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Steven F. Ulrich, Executive Secretary
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**Executive Committee Fall Meeting
Tuesday, December 11, 2001
Haas College Center
Muhlenberg College
Allentown, Pennsylvania**

Attendance: Arthur Taylor, chair (Muhlenberg); Tom Tritton (Haverford); Dick Kneedler (Franklin & Marshall); Jule Emrhein (Dickinson); Tom Calder (Johns Hopkins); Rudy Ehrenberg (Muhlenberg); Steve Ulrich (Conference Office).

I. Report from Executive Secretary

Ulrich gave a brief report summarizing the fall season. Nearly 12 percent of the fall student-athletes (215) were selected to the Conference Academic Honor Roll. Haverford senior J.B. Haglund became the first Centennial runner to win a Division III individual cross country championship. The tournaments were well-received by students and coaches in their inaugural season.

A brief discussion was held concerning the new Franklin & Marshall president's role on the Executive Committee in his/her first year; the initial discussions regarding a National Liberal Arts athletic association or conference; and the decision by some NESCAC institutions to enroll fewer athletes in their next class.

The committee wishes to invite Stephen R. Lewis Jr., the president of Carleton College, to speak at the Annual Conference Meeting in June at Muhlenberg to gather more information on the National Liberal Arts movement. Taylor will handle the invitation.

The committee also requested that Ulrich define all "big picture" items for the committee and the Presidents Council prior to meetings. Examples include:

- How important is athletics in the overall recruitment of the student body?
- Do athletes have an advantage in the admissions process?
- Should the Conference consider an alignment with other national liberal arts colleges for athletics?

On behalf of the committee, Taylor requested that Ulrich list goals and objectives not only for the Conference, but also for himself as Executive Secretary. Ulrich was asked to consult with the NESCAC Office on its regulations on sharing financial aid and admissions data on student-athletes.

II. Budget Proposal FY03

The committee examined the budget proposal submitted by Ulrich. The revised budget proposal is attached.

III. Ursinus Field Hockey Request to Move From Division I to Division III

After much discussion, the committee wished to poll the membership for its opinion(s) on Ursinus' request. The committee is inclined to support and would write a letter of support to the NCAA Management Council.

IV. NCAA Convention Issues

The committee reviewed the Dec. 3 memorandum from the NCAA, highlighting the key issues for the 2002 Convention - Amateurism (Proposal Nos. 40-41-42-43-44), Provisional Membership (45) and Championship AQ Process (47-48).

V. Update on Basketball Scheduling

The Committee requested that Ulrich create several models, including some that increase the number of games played in Conference but not to the extent that it infringes on traditional rivalries.

VI. New Business

Muhlenberg recommended that the Conference hold a cheerleading festival at Muhlenberg in the spring. The committee was supportive of the idea.