

MIAC SAAC Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2015

Present: Kendall Christian (AUG), Penny Foore (BU), Alison Coogan, Eric Wittenburg (CAR), Domenic Fraboni (CON), Nick Carlson (GAC), Joel Riordan (HU), Risa Luther (MAC), Liz Hermes (CSB), Kenny Bergman, Jordan Tradewell (SJU), Nina Bukowski (SCU), Sheridan Blanford, Colton Rod (STO), Mariann Kukielka (UST), Megan Gaard, Dan McKane, Matt Higgins (MIAC)

Called to Order: 1:01 pm

1. Welcome and Attendance

Gaard welcomed MIAC SAAC members and took attendance.

2. NCAA Convention Recap (Megan Gaard)

Gaard gave an overview of 2015 NCAA legislation results from the NCAA Convention.

Proposal 4 - On-campus evaluations for prospective student-athletes (Failed)

Proposal 5 - Expanded football non-traditional season (Failed)

Proposal 6 - 10% reduction in contests (Referred to Playing and Practice committee for review)

Proposal 7 - Off-campus contact with juniors (Approved)

Proposal 8 - Non-binding athletics celebratory signing form after student-athlete acceptance to institution (Approved)

Proposal 9-1 - Contact with prospective student-athlete each day of tournament after released (Approved)

3. NCAA National SAAC Update (Domenic Fraboni)

Domenic Fraboni attended the NCAA Convention in January as the MIAC SAAC representative and gave a recap of the event.

a) "You Can Play" - NCAA DIII SAAC produced video supporting LGBTQ student-athletes - [Video](#)

b) "It's On Us" - Campaign against sexual violence - [Link](#)

Fraboni explained "It's On Us" campaign and asked members what was being done on each institution's campus. Carleton and St. Thomas are participating in "Green Dot" sexual assault prevention training. Macalester is participating in a campus-wide consent program and intends to recognize April as sexual assault awareness month. The MIAC Office is ordering t-shirts to promote "It's On Us".

c) 360 Proof - NCAA online program to educate student-athletes on high-risk alcohol use - [Link](#)

Fraboni encouraged members to take the Personal Feedback Inventory (www.360proof.org/pfi/360_administration)

d) Special Olympics - [Link](#) (for reporting institutional involvement with Special Olympics)

Fraboni reminded members to report involvement with Special Olympics to the NCAA and encouraged members to vote for Concordia in this month's Special Olympics Spotlight Poll.

4. MIAC Sponsored Proposals (McKane)

The MIAC is in the process of finding cosponsors for two proposals that will be brought forward at the 2016 NCAA Convention. Fraboni said he would forward information to national SAAC reps to try to garner support.

a) Recruiting Calendar - Fall, Winter, Spring (including coaches conventions) blackout dates that prohibit coaches from recruiting.

b) Electronic Transmission - Deregulate social media use to allow coaches to communicate with PSAs in all formats.

5. Special Olympics (Gaard)

Gaard reminded members to report Special Olympics involvement to NCAA and MIAC. Contact Devin Kaasa (devin.kaasa@somn.org) from Special Olympics if interested in volunteering as a referee for spring basketball competitions.

a) Update from Institution's that worked with Special Olympics since our last meeting:

Hamline hosted a successful bean bag tournament with 64 Special Olympic/Student-Athlete pairs. St. Olaf plans to host a bean bag tournament in April. St. Thomas is working with Special Olympics Club on campus for an event in April.

b) If you want to get involved, our Special Olympics Contact is Alyssa Siech - Alyssa.Siech@somn.org

c) Reminder to report involvement with Special Olympics to the NCAA: http://web1.ncaa.org/surveys/d3_special_olympics.html

d) Also, let Megan Gaard from MIAC Office know of involvement - mgaard@miacathletics.com

6. NCAA Wagering (McKane)

McKane discussed rules related to NCAA Wagering including what is permissible and what stands as an NCAA violation. Wagering or gambling is defined as something of value going in and something potentially of value coming out. It is not legal to place a wager or pay an entry fee for an opportunity to win a prize. If a student-athlete is caught gambling, they lose a year of eligibility. It is legal to enter a free contest as long as there is no entry fee and there may be a prize(s) for the winners.

- a. With regard to fantasy leagues or March Madness-type bracket pools, NCAA student-athletes may not participate ***if there is an entry fee and an opportunity to win a prize***. If there is no entry fee, the NCAA allows you to participate, but strongly discourages you from doing so.
- b. Language directly from the NCAA on the subject: "While strongly discouraged, student-athletes and administrators [and athletics staff members] may participate, under current NCAA rules, in bracket contests, including ESPN and similar activities, where there is no entry fee but a possibility of winning a prize. Some NCAA member schools, however, have chosen to ban student-athletes from participating in these types of bracket contests." (March 16, 2007)

7. NCAA Division III Week - April 6-12, 2015 (Gaard)

Gaard reminded members about NCAA Division III Week and encouraged them to celebrate athletics on campus during that time. Macalester is hosting a semi-formal dance and an "Athlete Appreciation Day." Gustavus plans to have student-athlete presence in the St. Peter community parade. Augsburg plans to host a school spirit week and highlight each sport over the course of the week. St. Thomas conducts a shoe drive to donate old running shoes to be recycled. If SAAC student-athletes are interested, the MIAC would love to have students write a story for the MIAC website regarding their athletic and campus experience during Division III Week. Contact Megan if you or a teammate is interested in sharing your story (mgaard@miacathletics.com)

- a) Acknowledge and celebrate Division III athletics
- b) Spread awareness and gain recognition of athletics on campus; Great time to sponsor an event
- c) Encouraged to bring this up at your next SAAC meeting to start planning
- d) Any MIAC SAAC members or teammates interested in writing a story (or video) for the MIAC website regarding their athletic and campus experience during Division III Week should contact Megan to share your story (mgaard@miacathletics.com)
- e) Previous MIAC involvement in Division III week:
 2012: www.miacathletics.com/saac/releases/ncaa_div_3_week
 2013: www.miacathletics.com/sports/general/2012-13/releases/D3Week_0408134114.html
 2014: www.miacathletics.com/about/division_III_week/040714_d3_week

8. NCAA Career in Sports Forum (Gaard)

Gaard informed members about the [2015 NCAA Career in Sports Forum](http://www.ncaa.org/career-in-sports). The forum will take place at the NCAA national office in Indianapolis June 4-7, 2015. Institutions may nominate up to 10 student-athletes via the "Nominator" tab on the NCAA Program Hub. Members were encouraged to speak to campus Athletic Directors and Senior Woman Administrators (SWAs) for more information.

9. Institutional SAAC Updates

Institution's shared SAAC updates including meeting discussions, events and best practices. Augsburg changed monthly meeting to weekly meeting for 20 minutes long to increase accountability. St. Olaf asked the group for tips on how to increase attendance. Augsburg suggested that student-athletes be interested in being a part of the group rather than being nominated to ensure their commitment. Create an atmosphere that involvement in SAAC is a positive. Gustavus piloted a "Fan Incentive" program over January-term which included giveaways and theme nights which worked well. Hamline asked the group how to involve underclassmen. Gaard suggested partnering underclassmen and upperclassmen for projects.

10. MIAC SAAC Facebook Page (Sheridan Blanford)

Sheridan Blanford provided an update and encouraged members to continue using the page as a resource and ask others to "like" the page. She asked members if anyone would be interested in taking over and maintaining the Facebook page when she graduates.
 - www.facebook.com/pages/MIAC-Student-Athlete-Advisory-Committee/383711015113301?fref=nf

11. MIAC SAAC - Thank you!

Gaard thanked the MIAC SAAC members for the commitment and efforts in being a part of the group. Student-athlete feedback and insight were invaluable.

- a) This was our final meeting of the year, best of luck on campus.
- b) Please feel free to contact Megan Gaard or the MIAC Office with any questions, comments, concerns or updates at any time.
- c) Next year's meeting dates 2015-16: Sept. 20, Dec. 6, Feb. 21

Adjournment - 1:47 pm