

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
MARCH 2-3, 2017, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Previous Meeting Report.** The committee voted to approve the report of its July 11-12, 2016, meeting.

2. **Review of Correspondence Sent to the Committee.**
 - a. The committee considered an extension request from Scott Desmond, a 2010-11 awardee who has made a second request to defer the use of his scholarship. Desmond's first request to defer was approved with an August 2016 enrollment deadline. The committee reviewed his second request and granted an extension, provided he is enrolled in a graduate program by May 31, 2017.

 - b. The committee considered an extension request for Stephanie Verdoia, a 2014-15 awardee. The committee granted an extension to allow Ms. Verdoia to pursue a law degree, provided she is enrolled in law school by August 2019.

 - c. The committee considered an extension request for Jacqueline Wallis, a 2014-15 awardee. The committee granted an extension to allow Ms. Wallis to pursue a degree in bioethics, provided she is enrolled in the bioethics degree program by August 2019.

3. **Scholarship Deferral.** The committee discussed the impact of removing the deferral opportunity would have on the number of applications received during the 2017-18 academic year. In order to be sensitive to how criteria changes could impact student-athletes who graduated in three years and who were red-shirt freshmen. The committee discussed allowing those student-athletes to apply a year early. The committee also discussed how to measure success; specifically how to change the metric to reflect how many student-athletes were able to attend graduate school. The committee considered making the following changes to the scholarship:
 - a. Increasing the award to \$10,000 but only awarding 130 scholarships a year.

 - b. Decreasing the number of committee meetings to two a year.

 - c. Provide scholarships to two student-athletes with distinction, if in a graduate communications program.

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d. Ensure there are 10 alternates each award season.

The committee did not recommend any changes to the scholarship at this time, but will continue to discuss possible changes at future meetings.

4. **Discuss Scholarship Deadline and Extension.** The committee directed staff not to accept any requests for extensions once the application deadline has passed.

5. **Program Hub Endorsement Procedure.** The committee requested that endorsers have access to upload their letters of recommendation in Program Hub prior to the nominee submitting and completing the application process. The committee directed staff to make the necessary changes to Program Hub so that the endorsers are notified via email immediately after the nominee inputs the names and email addresses of those writing letters of recommendation.

6. **Review of Nominations.** The committee reviewed 95 winter sports nominations (37 men and 58 women). The committee awarded 29 postgraduate scholarships for men’s sports and 29 postgraduate scholarships for women’s sports.

Committee Chair: Mattie White, Indiana University, Bloomington, Big Ten Conference
Staff Liaisons: Jeff O’Barr, Administrative Services, Accounting
Lori Thomas, Administrative Services, Accounting

NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship March 2-3, 2017, Meeting
Attendees:
Aaron Braun, Adams State University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Bert Carter, Sun Belt Conference.
Gail Cummings-Danson, Skidmore College, Liberty League.
Neil Norton, Creighton University, Big East Conference.
Kimberly Ross-Watkins, Morgan State University, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.
Mattie White, Indiana University, Big Ten Conference.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Lori Thomas
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
None.