

## **NCAA INTERIM REPORT COMMITTEE**

Meeting #4, Wednesday, September 17,

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

David Corstange and Vernon Payne were welcomed back to the Committee, now in good health, and returned from earlier illness. Delene called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM with the summary note for meeting #3 of May 19, 2003 approved unanimously as written. Since Beauregard was out of town, Jeff Stone began with reports on two sub-committees, the Academic Oversight Committee and the Compliance Committee. He advised the group that the Academic Oversight Committee is expected to meet next week, followed shortly thereafter with a meeting of the Compliance Committee. The Oversight Committee will be looking at data about the GPA of athletes, the graduation rate of athletes, and academic and support services for athletes. When the Compliance Committee meets, it will review the compliance guide that has been developed according to national guidelines for use at WMU. Delene expressed concern about the lack of documented progress by the Committees, some of which is due to changes with the Athletic Board leadership. The May 1999 letter from the NCAA along with Beauregard's February 2000 letter of response outlined a series of steps, only some of which have been undertaken. Stone and Corstange assured Delene that the NCAA will accept the progress made thus far with the requirement for evidence by the time of the next full NCAA review rather than for this interim review.

Delene indicated that the interim report must be filed with the NCAA no later than November 15<sup>th</sup>, and that the report requires Presidential review and approval prior to its submission, as well as some review by the Athletic Board. If the Athletic Board can meet on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Review Committee needs to have its final draft ready for its meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thus all material and work for the report must be completed in advance of the Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting date – just five weeks hence. [Note: it was subsequently pointed out that the report is expected to be available across campus for comment prior to its formal submission.]

Discussion then turned to a review of the draft questions prepared by Borish and Brylinsky to be used for targeted interviews about intercollegiate athletics at WMU – again as some of the material for this interim report. With lengthy discussion by committee members, suggestions were made to modify some items and subtract and add others. It is intended that each committee member will each ask 6 to 8 individuals within designated groups the targeted questions early in October. It also was noted that this is exploratory research and no firm conclusions can be drawn from the comments – although the comments could serve as the basis for a later systematic survey of issues raised during this committee's exploration of intercollegiate athletics. Borish and Brylinsky, after the long discussion, will construct another list of questions. It was agreed among committee members that Borish, Brylinsky, and Delene could make further necessary revisions; and then forward the finalized questions with interview assignments to other committee members.

In the absence of time, the detailed documentation report prepared by Cummings and Stone about certain aspects of this NCAA interim review was tabled until the committee's next meeting on October 1st. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

**PLEASE NOTE: Fall semester meetings have been scheduled for:  
10:00 – 11:30 AM on Oct. 1, Oct. 22, and Nov. 12.**