

NCAA INTERIM REPORT COMMITTEE

Meeting #1, Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Present: Linda Delene (Committee Chair, Provost's Office), Linda Borish (Department of History), Jody Brylinsky (Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation), David Corstange, (Intercollegiate Athletics), Vernon Payne (Division of Student Affairs), and Arnold Taylor (Office of Information Technology), and Jeff Stone (Intercollegiate Athletics). Absent: Carrie Cummings (Registrar's Office).

The meeting was called to order by Delene at 9:00 AM with thanks to all for their participation and willingness to work as members of the NCAA Interim Report Committee. After introductions, Delene advised the group that meetings would be held in April and May to examine the preliminary progress that has been made on the five areas of NCAA concern and in terms of WMU's stated strategies for improvement. Subsequent discussion set those meeting dates for 10:00AM, Thursday, April 24 and 2:00PM, Monday, May 19, 2003 in a second floor conference room near the division of intercollegiate athletics offices. Delene reported on her conversation with Mr. Leeland Zeller of the NCAA on November 22, 2003 in which he advised her that the overall purpose of the interim report is to insure the commitment to integrity in intercollegiate athletics by having the institution providing on update on its progress since the last full NCAA report of 1997-1998 resulting in full certification in April, 1999.

In its certification letter dated May 10, 1999, the NCAA determined that the institution "*shall be required to*": (1) create and implement a system for periodic evaluation of the institution's compliance program, (2) develop and implement a mechanism for the evaluation of the athletics academic support program, (3) analyze, explain, and address (through specific plans for improvement) by appropriate institutional authorities the declining graduation rates of student-athletes and for various student-athlete subgroups, (4) amend the institution's gender-equity plan to explain how the institution intends to increase female student-athlete participation, and (5) develop strategies to address the apparent disparities that exist between coaches' salaries of men's and women's sports that were indicated in the self-study report (p. 105). These five areas of concern will comprise the majority of the Interim Review Committee's attention. Jeff Stone indicated that he has considerable information about activities in these five areas. Carrie Cummings will work with Jeff to develop the necessary data of those activities for the interim report.

The Committee then reviewed pertinent accreditation reports, letters, and the interim report instrument template that is provided by NCAA. During the discussion, it was noted that the three committees (campus compliance committee, academic services oversight committee, and a gender equity committee as specified in Kathy Beauregard's letter of February 28, 2000 to the NCAA have not been constituted by the Athletic Board. Delene asked Corstange (with the help of the Athletic Board) to establish the three committees quickly, and to provide a one-page summary of intended actions from each committee to the Review Committee by its meeting of May 19th. This information is needed to frame the interim report that will be circulated across the campus in October for comment before its submission to the NCAA in mid-November. During the discussion about the three committees, there were questions raised about if and how any discretionary salary funds are allocated in terms of salary disparities among the coaches. Corstange indicated he would attempt to develop a three-year history for such salaries and related adjustments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20AM.

NEXT MEETING: 10:00AM, Thursday, April 24, 2003