Life in the Balance

Division II supports the educational mission of college athletics by fostering a balanced and inclusive approach in which student-athletes learn and develop through their desired academic pursuits, in civic engagement with their communities and in athletics competition. Division II gives student-athletes the unique opportunity to compete in the classroom, on the field, in their career, for their causes, and on their terms.

24 conferences | 308 active members | 6 schools in membership process | 4 schools in year three

2 schools in year one

ENROLLMENT AT DIVISION II ACTIVE MEMBERS

2.6%  
8 institutions with more than 15,000 students

9.1%  
28 institutions with 7,500-14,999 students

35.4%  
109 institutions with 2,500-7,499 students

52.9%  
163 institutions with fewer than 2,500 students

TYPE OF SCHOOL (Percentage of active members only)

48% public

52% private

AVERAGE NUMBER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

SCHOOLS WITH FOOTBALL

463  
285 men

178 women

SCHOOLS WITHOUT FOOTBALL

301  
155 men

146 women

MEDIAN TOTAL EXPENSES (By quartile (in millions))

1ST QUARTILE OF SCHOOLS

(with football)  (without football)

$10.8 $8.4

2ND QUARTILE OF SCHOOLS

(with football)  (without football)

$7.7 $6.2

3RD QUARTILE OF SCHOOLS

(with football)  (without football)

$6.3 $4.8

4TH QUARTILE OF SCHOOLS

(with football)  (without football)

$4.3 $3.2

Overall median expenses $6.3 million

CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN’S CHAMPIONSHIPS

12  
7,166 participants total

WOMEN’S CHAMPIONSHIPS

13  
6,724 participants total

13,890 participants total

(Division II’s access ratio to championships is the best of any division)
We’ve made it on our own

We in Division II are known for our innovative approaches in just about everything we do – from branding, governance and championships administration to budgeting, membership standards and professional development.

That hasn’t been by accident. You and your predecessors in the membership have worked purposefully to distinguish Division II from the other two divisions in the NCAA menu of college choices for student-athletes. You as a membership understand who you are, what you offer, and how you benefit your population of student-athletes. You celebrate your uniqueness, and you use those attributes and characteristics to your advantage, not only to govern yourselves efficiently and effectively, but more importantly to offer your student-athletes a balanced experience in their higher education pursuits.

Ironically, Division II’s emphasis on balance, on an inclusive voice, and on celebrating what makes us unique may be absent were it not for an initiative Division I set in motion more than 20 years ago.

In 1994, a group of Division I conference commissioners introduced a plan that would give the powerbrokers in that division almost total control of the Association. While that proposal as written ultimately went by the wayside, it did prompt an Association-wide effort to implement what we now know as the federated structure that affords each division autonomy over its affairs.

Division I may have prompted federation, but Division II has benefited, primarily because our leadership embraced being on our own as an opportunity rather than as a matter of survival.

Until federation took hold in 1997, Division II was a spoke in the NCAA governance wheel, with little need to distinguish itself within the parent NCAA brand. But federation forced Divisions II and III to think differently. When you separate, you have to figure out who and what you are in the new day.

Division II defined itself for what we are, not what we aren’t. Importantly, Division II retained its “one-school/one-vote” system of governance that remains in place today. But the division also followed with a series of firsts, including development of a strategic plan, funding for a matching grant program to support gender and ethnic diversity, and a bold new model for championships in which multiple winners would be crowned at one site on the same day in a “festival” atmosphere.

But what really solidified our course emerged, from all things, a fork in the road. Our membership numbers were fluctuating in the mid-2000s such that the division convened a Chancellors and Presidents Summit (also a first for the Association), during which leaders agreed to reposition what Division II means as it relates to college athletics. From there, Division II began its branding campaign to celebrate identified attributes and characteristics. Ironically, had Division II not been faced with such an identity crisis, our membership may not have felt the need to differentiate.

The innovations continued. Division II latched onto a “Life in the Balance” mantra to encourage student-athletes to enjoy the breadth of the college experience, and the membership backed it up by adopting legislation to rein in playing and practice seasons. That commitment to balance remains as a DII fixture today.

Our committee structure also has offered stability. In the more than 20 years since federation, Division II has added only one standing committee (the Infractions Appeals Committee). That has served us well – when you don’t have to spend time figuring out how to govern yourself, it allows you to follow your processes to make good decisions, which is what effective governance is supposed to achieve.

Ultimately, federation has been about acknowledging the differences among the three divisions. It’s not about “better than,” but “different from.” Division II understands and celebrates those differences.

Division II has indeed flourished under federation. While there may have been some anxiety in 1997, I see nothing but confidence and pride from our membership now. We know who we are and how to govern ourselves in a manner that supports our values and principles.

The federation episode in NCAA history is a perfect example for Division II of not knowing what could happen or what the future would hold and making it into something very positive and impactful.
CHAMPIONSHIPS
Central Missouri's Megan Skaggs scores late in the Division II Women's Basketball Championship game against defending champion Ashland. The sixth-seeded Jennies ended No. 1 Ashland's 73-game winning streak with the 66-52 victory.

TIM NWACHUKWU/NCAA PHOTOS

WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

ELITE EIGHT
Ashland 91, Montana State-Billings 73
Union (Tennessee) 73, Carson-Newman 70
Central Missouri 72, Lubbock Christian 62
Indiana (Pennsylvania) 75, Stonehill 71

SEMIFINALs
Ashland 92, Indiana (Pennsylvania) 68
Central Missouri 70, Union (Tennessee) 57

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
Central Missouri 66, Ashland 52

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Julie Worley, senior, Ashland, Exercise Science, 3.99 GPA

Central Missouri head coach Dave Slifer urges on his squad during the championship game. Slifer, who entered the 2017-18 season as the fourth winningest active head coach in Division II with his 635 career victories, said the goal was to slow down the pace of play in order to control the Eagles’ potent offensive attack. “Defensively I thought we were just outstanding,” Slifer said after the Jennies finished the season 30-3, the first time in program history with 30 wins.

TIM NWACHUKWU/NCAA PHOTOS

WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

ELITE EIGHT
Ashland 91, Montana State-Billings 73
Union (Tennessee) 73, Carson-Newman 70
Central Missouri 72, Lubbock Christian 62
Indiana (Pennsylvania) 75, Stonehill 71

SEMIFINALs
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TIM NWACHUKWU/NCAA PHOTOS

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TIM NWACHUKWU/NCAA PHOTOS

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TIM NWACHUKWU/NCAA PHOTOS
MEN’S BASKETBALL

ELITE EIGHT
Ferris State 87, Barry 84
Queens (North Carolina) 100, California Baptist 94
Northern State 79, East Stroudsburg 71
West Texas A&M 87, Le Moyne 73

SEMIFINALS
Ferris State 85, West Texas A&M 79
Northern State 105, Queens (North Carolina) 99 (2 ot)

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
Ferris State 71, Northern State 69

ELITE 90 HONOREE: JD Pollard, senior, Northern State, Biology, 3.968 GPA

Who’s the Ferris (St) of them all? On March 24 it was head coach Andy Bronkema and his Ferris State Bulldogs, who won the school’s first national title with a thrilling 71-69 victory over Northern State in front of a packed house at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The Bulldogs tied a Division II record with their 38th win of the season.

Ferris State’s 6-10 center Zach Hankins led the Bulldogs with 19 points in the championship game.

Darin Peterka of Northern State drives to the basket against Ferris State’s Cole Walker during the championship game. Peterka, who tallied 14 points, took the last-gasp three-pointer for the Wolves as time expired.

TIM NWACHUKWU/NCAA PHOTOS
**WRESTLING**

**TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)**

1. St. Cloud State, 92.5
2. Notre Dame (Ohio), 84
3. California Baptist, 70.5
4. Upper Iowa, 58
5. Ashland, 56

**INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS**

**125 POUNDS**  
Eli Hale, Central Oklahoma, def. Maleek Williams, Upper Iowa [TF-1.5 3:49 (17-2)]

**133 POUNDS**  
Josh Walker, Upper Iowa, def. George Farmah, Minnesota State Mankato (Dec. 1-0)

**141 POUNDS**  
Chris Eddins, Pittsburgh-Johnstown, def. Darren Wynn, McKendree (Dec. 4-2)

**149 POUNDS**  
Dax Gordon, California Baptist, def. James Pleski, St. Cloud State (SV-1 5-1)

**157 POUNDS**  
Cody Law, Pittsburgh-Johnstown, def. Larry Bomstad, St. Cloud State (Dec. 6-3)

**165 POUNDS**  
Brent Romanzak, Ashland, def. Christian Smith, California Baptist (Dec. 3-2)

**174 POUNDS**  
Nick Becker, Wisconsin-Parkside, def. Nolan Kistler, California Baptist (Dec. 8-4)

**184 POUNDS**  
Noel Torres, Newman, def. JaVaughn Perkins, Colorado State-Pueblo (Dec. 3-1)

**197 POUNDS**  
Luke Cramer, Ashland, def. Vince Dietz, St. Cloud State (Dec. 5-1)

**HEAVYWEIGHT**  
Terrance Fanning, Wheeling Jesuit, def. Kameron Teacher, Notre Dame (Ohio) (Dec. 8-2)

**ELITE 90 HONOREE:** Nolan Kistler, senior, California Baptist, Criminal Justice, 3.991 GPA

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Chris Eddins of Pittsburgh-Johnstown gains the advantage over McKendree’s Darren Wynn in the 141 pound final. Eddins joined Cody Law (157 pounds) as individual champs from Pittsburgh-Johnstown, which certainly pleased Mountain Cats head coach Pat Pecora. “It never gets old,” Pecora said. “I was 22 when I started coaching and it never changes. To see that young man’s face light up knowing that he accomplished something he might not have thought he could and that you had something to do with that... Our program is about doing it together and trying to accomplish something that neither one of us can do alone. It’s the whole synergy of the program. I’m just as nervous before a match now as I was at 22.”

CONRAD SCHMIDT/NCAA PHOTOS
TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)

1. Queens (North Carolina), 574.5
2. Drury, 401
3. Nova Southeastern, 288
4. Fresno Pacific, 228
5. Oklahoma Baptist, 209

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

50-YARD FREESTYLE
Wanda Dollmayer, Queens (North Carolina), 22.75

100-YARD FREESTYLE
Zuzanna Chwadeczko, Drury, 49.36

200-YARD FREESTYLE
Simone de Rijcke, Lindenwood (Missouri), 1:47.06

500-YARD FREESTYLE
Leonie Van Noort, Grand Valley State, 4:46.62

1,000-YARD FREESTYLE
Georgia Wright, West Chester, 9:51.16

1,650-YARD FREESTYLE
Georgia Wright, West Chester, 16:25.78

100-YARD BACKSTROKE
Yekaterina Rudenko, Drury, 53.34

200-YARD BACKSTROKE
Rachel Helm, Northern Michigan, 1:57.20

100-YARD BREASTSTROKE
Bailee Nunn, Drury, 59.89

200-YARD BREASTSTROKE
Bailee Nunn, Drury, 2:10.90

100-YARD BUTTERFLY
Bailee Nunn, Drury, 53.01

200-YARD BUTTERFLY
McKenzie Stevens, Queens (North Carolina), 1:56.89 (meet record; old record 1:57.94, Sofia Petrenko, Wingate, 3/11/2016)

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
Bailee Nunn, Drury, 1:57.55

400-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
Courtney Devery, Nova Southeastern, 4:15.39

ONE-METER DIVING
Christina Sather, Clarion, 482.90

THREE-METER DIVING
Genesis Veliz, Oklahoma Baptist, 494.20

200-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Lara Marshall, Kyrie Dobson, Wanda Dollmayer, Michelle Prayson), 1:30.05 [meet record; old record 1:30.57, Drury (Wen Xu, Vera Johansson, Katya Rudenko, Janet Yu), 3/12/2015]

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY

800-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
Wingate (Hanna Van Horen, Abby Kosic, Maria Madsen, Alexis Divelbiss), 7:17.80

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Rachel Massaro, Michelle Prayson, Georgia DaCruz, Kyrie Dobson), 1:38.65 [meet record; old record 1:38.78, Drury (Yekaterina Rudenko, Zuzanna Chwadeczko, Vera Johansson, Bailee Nunn), 3/8/2017]

400-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Rachel Massaro, Michelle Prayson, Georgia DaCruz, McKenzie Stevens), 3:40.16

ELITE 90 HONOREE:
Catalina Berraud-Galea, junior, Lynn, Sports Management, 4.0 GPA

Queens (North Carolina) claimed its fourth straight team title in women's swimming and diving, winning four of the five relays and two individual events, including McKenzie Stevens’ record-setting victory in the 200-yard butterfly. “Winning four in a row is surreal. I am so proud of the legacy left behind by this senior class,” head coach Jeff Dugdale said. “Four years ago, they crossed a threshold of excellence and paved the way for our other sports to follow.”

Rachel Helm of Northern Michigan made a big splash with her win in the 200-yard backstroke.

MIKE COMER/NCAA PHOTOS

Queens University of Charlotte Swimming
MEN’S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Pittsburg State, 49
2. Tiffin, 48
3. Adams State, 44
4. Ashland, 40.5
5. Texas A&M-Commerce, 29

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

60-METER DASH
Modobale Ajomale, Academy of Art, 6.60

200-METER DASH
Modobale Ajomale, Academy of Art, 20.91

400-METER DASH
Myles Pringle, Ashland, 45.93 (meet record; old record 46.05, Josh Scott, Saint Augustine’s, 3/13/2010)

800-METER RUN
Thomas Staines, Colorado State-Pueblo, 1:47.23 (meet record; old record 1:47.78, Savieri Ngidhi, Abilene Christian, 3/11/1995)

MILE RUN
Dustin Nading, Western Oregon, 4:13.30

3,000-METER RUN
Sydney Gidabuday, Adams State, 8:01.26.

5,000-METER RUN
Sydney Gidabuday, Adams State, 13:56.99

60-METER HIGH HURDLES
Juan Scott, Central State, 7.83

1,600-METER RELAY
Texas A&M-Commerce (Jude Christine, Dedrian Windham, D’Lance Sharp, Rashard Clark), 3:08.77

DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY
Western Oregon (Dustin Nading, Aaron Whitaker, AJ Holmberg, David Ribich), 9:41.40

HIGH JUMP
Tanner Stepp, Carson-Newman, 2.17 (7-1 ½)

POLE VAULT
Nolan Ellis, Colorado Mesa, 5.25 (17-2 ¾)

LONG JUMP
Sedeeki Edie, Lincoln (Missouri), 7.76 (25-5 ½)

TRIPLE JUMP
DeVonte Steele, Texas A&M-Commerce, 16.25 (53-3 ¾)

SHOT PUT
Bo Farrow, Pittsburg State, 18.96 (62-2 ½)

WEIGHT THROW
Austin Combs, Findlay, 20.99 (68-10 ½)

HEPTATHLON
Spencer Jahr, Colorado Mesa, 5,552

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Derrick Williams, senior, Colorado State-Pueblo, Biology, 3.993 GPA

Pittsburg State’s men’s indoor track and field team rejoices after hanging on to edge two-time defending champion Tiffin for its first team title.

EVERT NELSON/NCAA PHOTOS

Colorado Mesa’s Spencer Jahr scored consistently in every event of the heptathlon to claim the title by 16 points over Pittsburg State’s Tanner McNutt.

EVERT NELSON/NCAA PHOTOS

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Derrick Williams, senior, Colorado State-Pueblo, Biology, 3.993 GPA
MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Queens (North Carolina), 558
2. California Baptist, 307
3. UIndy, 300
4. Florida Southern, 279
5. Oklahoma Baptist, 250

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

50-YARD FREESTYLE
David Lambert, Oklahoma Baptist, 19.29

100-YARD FREESTYLE
Marius Kusch, Queens (North Carolina), 42.42 [meet record; old record 42.61, Andrey Seryy, Wayne State (Michigan), 3/17/2012]

200-YARD FREESTYLE
Marius Kusch, Queens (North Carolina), 1:32.74

500-YARD FREESTYLE
Joan Casanovas, Drury, 4:20.08

1,000-YARD FREESTYLE
Tim Samuelsen, Missouri S&T, 8:59.45

1,650-YARD FREESTYLE
Tim Samuelsen, Missouri S&T, 15:08.53

100-YARD BACKSTROKE
Paul Pijulet, Queens (North Carolina), 45.88 [meet record; old record 46.65, Krzysztof Jankiewicz, Lindenwood (Missouri), 3/13/2015]

200-YARD BACKSTROKE
Paul Pijulet, Queens (North Carolina), 1:42.17

100-YARD BREASTSTROKE
Andrea Bazzoli, Drury, 52.71

200-YARD BREASTSTROKE
Eric Tolman, California Baptist, 1:54.26

100-YARD BUTTERFLY
Paul Pijulet, Queens (North Carolina), 45.81

200-YARD BUTTERFLY
Marius Kusch, Queens (North Carolina), 1:42.16

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
Marius Kusch, Queens (North Carolina) 1:41.61 [meet record; old record 1:41.94, Matthew Josa, Queens (North Carolina), 3/11/2015]

400-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
Matthew Holmes, Florida Southern, 3:47.18

ONE-METER DIVING
Ammar Hassan, Colorado Mesa, 564.30

THREE-METER DIVING
Ammar Hassan, Colorado Mesa, 624.80

200-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
Oklahoma Baptist (David Lambert, Chad Brandon, Andre Del Rio, Julien-Pierre Gesh), 1:18.11

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Paul Pijulet, Alen Mosic, Christopher Mayes, Dmytro Sydorchenko), 2:53.67

800-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Marius Kusch, Alen Mosic, Nick Arakelian, Christopher Mayes), 1:25.42

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Paul Pijulet, Nick Arakelian, Marius Kusch, Alen Mosic), 1:25.42

400-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
Queens (North Carolina) (Paul Pijulet, Nick Arakelian, Marius Kusch, Alen Mosic), 3:08.56

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Andrea Bazzoli, junior, Drury, Psychology, 4.0 GPA

WOMEN’S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. West Texas A&M, 53
2. Western State, 40
3. Lincoln (Missouri), 36
4. U-Mary, 31
T5. Adams State, 30
T5. Pittsburg State, 30

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

60-METER DASH
Dianna Johnson, Adams State, 7.26

200-METER DASH
Arial Jackson, Lindenwood (Missouri), 23.70

400-METER DASH
Shannon Kalawan, Saint Augustine’s, 54.54

800-METER RUN
Danielle McCormick, Alaska Anchorage, 2:07.79

MILE RUN
Alicja Konieczek, Western State, 4:48.33

3,000-METER RUN
Alicja Konieczek, Western State, 9:29.39

5,000-METER RUN
Alex Zeis, U-Mary, 16:23.54

60-METER HURDOLES
Janelle Perry, Ursuline, 8.22

1,600-METER RELAY
Grand Valley State (Chant’e Roberts, Angela Ritter, Jessica Eby, Rachael Walters), 3:40.34

DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY
Western State (Alicja Konieczek, Janice Whitehead, Bailey Sharon, Alicja Konieczek), 11:19.98

HIGH JUMP
Kaitlin Lumpkins, Angelo State, 1.78 (5-10)

POLE VAULT
Emily Presley, Missouri Southern, 4.22 (13-10)

LONG JUMP
Relie Kaputin, West Texas A&M, 6.24 (20-5 ½)

TRIPLE JUMP
Fatim Alfiessi, West Texas A&M, 13.09 (42-11 ½)

SHOT PUT
Sunflower Greene, Millersville, 16.26 (53 1/4)

WEIGHT THROW
Destiny Coward, Southern Connecticut State, 20.79 (68-2 ½)

PENTATHLON
Kari Norton, Angelo State, 3,983

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Allie Heckemeyer, senior, Missouri Southern State, Kinesiology, 4.0 GPA
Charles Greaves won the triple jump to help Texas A&M-Kingsville capture the team title in men’s outdoor track and field. Greaves also was a member of the Javelinas’ winning 4x100 meter relay team along with Deon Hope, Javier Lopez and Todd Nicholas. Javelinas head coach Ryan Dall said afterward that the championship meet is extremely difficult to win, but that his team performed on all cylinders. “People say there’s never a perfect meet, but we had a perfect meet, you can’t ask for more than that,” he said. “Every single athlete performed great. We knew we had to compete hard, and today we did.”

MIKE COMER/NCAA PHOTOS

**SPRING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**MEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD**

**Event Champions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Champion</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Time/Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-METER DASH</td>
<td>Myles Pringle</td>
<td>Ashland</td>
<td>10.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-METER DASH</td>
<td>A&amp;M-Kingsville</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M-Kingsville</td>
<td>20.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-METER DASH</td>
<td>Mobolade Ajomile</td>
<td>Academy of Art</td>
<td>45.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800-METER RUN</td>
<td>Myles Pringle</td>
<td>Ashland</td>
<td>1:50.18 (7-1-3/4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,500-METER RUN</td>
<td>David Ribich</td>
<td>Western Oregon</td>
<td>3:45.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,000-METER STEEPLECHASE</td>
<td>Gatlin Arianu</td>
<td>Academy of Art</td>
<td>9:47.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,000-METER RELAY</td>
<td>Zach Panning</td>
<td>Grand Valley State</td>
<td>8:47.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000-METER RUN</td>
<td>James Ngandu</td>
<td>Tiffin</td>
<td>29:19.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>110-METER HURDLES</td>
<td>Javier Lopez</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M-Kingsville</td>
<td>13.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-METER HURDLES</td>
<td>Landon Huslig</td>
<td>Oklahoma Christian</td>
<td>49.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,600-METER RELAY</td>
<td>Ashland (Channing Phillips, Trevor Bassett, T.J. Elliott, Myles Pringle)</td>
<td>3:07.66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGH JUMP</td>
<td>Dakarai Hightower</td>
<td>Saint Augustine’s</td>
<td>2:18 (7-13/4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLE VAULT</td>
<td>Jake Pinkston</td>
<td>Colorado Mines</td>
<td>5:20 (17-3 1/4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LONG JUMP</td>
<td>Brian Huber</td>
<td>Minnesota State University Moorhead</td>
<td>7:98 (26-2 1/4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRIPLE JUMP</td>
<td>Charles Greaves</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M-Kingsville</td>
<td>16.08 (52-9 1/4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHOT PUT</td>
<td>Richard Cervantes</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M-Kingsville</td>
<td>19.12 (62-8 1/4)</td>
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<td>DISCUS THROW</td>
<td>Bryan Burns</td>
<td>Missouri Southern</td>
<td>67.50 (220-00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAVELIN THROW</td>
<td>Nils Fischer</td>
<td>Angelo State</td>
<td>75.19 (246-8)</td>
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<td>DECATHLON</td>
<td>Florian Obst</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M-Commerce</td>
<td>8,005 (meet record; old record 7,881, John Schwepker, Southeast Missouri State, 5/19/1988)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Team Standings (Top 5)**

1. Texas A&M-Kingsville, 65
2. Ashland, 51
3. Tiffin, 50
4. Saint Augustine’s, 42
5. Grand Valley State, 39

**Women’s Outdoor Track and Field**

**Event Champions**

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<th>Time/Score</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>100-METER DASH</td>
<td>Christine Moss</td>
<td>Lincoln (Missouri)</td>
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<td>200-METER DASH</td>
<td>Rene Medley</td>
<td>Lincoln (Missouri)</td>
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<td>400-METER DASH</td>
<td>Shannah Kalawan</td>
<td>Saint Augustine’s</td>
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<td>800-METER RUN</td>
<td>Skyllyn Webb</td>
<td>Colorado State-Pueblo</td>
<td>2:02.47 (meet record; old record 2:02.48, Teena Colebrook, Cal Poly, 5/26/1990)</td>
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<td>1,500-METER RUN</td>
<td>Sarah Berger</td>
<td>Walsh</td>
<td>4:22.22</td>
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<td>Caroline Kurgat</td>
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<td>100-METER HURDLES</td>
<td>Janelle Perry</td>
<td>Ursuline</td>
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<td>400-METER HURDLES</td>
<td>Shannah Kalawan</td>
<td>Saint Augustine’s</td>
<td>57.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,000-METER STEEPLECHASE</td>
<td>Alicia Konieczek</td>
<td>Western State</td>
<td>9:47.72  (meet record; old record 9:54.02, Alicia Nelson, Adams State 5/23/2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIGH JUMP</td>
<td>Khadiya Hollingsworth</td>
<td>Minnesota State Mankato</td>
<td>1:84 (6-0 1/2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLE VAULT</td>
<td>Courtney McQuade</td>
<td>Slippery Rock</td>
<td>3:35.95 (12-11 1/2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LONG JUMP</td>
<td>Fatim Affessi</td>
<td>West Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>6:32 (20-9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRIPLE JUMP</td>
<td>Diana Cauldwell</td>
<td>Lincoln (Missouri)</td>
<td>13:16 (43-2 1/4)</td>
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<td>SHOT PUT</td>
<td>Zada Swoopes</td>
<td>West Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>16:52 (54-2 1/2)</td>
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<td>DISCUS THROW</td>
<td>Daisy Osakue</td>
<td>Angelo State</td>
<td>58.19 (194-01)</td>
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<td>JAVELIN THROW</td>
<td>Madison Wolf</td>
<td>Fort Hays State</td>
<td>49.11 (161-1)</td>
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<td>HEPTATHLON</td>
<td>Kami Norton</td>
<td>Angelo State</td>
<td>5,336</td>
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</table>

**Team Standings (Top 5)**

1. Lincoln (Missouri), 60
2. Saint Augustine’s, 48.5
3. Angelo State, 42.5
4. Grand Valley State, 40.5
5. Adams State, 39

**Elite 90 Honoree:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Sasha Howind</td>
<td>Northern State Elementary Education</td>
<td>4.0 GPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SOFTBALL

**GAME 1**  
Southern Indiana 1, North Georgia 0

**GAME 2**  
Angelo State 1, West Chester 0

**GAME 3**  
Saint Anselm 2, Southern Arkansas 1 (9 inn.)

**GAME 4**  
Saint Leo 3, Chico State 2

**GAME 5**  
Southern Indiana 3, Angelo State 0

**GAME 6**  
Saint Anselm 4, Saint Leo 3

**GAME 7**  
North Georgia 4, West Chester 0

**GAME 8**  
Southern Arkansas 12, Chico State 11

**GAME 9**  
Saint Leo 3, North Georgia 2

**GAME 10**  
Southern Arkansas 3, Angelo State 0

**GAME 11**  
Southern Indiana 5, Saint Leo 4 (8 inn.)

**GAME 12**  
Southern Arkansas 11, Saint Anselm 5

**GAME 13**  
Saint Anselm 3, Southern Arkansas 0

### CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Southern Indiana 4, Saint Anselm 0  
Southern Indiana 8, Saint Anselm 3

**ELITE 90 HONOREE:** Megan Gordon, junior, Angelo State, Animal Science, 4.0 GPA

---

Southern Indiana pitcher Jennifer Leonhardt was sensational from start to finish in Salem, starting all five games for the Screaming Eagles.

ANDRES ALONSO/NCAA PHOTOS

Claire Johnson went 3-for-4 with two RBIs and two runs scored in Southern Indiana’s 8-3 win over Saint Anselm to clinch the Screaming Eagles’ first softball title.

ANDRES ALONSO/NCAA PHOTOS

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### BASEBALL

**GAME 1**  
Augustana (South Dakota) 5, Southern New Hampshire 2

**GAME 2**  
Florida Southern 5, Southern Indiana 3

**GAME 3**  
UC San Diego 4, Texas A&M-Kingsville 0

**GAME 4**  
Columbus State 8, Mercyhurst 1

**GAME 5**  
Southern New Hampshire 3, Southern Indiana 0

**GAME 6**  
Augustana (South Dakota) 6, Florida Southern 5

**GAME 7**  
Texas A&M-Kingsville 9, Mercyhurst 0

**GAME 8**  
Columbus State 6, UC San Diego 0

**GAME 9**  
Florida Southern 8, Texas A&M-Kingsville 0

**GAME 10**  
Southern New Hampshire 7, UC San Diego 4

**GAME 11**  
Florida Southern 3, Columbus State 2

**GAME 12**  
Augustana (South Dakota) 8, Southern New Hampshire 2

**GAME 13**  
Columbus State 11, Florida Southern 6

**GAME 14**  
Augustana (South Dakota) 3, Columbus State 2

### ELITE 90 HONOREE: J.J. Niekro, senior, Florida Southern, Accounting, 4.0 GPA

JT Mix of Augustana (South Dakota) fires to first after fielding a grounder in the championship game against Columbus State.

GRANT HALVERSON/NCAA PHOTOS

The Division II Baseball Championship came down to a battle of elite pitchers, as Jacob Blank (left) of Augustana (South Dakota) outdueled Columbus State’s Perez Knowles. The Vikings won the final game, 3-2, to capture their first baseball title.

GRANT HALVERSON/NCAA PHOTOS

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**WOMEN’S TENNIS**

**QUARTERFINALS**
Barry 5, Academy of Art 2  
West Florida 5, Central Oklahoma 2  
Columbus State 5, Northeastern State 1  
Hawaii Pacific 5, Missouri-St. Louis 0

**SEMIFINALS**
Barry 5, Columbus State 3  
West Florida 5, Hawaii Pacific 4

**CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH**
Barry 5, West Florida 0

**MEN’S TENNIS**

**QUARTERFINALS**
Barry 5, Concordia (New York) 2  
Azusa Pacific 5, Drury 0  
Ulindy 5, Washburn 1  
Columbus State 5, Midwestern State 0

**SEMIFINALS**
Columbus State 5, Azusa Pacific 1  
Barry 5, Ulindy 3

**CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH**
Columbus State 5, Barry 4

Top-ranked Verena Schmid (right) won her match at No. 1 singles and teamed with Sonja Larsen (left) to win in doubles as well to propel Barry to its second straight women’s tennis championship and fourth since 2011.

**ELITE 90 HONOREE:** Leticia Gonzalez Dos Santos, senior, Hawaii Pacific, Communication Studies, 4.0 GPA

KP Pannu’s cross-court winner against Barry’s Pierre Montrieul decided the No. 1 singles match, 6-7 (7-2), 6-2, 6-1, and clinched Columbus State’s first Division II men’s tennis title. The Cougars led the Buccaneers 2-1 after the doubles portion of the title match but had to rally from a 4-3 deficit late in the singles competition to claim the crown.

**ELITE 90 HONOREE:** Eirik Groner, Lander, senior, Business Administration, 4.0 GPA
WOMEN’S GOLF

QUARTERFINALS
Florida Southern def. Lincoln Memorial, 4-0-1  
West Florida def. UIndy, 3-1-1  
Barry def. Saint Leo, 3-2  
Lynn def. Arkansas Tech, 2-2-1 (via stroke tiebreaker)

SEMIFINALS
Lynn def. Barry, 3-2  
West Florida def. Florida Southern, 3-1-1

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
Lynn def. West Florida, 3-2

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. John VanDerLaan, Florida Southern, 66-68-65 – 199  
2. Jorge Garcia, Barry, 70-63-70 – 203  
3. Oliver Lilliedahl, Saint Leo, 70-65-69 – 204  
4. Sam Broadhurst, Lincoln Memorial, 71-67-68 – 206  

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Jay Green, senior, Tiffin, Exercise Science, 3.91 GPA

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. UIndy, 286-287-294-290 – 1,157  
2. California Baptist, 293-304-301-297 – 1,195  
3. Dallas Baptist, 290-301-303-302 – 1,196  
4. Nova Southeastern, 296-292-304-307 – 1,199  
5. Barry, 292-302-297-311 – 1,202

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Katharina Keilich, UIndy, 71-71-72-73 – 287  
T2. Pilar Echeverria, UIndy, 73-75-72-69 – 289  
T2. Paloma Vaccaro, West Florida, 71-74-76-68 – 289  
4. Kylie Raines, UIndy, 70-71-77-74 – 292  
5. Emma Thorngren, Missouri-St. Louis, 71-78-72-72 – 293

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Annika Haynes, senior, UIndy, Finance, 4.0 GPA

MEN’S GOLF

QUARTERFINALS
Florida Southern def. Lincoln Memorial, 4-0-1  
West Florida def. UIndy, 3-1-1  
Barry def. Saint Leo, 3-2  
Lynn def. Arkansas Tech, 2-2-1 (via stroke tiebreaker)

SEMIFINALS
Lynn def. Barry, 3-2  
West Florida def. Florida Southern, 3-1-1

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
Lynn def. West Florida, 3-2

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4. Kylie Raines, UIndy, 70-71-77-74 – 292  
5. Emma Thorngren, Missouri-St. Louis, 71-78-72-72 – 293

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Annika Haynes, senior, UIndy, Finance, 4.0 GPA

Florida Southern’s John VanDerLaan is greeted by Mocs head coach Doug Gordon after winning the stroke-play portion of the Division II Men’s Golf Championships. VanDerLaan’s winning score of 17 under par was a championships record, besting the four-round total of -16 Scott Householder of Cal State San Bernardino posted in 1997 and the three-round total of -13 by Saint Leo’s Hugo Bernard in 2016.

UIndy’s Katharina Keilich won medalist honors and propelled the Greyhounds to their second women’s golf team title in four years. The Greyhounds were dominant, leading from wire to wire and ultimately winning by 38 strokes over second-place California Baptist.

Justine Tafoya/NCAA Photos

Champion Ships

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CHAMPIONSHIPS

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EASTERN CONFERENCE

QUARTERFINALS
1. Montclair State 12, Mercy 8
2. LIU Post 13, Springfield 7
3. Queens 12, Adelphi 11
4. Holy Family 14, West Chester 11

SEMIFINALS
1. Montclair State 14, LIU Post 10
2. Queens 16, Holy Family 10

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
1. Queens 15, Montclair State 13

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Allison Funk, senior, Queens, Psychology, 3.91 GPA

MEN’S LACROSSE

QUARTERFINALS
1. Florida Southern 19, Florida Tech 10
2. East Stroudsburg 16, West Chester 14
3. Le Moyne 14, Adelphi 11
4. Regis (Colorado) 15, Lindenwood 14

SEMIFINALS
1. Florida Southern 20, East Stroudsburg 14
2. Le Moyne 18, Regis (Colorado) 1

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
1. Le Moyne 16, Florida Southern 11

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Julia Couch, sophomore, Florida Southern, Communications, 4.0 GPA

WOMEN’S LACROSSE

QUARTERFINALS
1. Seton Hill 14, Le Moyne 10
2. Merrimack 24, New York Institute of Technology 6
3. Saint Leo 12, Tampa 11
4. Lenoir-Rhyne 14, Colorado Mesa 12

SEMIFINALS
1. Merrimack 16, Seton Hill 9
2. Saint Leo 12, Lenoir-Rhyne 11

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
1. Merrimack 23, Saint Leo 6

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Charlie Bertrand, sophomore, Merrimack, Mechanical Engineering, 3.92 GPA

Sidney Hall (left) and Nicole Delany show how much they appreciate the Division II Women’s Lacrosse Championship trophy after helping Le Moyne defeat Florida Southern in the final.

JAMIE SCHWABEROW/NCAA PHOTOS

Le Moyne’s Bryanna Fazio recorded seven points during the championship game against Florida Southern, including a goal just over a minute into the contest. Fazio, who was named the championship’s most outstanding player, became just the third player in Le Moyne history to record 100 points in a year.

JAMIE SCHWABEROW/NCAA PHOTOS

Merrimack’s Jack Trask scored four goals to help the Warriors win their first Division II Men’s Lacrosse Championship in a dominant 23-6 win over Saint Leo in the final. Merrimack tallied a combined 63 goals in its quarterfinal, semifinal and championship game wins, with the 23 in the final tying a Division II championship record.

LARRY FRENCH/NCAA PHOTOS

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JAMIE SCHWABEROW/NCAA PHOTOS

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LARRY FRENCH/NCAA PHOTOS
**WOMEN’S ROWING**

**TEAM STANDINGS**
1. Central Oklahoma, 18
2. Western Washington, 14
3. Florida Tech, 13
4. Mercyhurst, 3

**EVENT RESULTS**

**EIGHTS GRAND FINAL**
1. Central Oklahoma [Kiele Erickson, Trista Cripe, Megan Dwarshuis, Eileen Anderson, Andrea Messenger, Erica Mitchell, Cameron Blunk, Siobhan Quirke; Baylee Roberts (coxswain)], 6:45.898
2. UC San Diego, 6:51.352
3. Florida Tech, 6:51.708
4. Western Washington, 6:51.795

**FOURS GRAND FINAL**
1. Western Washington [Angie Dexter, Kasey Mallon-Andrews, Megan Reid, Michaela Bonanberger; Adele Houston (coxswain)], 7:39.746
2. Central Oklahoma, 7:43.283
3. Florida Tech, 7:47.006

**ELITE 90 HONOREE:** Trista Cripe, junior, Central Oklahoma, Nursing, 4.0 GPA

Florida Tech crews finished third in both grand finals and missed finishing second in the team standings by just a point.

**JUSTIN TAFOYA/NCAA PHOTOS**

Central Oklahoma won its first Division II women’s rowing title by taking first in the Eights and second in the Fours. The Bronchos finished second to Western Washington in 2017. “I’m at a loss for words,” Bronchos head rowing coach Montia Rice said afterward. “We’ve been so close before and not won. And we’ve worked so hard. It’s just amazing. I’m so happy for this team.”

**JUSTIN TAFOYA/NCAA PHOTOS**
FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL

ELITE EIGHT
Washburn def. Wingate, 25-21, 25-20, 25-17

SEMIFINALS
Western Washington def. Lewis, 21-25, 25-13, 25-17, 25-16

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Kenzie Schroer,
Wheeling Jesuit, sophomore, Business, 4.0 GPA

Tampa won its third Division II Women’s Volleyball Championship in a five-set thriller over Western Washington.

Tampa’s Katie McKiel recorded 13 kills in the championship match and was one of four Spartans to be named to the all-tournament team, including Sammy Mueller, who was named the Most Outstanding Player.

MATT KINCAID/NCAA PHOTOS
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Grand Valley State, 89 (Team member place finishes*: Zach Panning, 2; Enael Woldemichael, 6; Tanner Chada, 20; Josh Steible, 24; Ben Zaremba, 37)
2. University of Mary, 93
3. Adams State, 90
4. Western Colorado, 98
5. Colorado School of Mines, 252

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Marcelo Laguera, Colorado State-Pueblo, 28:58.4
2. Zach Panning, Grand Valley State, 28:58.1
3. Elias Gedyon, Adams State, 29:10.6
4. Gidieon Kimutai, Missouri Southern, 29:12.0
5. Taylor Stack, Western Colorado, 32:18.0

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Tyler Jones, senior, Western Oregon, Mathematics and Business, 4.0 GPA

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Grand Valley State, 41 (Team member place finishes*: Sarah Berger, 1; Allie Ludge, 5; Hanna Groeber, 6; Gina Patterson, 8; Madison Goen, 21)
2. University of Mary, 93
3. Adams State, 90
4. Western Colorado, 98
5. Colorado School of Mines, 252

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Sarah Berger, Grand Valley State, 22:07.7
2. Eilish Flanagan, Adams State, 22:12.4
3. Emily Roberts, University of Mary, 22:15.5
4. Alicja Konieczek, Western Colorado, 22:30.4
5. Allie Ludge, Grand Valley State, 22:39.7

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Alexa Shindruk, senior, Central Washington, Accounting, 4.0 GPA

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

TEAM STANDINGS (TOP 5)
1. Grand Valley State, 89 (Team member place finishes*: Zach Panning, 2; Enael Woldemichael, 6; Tanner Chada, 20; Josh Steible, 24; Ben Zaremba, 37)
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5. Allie Ludge, Grand Valley State, 22:39.7

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Tyler Jones, senior, Western Oregon, Mathematics and Business, 4.0 GPA

The pack takes off from the starting line at the Division II Men's Cross Country Championships in Pittsburgh. The rain that plagued the women's race later in the day had not begun to fall, but the course was still waterlogged after an unusually wet fall in the Mid-Atlantic region.

MATT MARRIOTT/NCAA PHOTOS

Grand Valley State's Sarah Berger led from start to finish to capture the individual title.

MATT MARRIOTT/NCAA PHOTOS

Grand Valley State won its sixth Division II Women's Cross Country Championships team title (all since 2010) in a dominant performance. Four Lakers finished in the top 10, including individual champion Sarah Berger, and the team's 41-point total was the best since Adams State's 31 in 2004.

MATT MARRIOTT/NCAA PHOTOS

Marcelo Laguera of Colorado State-Pueblo is exhilarated after winning the individual title.

MATT MARRIOTT/NCAA PHOTOS

Grand Valley State's Sarah Berger led from start to finish to capture the individual title.

MATT MARRIOTT/NCAA PHOTOS
WOMEN’S SOCCER

QUARTERFINALS
Bridgeport 3, Bloomsburg 1
Lee 1, Columbus State 0
Grand Valley State 6, Central Missouri 1
UC San Diego 5, West Texas A&M 0

SEMIFINALS
Bridgeport 2, UC San Diego 0
Grand Valley State 3, Lee 0

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
Bridgeport 1, Grand Valley State 0

Bridgeport players celebrate their 1-0 victory over Grand Valley State in the Division II Women’s Soccer Championship match. The win avenged a 0-6 loss to the Lakers early in the regular season and gave the Purple Knights their first title.

Bridgeport’s Maegen Doyle (right) led Division II this year in goals with 28, but it was teammate Nara DaCosta’s header late in the second half that netted the championship match’s lone tally.

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Jennifer Wendelius,
Bridgeport, senior, Marketing, 3.978 GPA

MEN’S SOCCER

QUARTERFINALS
West Chester 2, Adelphi 0
Fort Hays State 2, Ohio Valley 0
Cal Poly Pomona 2, West Texas A&M 0
Barry 2, Lander 1

SEMINALS
Barry 0, Fort Hays State 0 (2 OT; Barry advanced on penalty kicks, 5-4)
West Chester 2, Cal Poly Pomona 1 (OT)

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
Barry 2, West Chester 1

Lucas Russo’s reaction at the end of Barry’s 2-1 victory over West Chester in the championship match reflects the intensity of the rally that saw the Bucs overcome a 1-0 deficit with two goals in a six-minute span late in the second half.

ELITE 90 HONOREE:
Stefano Cammarota,
Barry, junior, Management and International Business, 3.918 GPA
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FIELD HOCKEY

FIRST ROUND
Shippensburg 4, Merrimack 1
Pace 6, Saint Anselm 1

SEMIFINALS
Shippensburg 4, West Chester 0
East Stroudsburg 3, Pace 0

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
Shippensburg 1, East Stroudsburg 0 (OT)

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Lexi Hartmann, East Stroudsburg, sophomore, Early Childhood Education, 4.0 GPA

Shippensburg players celebrate their third consecutive Division II Field Hockey Championship after defeating East Stroudsburg in overtime in the final. It was the fourth meeting between the two teams this season.

STEVE NOWLAND/NCAA PHOTOS

FOOTBALL

QUARTERFINALS
Ferris State 27, Northwest Missouri State 21
Notre Dame (Ohio) 21, Slippery Rock 17
Minnesota State Mankato 13, Tarleton State 10
Valdosta State 61, Lenoir-Rhyne 21

SEMIFINALS
Ferris State 42, Minnesota State Mankato 25
Valdosta State 30, Notre Dame (Ohio) 24

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
Valdosta State 49, Ferris State 47

ELITE 90 HONOREE: Travis Russell, junior, Ferris State, Marketing, 3.73 GPA

Jevon Shaw of Ferris State attempts a game-tying two-point conversion late in the game, but Valdosta State survived to win its fourth championship.

JUSTIN TAFOYA/NCAA PHOTOS
Division II conducted its 11th National Championships Festival November 27 - December 1 in Pittsburgh. While the primary purpose was to crown champions in men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, field hockey and women's volleyball (see those summaries on the previous pages), the festival also featured opening and closing ceremonies, community engagement activities and plenty of opportunities to interact!
Student-athlete input a valuable tool for Division II presidents

I’m proud of our division for so many things – our commitment to knowing who we are and what we stand for; our pledge to offering student-athletes the opportunity to achieve their highest athletics goals within a balanced educational experience that prepares them for life after college; and the way we pursue innovative programs and solutions that position us as leaders among the Association being just a few.

But I’m also proud of the way we continuously communicate with our student-athletes to help guide our actions and achieve our goals. We believe in a strong student-athlete voice in Division II. And when you hear the way our SAAC members and other student-athlete leaders on our campuses express themselves and articulate their desires, why wouldn’t we want to have them heard? They truly are amazing individuals, and we as a division are better because of them.

Over the years our conversations with student-athletes have addressed health and safety concerns, mental health awareness, countable athletically related activities, and student-athlete time demands, among other issues. This year we engaged them about a curious term coined uniquely because of student-athlete time demands, among other concerns around these “voluntold” activities for student-athletes called, “voluntold activities.”

At the 2018 Convention, we met with the Division II SAAC and Management Council to discuss concerns around these “voluntold” activities for student-athletes. These types of activities – which athletes are not technically required to participate in but which may come with repercussions if they don’t – have been a growing point of conversation in the division. In our meeting, we reviewed the difference between countable athletically related activities and activities that do not meet those countable requirements, such as study hall, open gym and community engagement events.

The conversation made us as presidents further aware of the expectations placed upon these students as athletes, and we pledged our commitment to making this topic a priority in the coming months.

The SAAC in fact agreed to help develop modules for DII University to educate coaches and others on countable athletically related activities and the most common “voluntold” activities on campuses. These resources will help student-athletes and athletics administrators manage these situations in ways that protect the interests of our student-athletes.

Our Presidents Council made other strides this past year. President Roy Wilson chaired the Division II Injury Surveillance Task Force and helped ensure that Division II took the lead to increase communication on the importance of submitting injury data. As it happens, the other two divisions followed our lead and increased communications with their memberships as well.

Additionally, this task force recommended (and the Presidents Council ultimately sponsored) the required completion of the Division II health and safety survey, a proposal that is on the docket for this Convention.

Our Council also approved the new regular-season media agreement that will expand the way we’re able to showcase our student-athletes – and spread the Division II message – to national audiences.

I am honored to have chaired the Division II Presidents Council for two years now, and I’ve seen time and again how this group – as well as the rest of the governance structure – works tirelessly to position our division as a forward-thinking, creative and responsible collection of members dedicated to making a difference in the way intercollegiate athletics benefits students.

I have a strong feeling that trend will continue, which makes me proud all over again.

Glen Jones is president at Henderson State University.
Prioritization + collaboration + inclusion = sound governance

In last year’s Division II Yearbook, outgoing Management Council Chair Gary Gray noted in this space that I would succeed him in this role for 2018 and that he looked forward to reading what I had to say about the council’s progress.

Well, Gary, as has been the case all along with the Management Council, we continued to serve as one of Division II’s most influential and responsible governance entities. I say that not only because I am biased, of course, but because it is unusual for a group this size to be so productive, so collaborative, and in addition, so much fun.

The Management Council is Division II’s most representative body and quite possibly the most diverse year in and year out because of the stipulations requiring various positions on our roster (athletics directors, senior woman administrators, faculty reps, conference officers and student-athletes). From that diversity comes an inclusive voice for our division. Council members routinely put the division first – before their institutions or conferences. The good news is that whatever decisions we make to benefit the institutions or conferences. The good news is that not only because I am biased, of course, but because it is unusual for a group this size to be so productive, so collaborative, and in addition, so much fun.

The new media agreement will help us implement Phase Two of the Make It Yours campaign, which is devoted to spreading the Division II message outward and celebrating the accomplishments our student-athletes achieve regularly in academics, in athletics, and in the community.

Not bad for one year, right? So now I am the outgoing chair, and like Gary Gray did for me, I will challenge incoming chair Laura Liesman, director of athletics at Georgian Court University, to keep pushing the Management Council forward as an advocate for Division II.

Pennie Parker is the director of athletics at Rollins College.

Pennie Parker | Chair

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Laura Liesman, incoming chair
Director of Athletics
Georgian Court University
January 2020

Michael Cerino
Director of Athletics
Limestone College
January 2022

Jessica Chapin
Assistant Director of Athletics for Compliance/Senior Woman Administrator/Title IX Deputy Coordinator
American International College
January 2021

Teresa Clark
Faculty Athletics Representative
Cedarville University
January 2022

J. Lin Dawson
Director of Athletics
Clark Atlanta University
January 2022

Joshua Doody
Director of Athletics
Northeastern State University
January 2021

Robert Dranoff
Commissioner
East Coast Conference
January 2022

Amy Foster
Associate Director of Athletics for Business/Senior Woman Administrator
Seattle Pacific University
January 2022

Chris Graham
Commissioner
Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference
January 2021

Hannah Hinton
Associate Commissioner of Compliance/Senior Woman Administrator
Mountain East Conference
January 2022

Felicia Johnson
Associate Director of Athletics/Senior Woman Administrator
Virginia Union University
January 2021

Jim Johnson
Director of Athletics
Pittsburg State University
January 2022

Courtney Lovely
Senior Associate Director of Athletics for Internal Operations/Senior Woman Administrator
Palm Beach Atlantic University
January 2022

Steve Murray
Commissioner
Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
January 2020

Jack Nicholson
Student-Athlete
St. Thomas Aquinas College
January 2020

Julie Rochester
Faculty Athletics Representative
Northern Michigan University
January 2022

Jim Sarra
Director of Athletics
Winona State University
January 2020

Cherrie Wilmoth
Associate Director of Athletics for Intra-Conference Operations and Compliance/Senior Woman Administrator
Southeastern Oklahoma State University
January 2020

Steven Winter
Faculty Athletics Representative
Sonoma State University
January 2023

Gilbert “Griz” Zimmermann
Director of Athletics
Texas A&M International University
June 2019

Outgoing members:
Lynn Griffin
Vice President of Athletics and Athletics Facilities
Coker College

Paul Leidig
Faculty Athletics Representative
Grand Valley State University

Casey Monaghan
Student-Athlete
Cedarville University

Pennie Parker
Director of Athletics
Rollins College

Lindsay Reeves
Director of Athletics
North Georgia College & State University

Kim Vinson
Associate Director of Athletics/Senior Woman Administrator
Cameron University

Division II will wave the Make It Yours banner proudly to more audiences in the coming years.
GOVERNANCE AND NEWS

Three years into our plan, the glass is more than half full

Gary Olson | Chair

One of the Planning and Finance Committee’s primary roles is to oversee and ensure implementation of the division’s strategic plan. We are halfway through our current six-year plan, and I have nothing but good news to report.

The Division II Presidents Council formally adopted the current plan in the spring of 2015. This plan is built upon the division’s unique attributes and student-centered values. Three years into the plan’s implementation, we know the following to be true:

- The division’s Life in the Balance philosophy is a stabilizing mantra that drives decision-making and policy.
- Our membership appreciates the unique attributes that comprise the division’s strategic positioning platform.
- Division II’s governance structure, under the leadership of the Presidents Council and the Planning and Finance Committee, continues to place the division in a position of fiscal strength.

This mid-term assessment of the strategic plan reaffirms our commitment to the mission and vision and to the values that drive them. In addition, we continue to pursue the following goals:

- Produce student-athletes who graduate, who exhibit leadership, who engage with their communities and who have acquired the skills they need to maintain healthy and productive lifestyles.
- Help Division II schools and conferences create engaged and high-functioning athletics operations and compliance programs.
- Promote diverse, inclusive and welcoming environments within all levels of intercollegiate athletics.
- Enhance the game day and championships experience for our student-athletes.
- Demand fiscal responsibility at the local, conference, regional and national levels.
- Respect our past, celebrate who we are, and enhance the public’s knowledge and appreciation of Division II.

We’ve updated the strategic plan document to modify the tools to accomplish these goals where appropriate, particularly as informed by the 2018 Division II Membership Census results, and the groups responsible for implementing the five Strategic Positioning Outcome Areas based on the present governance structure. Our core mission, however, remains intact.

In addition to our work on the strategic plan, the Planning and Finance Committee also approved a new long-range budget this year, which allocates almost $1.1 million to supporting and enhancing student-athlete academic success; student-athlete health, safety and well-being; and programs and initiatives to help ensure more inclusive environments on our campuses.

The new budget also commits approximately $1.3 million to support our championships program, which we believe offers our student-athletes plentiful opportunities for an exceptional and memorable postseason experience.

Finally, our committee continued monitoring progress on the 10 Foundation for the Future projects that were approved in 2015, including the new educational platform launched via Division II University, an initiative that once again demonstrates the innovation for which our division has come to be known.

As a division, we understand and celebrate who we are and what we represent, and we are committed to following our strategic plan for the benefit of our most important stakeholder – our student-athletes.

Gary Olson is president at Daemen College.
A new way of learning – online and on time

Cherrie Wilmoth | Chair

There’s a new university in town, and it’s got Division II written all over it. That’s right, by now I’m sure you’ve heard of Division II University, and I hope that many of you have interacted with the new platform to some degree and have gone through a few of the modules.

Of course, depending on the outcome of the proposal to require coaches to complete modules annually in the system instead of the archaic coaches test, many of you may certainly be familiar with “DII U” by this time next year! Our committee has been discussing policies and procedures should the proposal be adopted, as it would be effective April 2019 for the 2019-20 academic year.

While the Division II Legislation Committee wasn’t the sole driver behind DII U, our group sure was heavily involved throughout the development and implementation stages. Phase One is complete and includes two health and safety modules developed with the Sport Science Institute (mental health and sexual violence prevention) and 25 courses on recruiting and eligibility. Feedback from users so far has been incredibly positive – people do seem to agree that this way of learning beats the old memorization test.

All of us in Division II need to ensure that our coaches are prepared for their roles as educators and leaders in the development of student-athletes. Division II University serves that purpose as an online, interactive educational delivery system that not only helps coaches know the rules – but also their roles. No other athletics administrator interacts with student-athletes more than the coach. Division II University was created with that relationship in mind.

While the broader strategy behind this new online platform is to change the way the NCAA national office delivers educational material to the membership, our initial focus was on coaches. In part that was because our coaches told us that they wanted to be more engaged, and we listened. Results from the 2013 membership census showed that coaches as a group were the least likely to feel informed about and engaged with not only the nuts and bolts of the division but also with our philosophical expectations. So we collaborated with our membership to develop a new way to enhance coaches’ engagement and understanding of the rules and issues that pertain to their role in Division II athletics.

The Legislation Committee certainly believes in this new system, and I am confident you will as well. Let’s hear it for DII U!

Our group is also continuing to work on the culture of compliance initiative. We’re reviewing more than 100 legislative recommendations from the Culture of Compliance Think Tank as well as developing tools and resources to assist with compliance on campus. To date, more than 20 noncontroversial proposals have been recommended and adopted by the governance structure.

Between DII U and the Culture of Compliance, we’ll stay busy this coming year!

Cherrie Wilmoth is the associate director of athletics for internal operations and compliance/senior woman administrator at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Division II University
Online Coaches Education Program

- An interactive system designed to deliver engaging online education.
- Will ultimately transform how the NCAA national office delivers educational content for Division II.
- Coaches Education is the first initiative to be introduced via the Division II University platform.
- An interactive series of courses educate coaches on everything from recruiting rules and governance to improving student-athlete health and wellness.
- Coaches access the new system through the NCAA single-source sign-on application via their mobile device, tablet or computer, whichever is most convenient.
- The program could replace the current annual coaches exam, pending a membership vote at the 2019 Convention.
- Courses cover recruiting and eligibility, as well as health and safety topics such as sexual violence prevention and protecting/enhancing student-athlete mental wellness.
- Courses covering playing and practice seasons, awards and benefits, training and conditioning, and concussion management, among several others, are forthcoming.
Beginnings and endings add up to continued progress

The Division II Championships Committee celebrated beginnings and endings in 2018.

The beginnings featured implementation of almost two dozen approved budget requests for the 2018-21 triennium that will enhance the way we operate and administer our championships. These budgetary enhancements include bracket expansion in men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's cross country, women's soccer, women's rowing and women's golf.

The entire division is proud of our championships, and our committee takes its stewardship role seriously.

We also oversaw the first joint Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships in March, with the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference hosting the 2018 men's and women's championships at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The NSIC did a splendid job hosting 16 teams and helping to conduct 14 games in five days!

Speaking of joint basketball championships, our committee in September voted to support conducting the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships in March, with the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference hosting the 2018 men's and women's championships at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The NSIC did a splendid job hosting 16 teams and helping to conduct 14 games in five days!

As for endings, the two-year effort to figure out how our regionalization principles apply to championships reached some closure. I say “some closure” because we still need to determine membership opinion on one of the core principles of regionalization, which currently states that every region must be represented at the championship finals. There's been a shift within the membership in recent years, though, to want the best teams to advance to the finals.

Some sport committees have accomplished that by seeding the teams that advance from regional competition into the finals. That helps ensure the best two teams compete in the championship final without compromising regional representation. The Regionalization Working Group in fact in its final report urged all team sport committees to take that approach in the future. But the larger decision on just when the tenets of regionalization are satisfied in championships competition remains to be determined.

In addition to beginnings and endings, the Championships Committee performed plenty of continuation this year as well. We conducted our 11th National Championships Festival, this one for fall sports in Pittsburgh. We crowned champions in men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, women's volleyball, and field hockey. The more than 900 student-athletes also engaged the Pittsburgh community in a big way, interacting with several youth organizations, military groups and elder communities to leave a lasting impression in the Steel City.

Looking ahead, we'll do more “continuing” — continuing to adopt policies that enhance our championships in ways that provide our student-athletes a memorable experience.

Sue Willey is the vice president for intercollegiate athletics at the University of Indianapolis.
Any look back at a given year for the Membership Committee always starts with the good news of who was approved to begin active membership in our division.

We formally added three schools to our ranks this fall, as Emmanuel College (Georgia), Spring Hill College (Alabama) and Westminster College (Utah) began active membership September 1. The additions bring the total Division II membership to 308 colleges and universities.

Six institutions remain in the membership process, including four that are in year three (Auburn University at Montgomery, Biola University, Davenport University and Purdue University Northwest) and could be approved to become active members in September 2019. Additionally, the Membership Committee reviewed and accepted applications from the University of Texas at Tyler and Savannah State University, which is on a two-year track given its reclassification from Division I.

We’re proud of the way we manage the membership process. We set high standards for new members to meet, but we also provide ample resources and guidance to help them develop programs that meet those standards quickly. In many cases prospective members are able to use those resources to get the ball rolling even before they apply. That way when they submit their application they’ve already demonstrated a commitment to understanding just what it takes to be an effective and compliant Division II member institution.

And we’re always looking to improve as well. Our committee is looking to streamline the process for institutions in the membership process. We’ve retained a vendor to review all of the information we ask in the membership application and in the annual reports to determine whether beneficial adjustments can be made.

We’re also continuing to make progress regarding potential applicants from Mexico. Division II remains not only the lone division with an active member from Canada but also the only division to have committed to welcoming applicants from Mexico. Division II is well known as a division of firsts, and the Membership Committee is happy to help maintain that distinction.

In addition of being the so-called gatekeepers of prospective Division II membership, we also oversee programs that help the membership keep up with our standards. We once again will offer several regional compliance seminars and regional rules seminars in 2019 (see the accompanying schedule) to help in this regard.

We began doing this in 2014-15 and these sessions have been so well attended and successful that we’re continuing the approach. These seminars integrate various learning styles that promote a positive educational environment, and information is facilitated through hands-on learning segments designed to engage seminar participants and emphasize practical applications. We certainly encourage you to participate in one near you.

Leslie Schuemann is a senior associate commissioner and the senior woman administrator at the Heartland Conference.

### 2018-19 Regional Compliance Seminars and Regional Rules Seminars Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Seminar Locations</th>
<th>Seminar Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12-13, 2019</td>
<td>Birmingham, Alabama</td>
<td>Regional Compliance Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26-27, 2019</td>
<td>Trumbull, Connecticut</td>
<td>Regional Compliance Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23-24, 2019</td>
<td>Burnsville, Minnesota</td>
<td>Regional Compliance Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13-15, 2019</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>Regional Rules Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29-30, 2019</td>
<td>Oklahoma City</td>
<td>Regional Compliance Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3-5, 2019</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>Regional Rules Seminar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Each Regional Compliance Seminar site will host 85-100 participants; Regional Rules Seminar sites will host 200-300 participants.
A review of our successes over the past year has to start with a completion of sorts. The final phase of the path to graduation legislation that Division II adopted at the 2014 Convention went into effect this past year, as the Division II initial-eligibility sliding scale began applying to all student-athletes initially enrolling in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2018.

These changes raise the initial-eligibility GPA requirement to a minimum of 2.2 for qualifiers (up from the previous 2.0) and establishes for the first time two sliding scales for full and partial qualifiers that allow lower standardized test scores to be offset by higher high school core course GPAs.

So the path to graduation is now completely paved, and the Academic Requirements Committee is pleased with how the membership has adapted to the new standards. We believe they’ve already led to enhanced academic success for our student-athletes.

Our group also was busy this past year reviewing the division’s metrics for academic success in order to improve the accuracy of data collection and strengthen the foundation upon which academic policy decisions are made. This effort was one of the 10 initiatives the Division II Presidents Council agreed to fund through the 2015 Foundation for the Future directive.

To support that effort, the Academic Requirements Committee received a final report from an external consultant to review the accuracy of academic reporting data Division II institutions submit annually in an effort to help schools increase consistency and better manage reporting requirements. In the upcoming year, the ARC will be considering action steps that would effectively create efficiencies for member institutions and increase the accuracy of current data submission processes.

In the coming months, our committee also will be reviewing the current state of athletics academic advising on Division II campuses and explore potential initiatives that might further support those efforts.

My term on this committee expires after the Convention. It’s been an absolute pleasure for me to chair this group, as everyone who serves is passionate about ensuring our student-athletes’ academic success. I am pleased to note that we elected Christina Whetsel, the assistant athletics director for compliance and academic services at Augusta University, to serve as our new chair effective February 1, 2019. Christina is a veteran with this group, and she will perform wonderfully in this role.

Go, ARC!

Paul Leidig is the faculty athletics representative at Grand Valley State University.
Throughout this past year the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has identified multiple goals we believe will continue improving the student-athlete experience. Some of the primary goals we continue to work toward are mental health awareness, creating more opportunities for community engagement, and preventing sexual assault.

Being a voice for student-athletes is a responsibility we take very seriously. Throughout this past year we have continued to represent the views of student-athletes throughout the legislative process. Having a vote on all Division II legislative proposals is a great responsibility that we have as Division II student-athletes, and we strive to represent all student-athletes throughout that process.

We have continued to make community engagement a priority throughout the year. As a committee, we met with staff from Make-A-Wish and Team IMPACT and worked to continue growing our partnerships with both organizations. We recognize that not all community engagement is done with these two organizations, and we encourage all institutions to be involved with their local communities in whatever way they see fit.

When it comes to the issue of sexual violence/assault, it is our goal as leaders to continue to provide accessible resources and awareness to all Division II institutions. Mental health is a topic that is not always comfortable to talk about as student-athletes. Given this, it is our goal to encourage all institutions to break the stigma related to mental health and start the conversation.

As chair and a member of the Division II SAAC, my primary goal is to represent the views and beliefs of all Division II student-athletes. Through the division’s legislative grid process, we confirm the opinion of student-athletes for all legislative proposals that will be voted on at the NCAA Convention in January. Additionally, I am continually reminded of how special being a student-athlete is, and I strive to make that experience more inclusive, safer and impactful for all student-athletes.

Throughout my time serving as chair, I have come to realize how important and special it is to have a voice as a student-athlete. The impact we can make on those around us is truly remarkable. As the year comes to an end, I am proud not only of the work national SAAC has done but the strides the division has made.

Josh Shapiro is a baseball student-athlete at Colorado Mesa University.
Wish support still strong

As part of their partnership with Make-A-Wish, Division II schools raised more than $474,000 for the nonprofit organization during the 2017-18 academic year. Since the national Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee began its relationship with Make-A-Wish in 2003, the division has raised more than $5.7 million, helping the organization grant wishes to 697 kids across the country with life-threatening medical conditions.

Schools from all 24 Division II conferences participated in fundraising for Make-A-Wish, including every member of the South Atlantic Conference and more than 90 percent participation from the Great Midwest Athletic Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

The Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference was the top fundraising conference for the fourth consecutive year, raising $70,961. North Georgia remained the top fundraising school for the third straight year, surpassing its total from last year by raising $31,875.

Nine schools raised more than $10,000 – the national average cost of granting a wish – and automatically earned a wish reveal celebration. In addition to those nine, 13 schools raised more than $5,000 and received money from the allocation model to help them meet the minimum fundraising requirement for hosting a wish reveal.

Josh Shapiro, Division II SAAC chair and current baseball student-athlete at Colorado Mesa University, said it is “an unbelievable privilege” to help the Make-A-Wish children and their families when they need it most. “It’s great to see the continued support for such an inspirational cause and a remarkable organization,” he said.

Year after year, Division II has shown its support for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, highlighting how it aligns with the division’s mission of ensuring student-athletes live a life balanced among academics, athletics and community engagement. The partnership presents student-athletes with an opportunity to see how their commitment to giving back pays off on a national scale.

“The Make-A-Wish and Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee partnership truly highlights the values and goals within the division,” Shapiro said. “Student-athletes all across the division have shown that they are passionate about helping children in need.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP 5 SCHOOLS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of North Georgia</td>
<td>$31,875.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindenwood University</td>
<td>$13,102.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California, San Diego</td>
<td>$11,417.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinboro University of Pennslyvania</td>
<td>$10,281.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Chester University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$10,062.37</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP FIVE CONFERENCES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference</td>
<td>$70,961.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peach Belt Conference</td>
<td>$52,406.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association</td>
<td>$34,839.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Atlantic Conference</td>
<td>$32,844.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf South Conference</td>
<td>$27,083.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership census reveals support for Division II’s strategic course

Division II conducted its second membership census this year, and results indicate that the membership believes the division continues to be on the right track when it comes to supporting core values, promoting the division’s unique characteristics, and living Life in the Balance that serves as the bedrock of the Division II philosophy.

The census was sent in January to college presidents and chancellors, athletics directors, coaches, conference commissioners and staff, and other athletics administrators at the 315 schools in Division II. More than 2,800 people responded, an increase of 815 from the inaugural census issued in 2013.

The 2013 census helped shape the 2015-21 strategic plan and was deemed so useful that Division II members agreed to conduct a similar survey every five years.

Division II’s Life in the Balance model is the right way to approach intercollegiate athletics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pres./Chanc.</th>
<th>AD</th>
<th>Athl. Staff</th>
<th>Compl.</th>
<th>Coach</th>
<th>FAR</th>
<th>Conf. Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree/Strongly Agree</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree/Strongly Disagree</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2018 CENSUS:

- Division II’s regionalization model, which was created to ensure schools in every region of the country have access to championships, is supported by most administrators and 90 percent of presidents and chancellors.
- The national championships festivals, another unique component of Division II, elicited positive feedback, particularly from those who have attended one. More than 80 percent of conference staff and around three-quarters of presidents, chancellors and athletics directors who have been to a festival indicated the student-athlete experience at the festival is worth the financial investment.
- In considering the allocation of championships resources, all groups agreed that increasing per diem is a priority.
- For many of the questions, coaches’ answers differed significantly from those of other responding groups. This gap appeared in the 2013 census results, too, when only 21 percent of responding coaches were aware of the division’s strategic positioning platform and just 65 percent supported the Life in the Balance approach — 16 points lower than any other group. This year, nearly 1,400 coaches responded to the census, 635 more than five years ago. Still, the data show more work needs to be done to engage these sport leaders.
- Centered on the principle of providing student-athletes a well-rounded college experience, Life in the Balance was deemed “the right way” to approach college athletics by 90 percent of the responding presidents and chancellors.
- When asked to rank the characteristics of Division II that they value most, respondents most often selected the strategic positioning platform as the top characteristic.
- Athletics directors are feeling more squeezed financially than five years ago, while commissioners are feeling less so. Forty-three percent of ADs agreed that their school has allocated a sufficient budget to allow for the effective operation of the athletics department, while 91 percent of commissioners feel they have sufficient budget. In 2013, 58 percent of ADs and 66 percent of commissioners agreed with the statement.
- There is some ambivalence around the impact of the Make It Yours brand enhancement at the campus level. Between 36 and 43 percent of respondents picked “neither agree nor disagree” when asked whether Make It Yours has established institutional pride and most respondents indicated more work is needed to promote the brand.
- While most respondents agree SAACs are productive leadership groups on campus, the respondents were split on whether SAAC members are more engaged in campus events than other students.
- All responding groups generally agree that athletics help diversify the student body, and that their schools and athletics departments support a culture of diversity and inclusion.
- All categories of respondents except coaches expressed much less concern about the status of Division II within the NCAA than in 2013. However, about three-fifths of each group indicated concern about the overall status of intercollegiate athletics.
Division II grad rates on the rise

Data from the most recent four-year cohort (the entering classes from 2008 through 2011), show the Division II aggregate Academic Success Rate improving one point to 73 percent over the previous four-year cohort, while the single-year ASR for student-athletes who enrolled in 2011 increased two points to 74 percent. Three men’s sports and 11 women’s sports saw improvements in their four-year ASRs as well.

The four-year federal rate for the most recent entering cohort from 2008 through 2011 is 56 percent for all Division II student-athletes, which is one point higher than last year’s report and seven points more than the federal graduation rate for Division II students in general. That gap between student-athlete rates and student-body rates is the largest among the three divisions. Every student-athlete demographic also outperformed their counterparts in the general student body.

“Division II student-athletes continually exhibit their commitment to a well-rounded collegiate experience. They perform at high levels in the classroom, in athletics competition and while serving their communities,” said Terri Steeb Gronau, vice president of Division II. “We are proud of Division II student-athletes for continuing to strive for excellence in all that they do. We thank Division II member schools for the support they provide young people to prepare them for lifelong success.”

This is the 13th year in which Division II has compiled and published the ASR, which unlike the federal rate includes transfers into a school in the calculation and removes students who left school while academically eligible. Because of the division’s partial scholarship financial aid model, the ASR also includes the more than 35,000 nonscholarship student-athletes who enrolled from 2008 through 2011, the four years covered in the most recent data.

### Average Division II Federal Rates vs. ASRs, 2015-18 Four-Year Rate (2008-11 Entering Cohorts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Body</th>
<th>Federal Rate</th>
<th>Federal Rate</th>
<th>ASR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division II Overall</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>56% +1</td>
<td>73% +1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II Men</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>49% +1</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II Women</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>66% +1</td>
<td>86% +1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Numbers in red are percentage changes from 2014-17

### Average Division II Federal Rates vs. ASRs, 2018 Single-Year Rate (2011 Entering Cohorts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Body</th>
<th>Federal Rate</th>
<th>Federal Rate</th>
<th>ASR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division II Overall</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>57% +1</td>
<td>74% +2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II Men</td>
<td>46% +1</td>
<td>50% +1</td>
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<td>87% +2</td>
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Note: Numbers in red are percentage changes from 2017
Gimme a D!
Gimme a II!
Gimme a U!
What’s that spell?
EDUCATION!

Division II launched a new and innovative online platform this year to transform the way the NCAA national office delivers educational material to the membership.

The first component rolled out via “Division II University” is the Online Coaches Education Program, one of the 10 programs the Division II Presidents Council agreed to fund through the Division II Foundation for the Future initiative in 2015-16. The Online Coaches Education Program offers an interactive series of courses to educate coaches on everything from recruiting rules and governance to improving student-athlete health and wellness. These courses are more engaging and effective than the current coaches recruiting exam and may in fact replace that exam pending a membership vote at this year’s Convention.

The program has initially targeted coaches, since the 2013 membership census indicated they as a group felt more disengaged from Division II matters than other constituents. DII U now provides the tools they need to engage and understand key rules and issues through 26 training modules focused on recruiting and eligibility rules, mental health and sexual violence prevention.

The modules incorporate short videos, snippets of educational text and interactive activities to test coaches’ knowledge. To accommodate coaches on the go, the modules are optimized on mobile devices but also can be completed on desktop computers.

As of November, 6,332 users had registered, 1,118 had completed courses (37 of whom had completed all 26 courses), and 6,187 courses had been completed overall.

Blazek to blaze trail as new coordinator of officials in men’s basketball

The NCAA named John Blazek the first NCAA Division II men’s basketball national coordinator of officials. Blazek has 28 years of officiating experience in addition to eight years as a supervisor of officials.

In his role as the Division II men’s basketball national coordinator, Blazek will be responsible for working with Division II conference coordinators of officials to ensure the most consistent and effective teaching and communication methods. The goal of this collaborative effort is to identify, select and advance a diverse pool of officials for the Division II national tournament and to assist in the training, education and retention of Division II officials across the country.

Jon Mark Hall, director of athletics at Southern Indiana and chair of the NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball Committee, said what stands out to him is Blazek’s array of experience at all levels of basketball. “Not only has John been an outstanding referee for many years, including several years as a Division II official, but his administrative experience is strong as well. John knows the Division II game and he will be a great asset to our sport.”
Regionalization Working Group completes charge

After almost two years of deliberation and membership outreach, the group the Division II Management Council appointed to review whether regionalization is meeting intended outcomes has determined that for the most part, it is.

The 10-member group chaired by Saint Leo University Athletics Director Fran Reidy submitted its final report in June, with the primary finding being that regionalization should be retained as a core tenet of the division.

“Through continuous outreach to the Division II membership since being appointed in October 2016, we have seen no indication that the membership wants to overhaul regionalization as a core value for the division,” Reidy said.

Regionalization is a Division II championships policy that requires sport committees to select a predetermined number of teams in each of the regions of the sports involved. This policy is based on an assumption that due to the regional nature of most Division II schools, sport committees should evaluate and select championships participants based on regional results, as opposed to a national evaluation in which head-to-head and common opponents’ results are less prevalent.

In addition, regionalization encourages a member school to compete against opponents within its region, instead of seeking contests against opponents outside its geographical region. This scheduling incentive is aimed at helping schools manage their regular-season travel budgets and limit missed class time for Division II student-athletes.

One of the philosophical issues that emerged during the group’s review is at what point regionalization is satisfied in the championships continuum. Regionalization currently guarantees that every region is represented at the finals. However, momentum is building to ensure that the best teams are in the finals. Some sport committees have accomplished that by seeding the teams that advance from regional competition into the finals. That helps ensure the best two teams compete in the championship final without compromising regional representation. But other sport committees have proposed seeding teams earlier than after the regional round, which could affect regional representation.

The group advised seeking membership feedback to determine whether the principles of regionalization can be met at selections when sport committees populate the field, or if they can be met only when all regions are represented at the championship finals site.

Other working group recommendations:

- Division II sport committees should be encouraged to brainstorm ways to improve how regionalization applies to championships. While this current review of regionalization as a core tenet is over, that doesn’t mean sport committees should stop seeking ways to improve its application.
- Encourage all team sport committees to seed teams advancing to the finals. (Note: The Division II Championships Committee proposed this as a requirement for all team sport committees, which the Management and Presidents Councils subsequently approved.)
- Clarify or modify the principles for determining an in-region opponent. The working group advises evaluating whether the way the current principles for determining an in-region opponent are being applied matches its original intent. If it doesn’t, then a review of the guiding principles may be warranted.

From the 2018 Division II Membership Census:
I support the regionalization model for Division II national championships

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<th>Compl.</th>
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<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>16%</td>
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Diploma Dashboards offer major insight

NCAA research is shining a brighter light on the fields of study student-athletes pursue compared to those of the general student body, and the illumination reveals a good story for Division II.

While for years there’s been a misperception regarding student-athletes taking less-challenging courses to protect their athletics eligibility, the new databases – called Diploma Dashboards – show that for the most part in Division II, there’s little difference in the degrees earned between student-athletes and the student body.

Paul Leidig, chair of the Division II Academic Requirements Committee and a professor in the School of Computing and Information Systems at Grand Valley State, said the data validate the committee’s work in increasing academic standards. In fact, while the ARC has continued to put in place higher standards for student-athletes to show they are making academic progress toward their degrees, those decisions appear to have had little or no impact on the areas of study student-athletes choose to pursue. Over the past 10 years, the degrees awarded to student-athletes have followed similar trends to those seen in the general student body.

The Diploma Dashboards are available on NCAA.org at http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/research/division-i-and-ii-diploma-dashboards.

New media agreement

Division II launched a new media agreement this fall designed to use ESPN3 and NCAA social media to promote the division on several platforms throughout the 2018-19 academic year.

The agreement already has featured 22 football games, 17 of which were predetermined conference matchups, and another three flex games in November highlighting the most crucial matchups heading into the postseason.

The agreement features two distribution models for football and basketball. For football, 11 games were streamed on ESPN3, available on the ESPN App. The remaining 11 football games were part of the hybrid model, with the flexibility to be distributed on TV and online. The division worked with the TV partners of participating conferences and schools on the opportunity to air games on TV. Those games also were distributed online through NCAA social media accounts — specifically, Division II Facebook (facebook.com/ncaadivisionii) and Twitter (@NCAADII) — and included the opportunity to be distributed through conference and school digital networks.

ESPN3 is ESPN’s live multiscreen sports network, a destination that delivers thousands of exclusive sports events annually. It is accessible on computers via ESPN.com and on smartphones, tablets and streaming devices through the ESPN App. The network currently is available nationwide at no additional cost to fans who receive their high-speed internet connection or video subscription from an affiliated service provider. It also is available at no cost to U.S. college students and U.S.-based military personnel via computers, smartphones and tablets connected to on-campus educational and on-base military broadband and Wi-Fi networks.

STUDENT-ATHLETE VS. STUDENT BODY DEGREES EARNED

A 2015-16 study of undergraduate degrees earned showed Division II student-athletes’ fields of study mirror those of the general student body. Here is the percentage comparison of students earning degrees in business, STEM and social science:

- **57%** of student-athletes
- **52%** of student body
HONORS AND AWARDS

TRISSY FAIRWEATHER
Former Claflin track and field standout Trissy Fairweather served for two years as a member of the SAAC and one year as a Claflin University Student Ambassador. Fairweather, an international student-athlete from Jamaica, was a financial advisor for the Claflin Global Student Organization and financial manager for Passport to College, a nonprofit organization supporting international students as they transition to college life.

Fairweather was the 2018 Claflin valedictorian and the 2016-17 Claflin Scholar Athlete of the Year. She currently is pursuing a master's degree in accounting at Indiana University, Bloomington.

As a walk-on student-athlete, Fairweather – the 2016 Division II national champion in the 200 meters – was twice named the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Women's Track Athlete of the Year (2015, 2016). She earned seven U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-America honors and holds five Claflin track and field individual records, including marks in the 55-meter, 60-meter, 100-meter, 200-meter and 400-meter events.

DIVISION II FINALISTS

DELANEY HIEGERT
Delaney Hiegert graduated summa cum laude after earning both Newman president’s honor roll and Heartland Conference presidents’ honor roll recognition for eight consecutive semesters. She received the 2018 University of Kansas School of Law Rice Scholarship, given to five incoming students per year who demonstrate outstanding academic performance and proven leadership ability.

Hiegert was a founding member of Kaleidoscope, which was Newman’s first LGBT+ organization. She also volunteered as a freshman orientation leader and taught a weekly class for freshman students to help them assimilate to campus life. In addition to her extensive volunteer work on campus, Hiegert coached a youth girls basketball team and youth girls softball team.

With her outstanding academic performance and continuous work with the student newspaper, Hiegert earned the Victor Murdock Communications Scholarship for four straight years and the Society of Professional Journalists Scholarship for her junior and senior years.

On the diamond, Hiegert earned second team all-conference honors her senior year and helped her team qualify twice for the Heartland Conference tournament. As a senior, she was a starting outfielder in 51 games, hitting .261 with 161 at-bats, 42 hits, 24 runs, two doubles, a triple and eight RBIs. In her four years at Newman, she played in 190 games, hitting .251 with 116 hits, 60 runs and 24 RBI.

KAMI NORTON
Kami Norton, the 2018 heptathlon (outdoor) and pentathlon (indoor) champion, was a 12-time U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-American and 10-time individual Lone Star Conference champion. She helped lead her team to a 2018 outdoor track and field conference championship and a third-place team finish at the NCAA outdoor championships. Norton was named the 2018 Lone Star Conference Female Athlete of the Year and Angelo State Kathleen Brasfield Female Athlete of the Year.

Norton demonstrated leadership outside of athletics as well, leading a Fuel Student Ministry small group at PaulAnn Baptist Church and a Bible study for teenage girls. She participated in two mission trips, one in South Africa, where she helped to build a church and drilled water wells, and a second in Guatemala, where she built homes, fed orphans and provided shoes to children who had none.

A kinesiology major, Norton was twice named the Lone Star Conference Academic Athlete of the Year for indoor and outdoor track and field own recipients (34 in all; conferences are permitted to recognize two nominees if at least one is a woman of color or an international student-athlete), and then the NCAA Woman of the Year Selection Committee chose 30 honorees (10 from each division), from which three in each division were named as finalists.

The overall winner of the award was Keturah Orji of the University of Georgia.
Division II Conference Honorees

**CALIFORNIA COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**
- Whitney Branham, California State University, Chico, basketball
- Jada Poon, California State University, Stanislaus, soccer

**CENTRAL ATLANTIC COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE**
- Xena Valenzuela, Georgian Court University, lacrosse

**CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**
- Sydney Holland, Winston-Salem State University, volleyball
- Arlicia Ortiz, Fayetteville State University, volleyball

**CONFERENCE CAROLINAS**
- Kristin Power, University of Mount Olive, softball and soccer

**EAST COAST CONFERENCE**
- Lena Dimmer, New York Institute of Technology, tennis
- Chelsea Hayward, Roberts Wesleyan College, indoor and outdoor track and field

**GREAT AMERICAN CONFERENCE**
- Kori Bullard, Ouachita Baptist University, basketball and volleyball
- Helle Leed, Southern Arkansas University, golf

**GREAT LAKES INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Karrington Seals, Wayne State University (Michigan), indoor and outdoor track and field

**GREAT LAKES VALLEY CONFERENCE**
- Jane Carter, University of Illinois at Springfield, tennis
- Ali Haesele, University of Illinois at Springfield, softball

**GREAT MIDWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Sarah Berger, Walsh University, indoor track and field

**GREAT NORTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Alisha Breen, Montana State University Billings, basketball

**GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE**
- Summer Lanter, Lee University, soccer

**HEARTLAND CONFERENCE**
- Delaney Hiegert, Newman University, softball
- Viktoria Malmros, St. Edward’s University, soccer

**LONE STAR CONFERENCE**
- Kami Norton, Angelo State University, indoor and outdoor track and field

**MID-AMERICA INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION**
- Allie Heckemeyer, Missouri Southern State University, indoor and outdoor track and field

**MOUNTAIN EAST CONFERENCE**
- Alize Uyttenhove, University of Charleston (West Virginia), tennis

**NORTHEAST-10 CONFERENCE**
- Brenna Martini, Adelphi University, softball

**NORTHERN SUN INTERCOLLEGIATE CONFERENCE**
- Miranda Ristau, Northern State University, basketball

**PACIFIC WEST CONFERENCE**
- Lauren Hackett, California Baptist University, volleyball

**PEACH BELT CONFERENCE**
- Lara Way, Augusta University, cross country and outdoor track and field

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Natalie Cignelli, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, volleyball
- Saioa Gomez de Segura, Mercyhurst University, tennis

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Jada Bonner, Regis University (Colorado), lacrosse
- Sophia Proano, Colorado Christian University, volleyball

**SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Trissy Fairweather, Claflin University, cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field

**SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**
- Emily Santoli, Florida Southern College, lacrosse

**SUNSHINE STATE CONFERENCE**
- Colett Rampf, Saint Leo University, cross country and outdoor track and field

*Denotes top 30 finalist
Northwood University earned the 2018 Division II Award of Excellence for its “Go M.A.D. Day” in honor of former Northwood football coach and athletics director Pat Riepma, who was known for his keen ability to inspire people to action. Even after cancer took his life in 2015, that legacy persisted, serving as the catalyst for a campus-wide day of service in November 2017 that benefited 36 organizations and hundreds of people around the community.

Named after Riepma’s motto, “Go make a difference,” “Go M.A.D. Day” involved nearly 350 student-athletes from all 18 varsity sports. Other students, faculty, staff, coaches and members of the Midland, Michigan, community also took part, for a total of 796 participants. Northwood reported that 2,181 volunteer hours were logged over the two days.

Northwood Dean of Student Affairs Andy Cripe and Athletics Director Dave Marsh accepted the award before a crowded room of Division II delegates during the Division II business session at the NCAA Convention in Indianapolis.

"I wish everyone in this room would have had the chance to meet Pat Riepma," Cripe told the crowd. “He used to tell us in staff meetings that we have some of the greatest jobs on Earth – we have the opportunity to make an impact on young people every single day. And he would say, ‘If that doesn’t get you jacked up, you’re in the wrong place.’

“It did get us jacked up,” Cripe added. “He brought us ‘Go M.A.D.‘, and our student-athletes and our students and Midland community have embraced that as their own.”

Northwood received $1,500 for the award to support future community engagement initiatives. Northwood also earned the opportunity to have a football game or basketball doubleheader broadcast as part of the Division II regular-season media agreement during the 2018-19 school year.

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association won the runner-up prize of $1,250 for its celebration of the 125th anniversary of black college football. The conference recognized the anniversary through national promotions, educational sessions and community engagement.

Daemen College was named the third-place honoree and received $1,000 for its program serving families in Western New York’s special needs community. The Center for Allied and Unified Sport and Exercise was developed in 2016 to create new opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in sports and other physical activities.

Coaching Enhancement Grants

These grants help member schools create full-time assistant coaching positions in any of the 24 NCAA-sponsored sports. The NCAA provides $25,000 in funding in the first year, $15,000 in the second year and $8,000 in the third year. The school is required to supplement the funding, as well as commit to funding the position in full for the fourth and fifth years. Additionally, the NCAA provides $1,200 during each of the first three years of the grant toward professional development opportunities for the hired coach. The following institutions and conferences were selected to receive the grants for 2018-19:

- **Barton College**, assistant sports performance/nutrition coach
- **Concordia University-St. Paul**, assistant track and field coach
- **Lake Superior State University**, assistant track and field coach
- **Missouri Western State University**, assistant women's soccer coach
- **Northwood University**, assistant men's and women's golf coach
- **University of Mount Olive**, assistant softball coach
- **Winona State University**, assistant soccer coach
Faculty Mentor Award recipient named

The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee selected Dr. Samantha Roberts, assistant professor of sport and recreation management at Texas A&M University-Commerce, as the recipient of the sixth annual Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award.

The award is named after Pariser, a physical therapy professor at Bellarmine University who passed away in 2013. It honors faculty members at Division II schools for their dedicated support and mentorship of student-athletes, and for demonstrating the same commitment to Division II student-athletes’ lifelong learning, competition, and well-being.

Roberts was nominated by former student-athlete Alex Shillow, president of both the Texas A&M-Commerce SAAC and the Lone Star Conference SAAC and a member of the Division II SAAC. Shillow praised Roberts for her ability to be a change agent for students and student-athletes alike, particularly when it comes to advocating for and supporting mental wellness.

“Dr. Roberts has exhibited mentorship with student-athletes by being an extraordinary professor who encourages students to reach their potential,” Shillow wrote in his nomination of Roberts for the award. “Dr. Roberts doesn’t let student-athletes settle for the stereotypes they could be associated with; rather, she wants the best for them on and off the field.”

Roberts has been a key contributor to the Texas A&M-Commerce athletics department’s Performance Team, which is responsible for the policies, procedures and education relating to student-athlete well-being. Roberts worked with the Performance Team to help facilitate the Bystander Intervention program that is mandatory for all student-athletes and coaches to attend.

Roberts also was selected as an advisor to the athletics department’s student leader group called Responsible Lions, which under Roberts’ leadership helped develop the athletics department’s emergency action plan to help inform student-athletes about what to do when confronted with a challenge related to mental wellness.

Roberts, whose research focuses on corruption in international sport (and the managerial implications thereof) has authored or contributes to dozens of publications. She earned her Ph.D. in the field from Coventry University on the United Kingdom in 2014. She has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Wolverhampton, also in the UK.

Strategic Alliance Matching Grants

Entering its 19th cycle, the Division II Strategic Alliance Matching Grant is a program through which the NCAA funds recipients at 75 percent of the proposed salary and benefits for the first year, 50 percent for the second year and 25 percent for the third year to help create full-time senior-level administrative positions or enhance current positions. The NCAA also provides recipients with $12,500 of professional development and technology funding during the first three years. The following institutions and conferences were selected to receive the grants for 2018-19:

Albany State University, business manager
Ashland University, director of academic support services for athletes
Fort Hays State University, director of student-athlete academic services
Georgian Court University, assistant athletics director – operations
Lenoir-Rhyne University, assistant Athletics director for creative and digital media
Mercyhurst University, assistant director of student-athlete health and wellness

Ethnic Minorities and Women’s Internship Grants

These are one-year grants that provide funding for full-time, entry-level administrative positions. The NCAA provides $22,500 to support the salary of the hired intern and $3,000 in professional development funding. The following institutions and conferences were selected to receive the grants for 2018-19:

Chestnut Hill College, athletics communications intern
Clayton State University, facilities and event management intern
Lake Erie College, special events and student-athlete enhancement intern
Lake Superior State University, marketing and communications intern
Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, assistant director of internal operations and championships
The University of Virginia’s College at Wise, athletics marketing and promotions intern
Presidents’ Award honors 27 schools

Twenty-seven Division II member schools earned the Presidents’ Award for Academic Excellence this year for achieving four-year Academic Success Rates of 90 percent or higher. This is the eighth year of the program.

Bentley was the top performer in the division, turning in a four-year ASR of 99 percent. Five schools also earned rates of 97 percent: Hillsdale, Point Loma, Saint Michael’s, Seattle Pacific and Thomas Jefferson University.

The Northeast-10 and Great Lakes Valley conferences led Division II’s 24 conferences in ASR rates, with four athletics programs posting scores of 90 percent or more.

Division II Presidents Council Chair Glenn Jones said the high number of institutions achieving such academic excellence lends credence to the division’s life in the balance philosophy that encourages student-athletes to pursue excellence in the classroom as well as in athletics competition.

“The schools we recognize with this award demonstrate a firm commitment to support the academic success of student-athletes,” said the president of Henderson State University. “We commend them for their ongoing efforts to provide student-athletes with the opportunity to excel in the classroom, on the field and for life.”

Postgraduate Scholarship Recipients

The NCAA awards $7,500 postgraduate scholarships annually to student-athletes who excel academically and athletically and who are at least in their final year of intercollegiate athletics competition. Each sports season, there are 29 scholarships available for men and 29 scholarships available for women for use in an accredited graduate program. The following includes Division II awardees for winter and spring sports in 2018, and for fall sports in 2017, since awardees for fall sports in 2018 had yet to be announced by press time.

WOMEN’S FALL SPORTS 2017
Simone Herzberg, Seattle Pacific University, soccer
Kirsen Hudak, Michigan Technological University, soccer
Abigail Rhodes, University of Central Missouri, soccer
Madison Lynn Scarr, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, field hockey
Sydney Kole Trathen, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, volleyball

MEN’S FALL SPORTS 2017
Jess Cayetano, Seattle Pacific University, soccer
Julian Grundler, Rollins College, soccer
Carter McCauley, Winona State University, football
Matthew Wagner, Augustana University (South Dakota), football

WOMEN’S WINTER SPORTS 2018
Jamie Fitzpatrick, Truman State University, swimming and diving
Alyssa Kelly, Texas Woman’s University, gymnastics
Briana Leper, West Texas A&M University, indoor track and field

WOMEN’S SPRING SPORTS 2018
Nicole Reis, Minnesota State University, Mankato, softball

MEN’S SPRING SPORTS 2018
Derek Hamm, Barton College, golf
Dale Irving, Saint Leo University, baseball
Joel Lohr, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, outdoor track and field
Jonathan Millar, Adams State University, outdoor track and field
Colin Nevil, University of Central Missouri, baseball

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<th>Presidents’ Award for Academic Excellence Recipients</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School</strong></td>
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<td>Thomas Jefferson University</td>
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<td>Saint Michael’s College</td>
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<td>Dominican University of California</td>
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<td>Dallas Baptist University</td>
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Degree-Completion Award Recipients

The Division II Degree-Completion Awards Committee selected the following recipients for 2018-19:

Darian Abram, Washburn University
Mohammed Abubakar, William Jewell College
Bethany Allen, Henderson State University
Zach Antonette, Molloy College
Sydney Azorr, Western Oregon University
Garrett Ball, Colorado Mesa University
Paige Michele Ballenger, Wayne State University (Nebraska)
Sarah Baskey, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Iresha Cooper, Coker College
Mackenzie Clouse, Southwest University
Josiah Chupik, St. Edward's University
Jessica Boone, Northeastern State University
Alixandria Boulanger, Arkansas Tech University
Christen Bragg, Coker College
Jordyn Breitbarth, Wayne State University (Nebraska)
Bailey Bzdak, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Emma G. Chilton, Harding University
Conner Glick, Grand Valley State University
Isiah Graves, Goldey-Beacom College
Alexandra Gresham, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Bhrea Griffin, Glendive State College
Marina Hansen, Colorado School of Mines
Kyre Henderson, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Mary Hirt, Nova Southeastern University
Christine Howlett, Simon Fraser University
Justin Hussey, Le Moyne College
Katrina Janssen, Caldwell University
Marilyn (Katie) Jones, Colorado State University-Pueblo
Rylee Kane, Montana State University Billings
Mari Kawano, University of Hawaii at Hilo
Hudson Kennedy, Western Oregon University
Everette Deveaux, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
Eiesha Foster, Albany State University (Georgia)
Kiunah Fye, Southern Wesleyan University
Kylie Gaeth, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Bailey Gaspar, University of Hawaii at Hilo
Sarah Gilbert, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Courtney Gildea, Kentucky Wesleyan University
Timothy J. Giselbach, St. Edward’s University
Rebecca Gleason, Northeastern State University
Conner Glick, Grand Valley State University

Noah King, Ferris State University
Ayanna King-Thomas, University of Mount Olive
Hollie Koning, Northern Michigan University
Casey Lewis, Western State Colorado University
Raegan Lillie, California State University, San Marcos
Dakota Ethan Long, Georgia Southern University
Dionna Marcus, Virginia State University
Erica Marquez, Azusa Pacific University
Kimyra McKee, Texas A&M University-Commerce
Nicole McWilliams, Bloomingdale College
Samuel Mobley, Catawba College
Selena Montelongo, University of Mount Olive
Gabriel Moutrou, West Virginia Wesleyan University
Bernadette Mullane, Molloy College
Nikki Newell, Point Loma Nazarene University
Hieu Ngo, California State University, San Bernardino
Frances Noeldner, University of Nebraska at Kearney
Abigail Nordeen, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Meghan O'Brien, Florida Southern College
Molly O'Brien, Minnesota State University Moorhead
Mary Elizabeth Owens, Southern Wesleyan University
Sidney Peake, Simon Fraser University
Abigail Pierce, King University
Isaiah Pitchford, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Tyler Place, California State University, San Marcos
Danielle Rampart, Winona State University
Sarah Rawlings, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
Justice Refford, Southern Arkansas University
Jacob Richardson, Southern Arkansas University
Frank Savina, Walsh University
Erika Shady, Concordia University, St. Paul
Mary Simmons, Arkansas Tech University
Sydney Sprague, University of North Georgia
Eden Stoddard, Fort Hays State University
Paula Stonehouse, California State University, San Marcos
Erin Sullivan, Minnesota State University Moorhead
Carley Swan, Washburn University
Alicia Tomlin, Saginaw Valley State University
Xena Valenzuela, Georgian Court University
Rachell Vargas-Comme, University of Mary
Jaquatin Victrum, Clark Atlanta University
Adria Abella Villafranca, Harding University
Kierstyn Williams, Wilmington University (Delaware)
Steven Withers, Adelphi University
Case Woodward II, Catawba College
Ada Yalcin, Eckerd College
Kimberley A. Zahn, Clayton State University
Jonathan Joseph Zumbrennen, Wayne State University (Nebraska)
20 YEARS SINCE FEDERATION

Welcome Simon Fraser

How will you make it on your own?

WE STILL SUPPORT 1 SCHOOL 1 VOTE!

Canada...Oh Canada...!

WE STILL SUPPORT 1 SCHOOL 1 VOTE!

Celebrating our own successful governance structure for more than 20 years

NCAA Division II

MAKE IT YOURS

DIID HIGHWAY

INTERNATIONAL ROAD

DIID HIGHWAY

WISH WAY

FESTIVAL FREEWAY

DIID HIGHWAY

1997 - Present
Life in the Balance | Academics | Athletics | Community

Welcome Simon Fraser VOICE!

Celebrating our own successful governance structure for more than 20 years

2015 - Present

2005-2006

2002

DII Attributes
- Learning
- Balance
- Passion
- Sportsmanship
- Service
- Resourcefulness

SA

20 YEARS SINCE FEDERATION

1997

1998

2002

2004

2010-2011

2012

2015 - Present

Canada... Oh WE STILL SUPPORT 1 SCHOOL 1 VOTE!

How will you make it on your own?
Membership’s approval puts restructuring plan in motion

BY DAVID PICKLE
Editor-in-Chief, NCAA News

DALLAS — Now that the plan is in place, the real work of restructuring begins.

The approval of the restructuring plan January 8 at the NCAA’s 50th annual Convention represents the beginning of what proponents say will be a much more efficient, federated one-institution, one-vote principle in favor of a more representative form of governance.

“Our one-vote principle has served us well,” said Christine H. B. Grant, women’s athletics director at the University of Iowa, said that the Association and Division II in particular should not turn away from the one-school, one-vote principle “which has served us well.”

A group of Division I commissioners has put forward a restructuring proposal that would change the way the NCAA conducts business.

Although the proposal pertains directly only to Division I, it would radically affect or possibly eliminate entirely the NCAA Presidents Commission, the Council and the annual Convention.

The proposal would create a 15-member board of trustees, all of whom would be institutional chief executive officers, that would govern Division I. No so-called “equity governance units” — existing Division I conferences except for the Big Ten and Mid-American Athletic Conferences — and qualifying Division I Independents — each would elect one representative to the board. One of the remaining representatives would come from the historically black conferences, and the remaining five would come from the remaining Division I delegates.

I-A commissioners propose overhaul of NCAA structure

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The proposal outlines seven primary responsibilities for the board of trustees:
1. Hiring, determining duties, responsibilities and conditions of employment, and terminating the employment of the NCAA executive director.
2. Approving Association budget and all other financial matters.
3. Issuing and setting limits.
4. Selecting the Association’s outside auditors.
5. Maintaining and setting limits.
6. Ensuring that Division I’s compensation levels are consistent with those of other Division I conferences.
7. Overseeing the NCAA’s policy.

NCAA begins transition toward new structure

BY DAVID PICKLE
Editor-in-Chief, NCAA News

The three NCAA membership divisions will take different approaches in making the transition to the new NCAA governance structure that was approved at the NCAA Convention earlier this month.

Division I has the most remaining work, but it also will take the biggest and fastest step within the next few weeks when conferences are asked to designate their representatives for the Division I Board of Directors and Management Council.

Those designees will serve in an advisory capacity to Division I to the NCAA Presidents Commission and Council until the new governance plan is put in effect in 1997. At that time, it is anticipated that those bodies will assume leadership of the division.

Their primary responsibility during the transition will be developing the Division I structure, but they also

Delegates compare notes during a business session of the 90th annual NCAA Convention, which was conducted January 6-9 in Dallas.
Think of the adage “the more things change, the more they stay the same” as you consider the following issues that were swirling during a time in NCAA history:

- A segment of the NCAA membership was seeking more autonomy.
- Division I was weighing how best to determine its football champion.
- Presidents, faculty athletics representatives and athletics administrators were jockeying to avoid feeling disenfranchised from NCAA governance.
- Financial factors, diversity concerns and political alliances were widening the gap between the so-called have and have-nots.
- Pressures from within and beyond the organization were causing the membership to wonder whether the NCAA’s bedrock collegiate model of athletics could be sustained.

Were this a multiple-choice question about a specific time in the NCAA’s past to which these conditions applied, and were the selections (a) 1970; (b) 1985; (c) 1995; or (d) 2015, the correct answer of course would have been the clever (e) all of the above.

But for the purposes of this story, we’re focusing on the mid-1990s, during which “federation” was the operative word for an association approaching its 90th birthday.

While the conditions that applied then represent “the more things stay the same” in the old saying cited above, federation certainly prompted “the more things change.”

Indeed, federation meant that it was within each division’s purview to govern itself in a manner that best fit its membership’s collective interests. That was uncharted territory for all three divisions. Division I members at least knew what they wanted – after all, federation was their idea – but the concept forced Divisions II and III to don thinking caps not worn prior to survive in the new day.

Interestingly, while that might have caused some heartburn back then, in the 20 years since the current governance structure was officially implemented in August 1997, it can be argued that Divisions II and III have benefited just as much – perhaps more – than Division I did from the overhaul it initiated.

### Federation Timeline

- **Prior to 1973:** Membership within the NCAA is divided into two categories – University and College Divisions – but only for the purposes of championships and statistical rankings. The two divisions are otherwise bound under the same rules regarding recruiting, eligibility, financial aid, academic requirements and other significant facets of their widely differing athletics programs.

- **January 1973:** An attempt to create legislative and competitive divisions within the NCAA is defeated at the 1973 Convention.

- **August 1974:** The Association conducts its first special Convention to approve the three-division format that permits the divisions to act separately and unilaterally on certain portions of the NCAA bylaws.

- **January 1974:** The first voting under the new three-division format occurs at the 1974 Convention.
There was initial anger over the Division I demands for virtually complete control of the Association’s future, but once that dissipated, civil discourse ensued, and consensus formed around key issues. Paramount for Divisions II and III were the financial entitlements they would have in the new structure. A broader constituency worried about what this structure would do to the concept of shared values and commitments that had from the beginning fundamentally bonded the Association members. In other words, what would hold this new NCAA together?

JOSEPH CROWLEY
President at the University of Nevada, Reno, and NCAA membership president. (From In the Arena: The NCAA’s First Century)

Until 1994, the word “federation” was a nondescript term in NCAA nomenclature. Since the three-division structure was established in 1973, there were some minor differences in how the divisions composed their committees and administered their championships, but nothing of consequence. At the time, federation was defined as “each of the three divisions functioning as separate units in certain procedures, while remaining joined together for most purposes within the alliance that is the NCAA itself.”

As the years passed, though, and as the Division I men’s basketball tournament expanded in scope and stature, Division I grew more inclined to want more control over the Association’s affairs. Division I members were increasingly frustrated by being outnumbered at the NCAA Convention, as legislative proposals they deemed to be in their best interests were sometimes blocked by the voting majority Divisions II and III collectively comprised.

By 1994 a group of eight Division I-A (now known as FBS) conference commissioners called for an overhaul of the current structure that would give them and their institutional members the bulk of the say about the NCAA’s future. Their proposal addressed Division I only, but it harbored significant consequences for Divisions II and III.

FEDERATION TIMELINE

October: Responding to a recommendation from its Division II subcommittee, the NCAA Presidents Commission asks for a comprehensive study of issues related to “federation” within the NCAA. At that time, federation was defined as “each of the three divisions functioning as separate units in certain procedures, while remaining joined together for most purposes within the alliance that is the NCAA itself.”

January: A paper drafted by eight Division I-A commissioners and distributed at the 1994 Convention cites “a belief that the size and complexity of the governance structure and the convention approach to governance are outmoded and ineffective. …(T)hose institutions with the greatest equity (financial and competitive) in the Association are not adequately empowered to effectuate policy.”

January: Delegates at the 1994 Convention adopt Proposition 13, which invites interested entities to submit ideas about restructuring.
Joseph Crowley, the NCAA’s membership president at that time who in 2006 authored the NCAA’s Centennial Celebration book titled, “In the Arena: The NCAA’s First Century,” wrote in that publication that while the commissioners made a case for equity, “their theme was neither gender nor ethnicity. The subject was money, and the authority they thought should go with it.”

The proposal cited “a belief that the size and complexity of the governance structure and the convention approach to governance are outmoded and ineffective. Additionally, (it is believed) that the current NCAA membership classification requirements are cumbersome, inflexible and overly expensive. Lastly, … those institutions with the greatest equity (financial and competitive) in the Association are not adequately empowered to effectuate policy.”

While it probably wasn’t their intention, the commissioners ultimately ignited a fuse that resulted in the adoption of Proposition 13 at the 1994 Convention, which invited all interested entities to submit ideas about restructuring. Prop 13, supported by the Association’s Joint Policy Board, was a way to include the commissioners’ proposal but also encourage collaboration within the NCAA family to tame the negotiations and prompt a more reasonable outcome.

### Division II Task Force to Review the NCAA Membership Structure

**Co-Chairs:**
- **Adam Herbert,** president, University of North Florida
- **Charles Lindemenn,** director of athletics, Humboldt State University
- **Betty Turner Asher,** president, University of South Dakota
- **Clint Bryant,** director of athletics, Augusta University
- **Doug Echols,** commissioner, South Atlantic Conference
- **Howard Elwell,** director of athletics, Gannon University
- **Asa Green,** consultant, Division II Subcommittee of the Presidents Commission
- **Margaret Harbison,** director of athletics, East Texas State University
- **Jerry Hughes,** director of athletics, University of Central Missouri
- **Joseph McGowan Jr.,** president, Bellarmine University
- **Karen Miller,** director of athletics, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
- **Diane Reinhard,** president, Clarion University of Pennsylvania

**August:** An oversight committee is appointed to work with task forces in all three divisions. The entire group is called the NCAA Special Committee on Membership Restructuring.

**December:** Position papers are circulated to the membership. The working draft from Division I is similar to the paper prepared by the eight conference commissioners the previous January, including that division’s role in budgeting and its exclusive authority over the executive director. Divisions II and III want the Executive Committee to oversee the Association’s budget.

**January - December:** Issues relevant to each division are debated and subsequently negotiated, including a stipulation that Divisions II and III receive a budget allocation for championships and enhancements at a constitutionally protected rate.
Before the commissioners’ proposal, not many people in Division II were arguing that the NCAA was broken and needed to be fixed. Once that proposal surfaced, though, serious concerns emerged that big-time Division I athletics programs were essentially considering to “secede from the union,” and that the Association would be irreparably harmed by no longer coming together as a group at the annual Convention.

Those threats actually caused Divisions II and III to consider how best to protect their future interests. Division II leaders at the time like Shippensburg University President Anthony Ceddia, University of North Florida President Adam Herbert and North Dakota State University Athletics Director Lynn Dorn were mindful of these threats in their discussions about a new structure for the NCAA, and they labored to arrange a long-term financial arrangement for the division that not only provided the current 4.37 percent of all Association income that remains in place today, but also was a guarantee written into the NCAA Constitution as a dominant provision and thus could be changed only by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership.

With its financial future secured, Division II set about identifying its core values and using them to develop trendsetting initiatives such as the Life in the Balance strategic positioning platform, the SAAC-driven Make-A-Wish partnership, a community engagement

LYNN DORN
Director of athletics at North Dakota State University and membership vice president of Division II; and

ADAM HERBERT,
President at the University of North Florida and co-chair of the Division II Task Force to Review the NCAA Membership Structure. (From the December 4, 1995, NCAA News)
philosophy that not only extends the institutional reach but also attracts community members to be more involved with their hometown athletics programs, and the “festival” model for championships that continues to this day as a DII-only approach.

Federation also prompted Division II to embrace the unique opportunity to rebrand itself. Before, the division was identified rather benignly as the “middle division” or a classification that was “neither Division I nor Division III.” But in 2005, Division II launched a promotional campaign that emphasized the division as a chosen destination for student-athletes who enjoy a balanced experience in which they excel academically, athletically, and as citizens in their communities.

The “I Chose” campaign eventually evolved into the current “Make It Yours” theme, which was a student-athlete-driven slogan implemented in 2015 that personalized the Division II experience and provided a way to extend the division’s reach.

In the end, “Make It Yours” personifies what Division II accomplished because of federation, as the division took an unknown future and made it its own.

Would that have happened had the NCAA not federated its governance structure more than 20 years ago? Possibly, but probably not as boldly as it has played out for Division II.

Many leaders in college athletics talk about ‘values-based decision-making.’ In Division II, it has been more than just talk, and the division has been using the autonomy it was granted in the restructured governance model 20 years ago to continuously shine a bright light on its core values.

MIKE RACY
Commissioner, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association

As it was designed, presidents have forged our path from the beginning. The presidents who see the bigger picture of what we’re trying to accomplish and who really understand the student experience in higher education are those who have been our best leaders. In the same way these presidents want to provide an exemplary opportunity for all students on their campus, they look at their NCAA responsibilities from a student academic experience perspective rather than solely through an athletics lens – they are interested in what’s best for the student.”

TERRI STEEB GRONAU,
Vice President of Division II

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**June:** The Division II Championships Committee addresses major issues involving championships enhancements and gender equity. Participation at the time favored men by 55 to 45 percent. The committee recommends increased bracket and travel-party sizes in certain sports to achieve more balanced participation by 2001-02.

**September:** The Division II Degree-Completion Award Program is created to provide deserving student-athletes financial assistance to complete their first baccalaureate degree.

**September:** Division II institutions participate in a Graduation Success Report pilot program, paving the way for use of the Academic Success Rate in Division II.
FEDERATION TIMELINE

May: The first Division II Championships Festival is held in Orlando, Florida, and features national championships in men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s tennis, softball, and women’s lacrosse. The concept of a sports festival – an Olympic-style event in which multiple champions are crowned and student-athletes from different sports interact with one another – remains unique to Division II.

May: The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee establishes its partnership with the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

June: Division II conducts its first Chancellors and Presidents Summit, during which the “I Chose” campaign and the “Life in the Balance” mantra begin to take shape.

PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

Arend Lubbers, Grand Valley State University, 1997-99
Gladys Johnston, University of Nebraska at Kearney, 1999-2001
Patricia Cormier, Longwood University, 2001-03
Kay Schallenkamp, Emporia State University, 2003-04
George Hagerty, Franklin Pierce University, 2004-05
Kathryn Martin, University of Minnesota Duluth, 2005-06
Charles Ambrose, Pfeiffer University, 2006-08
Stephen Jordan, Metropolitan State University of Denver, 2008-10
Drew Bogner, Molloy College, 2010-12
Pat O’Brien, West Texas A&M University, 2012-14
Thomas Haas, Grand Valley State University, 2014-15
Judy Bense, University of West Florida, 2015-16
Steve Scott, Pittsburg State University, 2016-17
Glen Jones, Henderson State University, 2017-19

PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Anthony Ceddia, president, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, 1997-98
Gladys Johnston, president, University of Nebraska at Kearney, 1998-99
Bernard Franklin, president, Virginia Union University, 2000-01
Frank Brown, president, Columbus State University, 2002-03
John Keating, president, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, 2003-04
Arthur Kirk, president, Saint Leo University, 2005-07
Eddie Moore Jr., president, Virginia State University, 2006-07
Beverly Pitts, president, University of Indianapolis, 2008-10
Pat O’Brien, president, West Texas A&M University, 2011
Thomas Haas, president, Grand Valley State University, 2012
Judy Bense, president, University of West Florida, 2014
Steve Scott, president, Pittsburg State University, 2015
Glen Jones, president, Henderson State University, 2016
Gary Olson, president, Daemen College, 2017-19
**MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

Lynn Dorn, director of athletics, North Dakota State University, 1997-99  
Clint Bryant, director of athletics, Augusta University, 1999-2001  
Jerry Hughes, director of athletics, University of Central Missouri, 2001  
Mike Marci, commissioner, North Central Conference, 2002  
Tony Capon, faculty athletics representative, University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, 2003  
Sue Willey, director of athletics, University of Indianapolis, 2004  
Paul Engelman, faculty athletics representative, University of Central Missouri, 2005  
Jill Willson, director of athletics, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2006  
Dave Brunk, commissioner, Northeast-10 Conference, 2007  
Roberta Page, director of athletics, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, 2007  
Debbie Chin, director of athletics, University of New Haven, 2008  
Tim Selgo, director of athletics, Grand Valley State University, 2009  
Kathleen Brasfield, director of athletics, Angelo State University, 2010  
Rick Cole, director of athletics, Dowling College, 2011-12  
Ann Martin, director of athletics, Regis University (Colorado), 2012  
Bob Boerigter, commissioner, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, 2013  
Karen Stromme, associate athletics director, SWA, University of Minnesota Duluth, 2014  
Tim Ladd, faculty athletics representative, Palm Beach Atlantic University, 2015  
Jacqie McWilliams, commissioner, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, 2016  
Gary Gray, director of athletics, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2017  
Pennie Parker, director of athletics, Rollins College, 2018

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Mary Gardner, director of athletics, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, 1997-99  
Penny Clayton, director of athletics, Drury University, 1999-2000  
Dave Brunk, commissioner, Northeast-10 Conference, 2000-04  
Herb Reinhard, director of athletics, Valdosta State University, 2004-06  
Jim Johnson, director of athletics, Texas A&M University-Commerce, 2006-08  
Glenn Stokes, faculty athletics representative, Columbus State University, 2008-10  
Sandy Michael, director of athletics, University of the Holy Family, 2010-12  
Dan Mara, commissioner, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, 2012-14  
Kevin Schriver, faculty athletics representative, Southwest Baptist University, 2015-16  
Tom Daeger, commissioner, Great Midwest Athletic Conference, 2017  
Leslie Schuemann, senior associate commissioner/SWA, Heartland Conference, 2018-19

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**20 YEARS SINCE FEDERATION**

**January:** The Division II membership passes Phase One of its landmark “Life in the Balance” legislative package aimed at aligning playing and practice seasons with the Division II strategic positioning platform.  

**July:** The Division II Membership Committee approves a new set of minimum requirements for institutions seeking Division II membership.

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**2006**  
**August:** The Division II Presidents Council approves a strategic positioning platform that clearly articulates the strategic position and key attributes of Division II.

**2008**  
**July:** Division II approves a membership pilot program to begin accepting international members.

**2010**
20 YEARS SINCE FEDERATION

CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

Clint Bryant, director of athletics, Augusta University, 1997-99
Barbara Schroeder, director of athletics, Regis University (Colorado), 1999-2002
Lisa Colvin, senior woman administrator, University of Southern Arkansas, 2002-03
Joan McDermott, director of athletics, Metropolitan State University of Denver, 2003-04
Jill Willson, director of athletics, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2004-06
Mike Covone, director of athletics, Barry University, 2006-07
David Riggins, director of athletics, Mars Hill College, 2007-09
Janet Montgomery, director of athletics, University of West Alabama, 2009-10
Bill Fusco, director of athletics, Sonoma State University, 2010-11
Erin Lind, associate commissioner, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, 2011-13
David Sharp, director of athletics, Ouachita Baptist University, 2013-14
Fran Reidy, director of athletics, Saint Leo University, 2015
Jim Johnson, director of athletics, Pittsburg State University, 2016-17
Sue Willey, director of athletics, University of Indianapolis, 2018

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Leon Kerry, commissioner, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, 1997-99
Paul Engelmann, faculty athletics representative, University of Central Missouri, 1999-2004
Suzanne Sanregret, director of athletics, Michigan Technological University, 2004-05
Mark Linder, director of athletics, University of North Alabama, 2005-08
Ann Martin, director of athletics, Regis University (Colorado), 2008-10
Diana Kling, associate commissioner, Peach Belt Conference, 2010-11
Jill McCartney, assistant director of athletics, Washburn University of Topeka, 2011-13
Ann Traphagen, associate director of athletics, Augustana University (South Dakota), 2013-15
Natasha Oakes, associate director of athletics, Missouri Western State University, 2015-17
Linda Van Drie-Andrzewski, director of athletics, Wilmington University (Delaware), 2017-18
Cherrie Wilmoth, senior woman administrator, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, 2018

FEDERATION TIMELINE

January: Division II approves changes to recruiting-contact legislation and also to minimum requirements for conference membership.

2012

September: Simon Fraser University of Burnaby, British Columbia, becomes the NCAA’s – and Division II’s – first international member school.

2013

March: Division II conducts its first membership census that helps inform a six-year strategic plan the Presidents Council adopts two years later.

2014

January: Division II adopts a “Path to Graduation” legislative package that changes the division’s initial-eligibility and progress-toward-degree requirements for the first time in 31 years.
January: Division II launches a brand enhancement initiative that features “Make It Yours” as the division’s tagline. The student-athlete-driven brand enhancement personalizes the balanced athletics and educational experiences that student-athletes have at Division II colleges and universities.

March: Division II conducts its 10th National Championships Festival, this one for winter sports in Birmingham, Alabama.

January: Division II adopts legislation allowing institutions from Mexico to apply for membership.

March: Division II conducts its second membership census, with respondents validating support for the division’s strategic positioning platform and their belief in the Life in the Balance approach for student-athletes.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE

Mary Lisko, faculty athletics representative, Augusta University, 1997-2003
John Rich, faculty athletics representative, Emporia State University, 2003-04
David Merrell, faculty athletics representative, Abilene Christian University, 2004-06
Kevin Schriver, faculty athletics representative, Southwest Baptist University, 2006-08
Paul Leidig, faculty athletics representative, Grand Valley State University, 2008-10
Linda Van Drie-Andrzejewski, director of athletics, Wilmington University (Delaware), 2010-12
Keith Vitense, faculty athletics representative, Cameron University, 2012-14
Katie McGann, associate director of athletics, University of California, San Diego, 2014-15
Brenda Cates, faculty athletics representative, University of Mount Olive, 2015-17
Paul Leidig, faculty athletics representative, Grand Valley State University, 2017-18

STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dan O’Callaghan, golf, Rollins College, 1997
Stormie Wells, volleyball, University of Northern Colorado, 1998
Kevin Listerman, basketball, Northern Kentucky University, 1999
Heather Andrews, tennis, Missouri Southern State College, 2000-01
Brianna Williams, basketball, University of Mount Olive, 2002
Ben Giess, cross country, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2003
John Semeraro, golf, Saint Leo University, 2004
Megan Burd, softball, Wheeling Jesuit University, 2005-06
Jake Streeter, track and field, Adams State College, 2007
Alex Tiseo, football, Michigan Technological University, 2008
Christopher Odom, baseball, Angelo State University, 2009
Rose Broderick, softball, Northern Kentucky University, 2010
Nathan Kafer, soccer, Regis University (Colorado), 2011
Hilary Cox, softball, North Georgia College, 2012
Bradley Maldonado, cross country, Lincoln Memorial University, 2013
Spencer Dodd, baseball, St. Martin’s University, 2014
Roberto “Bubba” Baroniel, baseball, Nova Southeastern University, 2015
Christopher Pike, football, Gannon University, 2016
Jasymn Lindsay, softball, Queens University of Charlotte, 2017
Joshua Shapiro, baseball, Colorado Mesa University, 2018
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