCAA member institutions during the 2017-18 academic year and compete in a minimum of five contests.

The committee concurred that even though the sports did not meet all requirements for the emerging sport list at this time, it would be beneficial to engage with the sport leaders who submitted proposals by videoconference during its April meeting. This engagement would provide an opportunity for meaningful dialogue between the committee and the sport leaders, including constructive feedback on the proposals and the emerging sport guide. The committee instructed NCAA staff to invite the sport leaders who submitted proposals to participate in the April committee meeting via videoconference.

The committee also engaged in further discussion about the guide, noting that some sections need clarification or specific examples such as expectations for sample budgets. The committee agreed that the guide should be updated at its April in-person meeting and the revised guide posted by August 1, 2018.

4. Review SWA Research Project action plan. The committee received an update on, and approved in concept, the Senior Woman Administrator Research Project action plan. The action plan is intended to be a living document, including a series of appendices to catalog ideas generated from the SWA Research Project and follow-up conversations with the SWA Subcommittee and NCAA staff.

a. Purpose, Expectations and Outcomes Document. The committee also received an update on, and approved, the revised Purpose, Expectations and Outcomes document. The foundational document is intended to:

- (1) Address the role to lead and manage intercollegiate athletics;
- (2) Address why the designation is needed in the current environment;
- (3) Identify current misunderstandings that impede fulfillment of the designation's purpose;
- (4) Recommend key expectations for the designation nationally, on the campus level and within conferences, and

(5) Identify outcomes and benefits of meeting designation expectations in all three divisions.

b. Revisions. The committee was informed that the Gender Equity Task Force (GETF) endorsed the document with the following three suggested revisions, and agreed to consider those for future discussion:

(1) Update institutional expectations to clarify the SWA designation is not intended to limit the number of women on the senior management staff and should not discourage other women from aspiring to senior level positions;

(2) Update the definition and legislation section to explain that another person can be appointed SWA in the case of a female director of athletics, and;

(3) Add a conference expectation that the conference office advocate for active involvement of SWAs in campus, conference and national governance committees as well as acknowledge the role of conference offices in making committee appointments.

Lastly, the committee was informed that the NCAA communication staff will work with office of inclusion staff to develop a strategic communications plan based on the action plan that will support efforts to optimize the SWA designation. This communication plan will be presented to the committee at its April meeting.

5. Request from USA Triathlon for two volunteers to review grant proposals. The chair provided the committee an overview of the USA Triathlon grant proposal review process and solicited two members to serve on the grant review team, including at least one member from Division II. Committee members John Kietzmann and Donna Ledwin agreed to serve on the grant review team.

6. Discuss NCAA sexual violence education and prevention efforts. The committee received an update from NCAA staff regarding the process for completing the attestation form that demonstrates compliance with the NCAA Board of Governors' policy on campus sexual violence prevention. Specifically, staff noted that the attestation form will be available in Program Hub March 1 and the deadline for uploading completed attestation forms in Program Hub is May 15. The policy requires the president or chancellor, athletics director and Title IX coordinator from each NCAA member institution to declare annually that:

- a. The athletics department is fully knowledgeable about, integrated in, and compliant with institutional policies and processes regarding sexual violence prevention and proper adjudication and resolution of acts of sexual violence;
 - b. The institutional policies and processes regarding sexual violence prevention and adjudication, and the name and contact information for the campus Title IX coordinator, are readily available within the athletics department, and are provided to student-athletes; and
 - c. All student-athletes, coaches and staff have been educated on sexual violence prevention, intervention and response, to the extent allowable by state law and collective bargaining agreements.
- 7. Determine attendance at April 14-16, 2018, NCAA Inclusion Forum.** The committee discussed who plans to attend the NCAA Inclusion Forum following the April 12-13 meeting. Members who plan to attend the forum were asked by staff to register as committee members not later than Friday, March 2.
- 8. Future meeting dates.** Staff noted the committee in-person meeting will be April 12-13 in Indianapolis.
- 9. Adjournment.** The teleconference adjourned at 3:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Sherika Montgomery, Winthrop University
Staff Liaisons: Kristin Fasbender, Championships and Alliances
Jan Gentry, Championships and Alliances
Karen Metzger, Academic and Membership Affairs
Amy Wilson, Office of Inclusion

NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics February 23, 2018, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Karen Baebler, University of Washington.	
Vince Baldemor, Hawaii Pacific University.	
Katherine Conway-Turner, Buffalo State, State University of New York.	
Julie L. Cromer Peoples, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.	
James Donovan, California State University, Fullerton.	
Josh Hess, Mount St. Joseph University.	
Hannah Hinton, Mountain East Conference.	
Samantha Kastner, Notre Dame of Maryland University.	
John Kietzmann, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
Marc A. Johnson, University of Nevada, Reno.	
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference.	
Donna M. Ledwin, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.	
Heather MacCulloch, Baruch College.	
Sherika Montgomery, Winthrop University.	
Denise Udelhofen, Loras College.	
Absentees:	
Anne Blackhurst, Minnesota State University Moorhead.	
Gabby Cabanero, Dixie State University.	
Nicole Sherwin, Northern Arizona University	
Guests in Attendance:	
Leah Kareti, 3Fold Group	
Sarissa Lammers, University of Alaska Fairbanks	
Julie Muller, 3Fold Group	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Jan Gentry, Karen Metzger and Amy Wilson	
Other NCAA Staff in Attendance	
Jackie Campbell, Craig Malveaux and Jean Orr.	