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## Spring Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday, April 22, 2003 Haverford College

**Attendance:** Tom Tritton (Haverford), John Fry (Franklin & Marshall), Bill Durden (Dickinson), Tom Calder (Johns Hopkins), Carol Cantele (Gettysburg), Steve Ulrich (Executive Secretary).

### I. Adoption of Fall Minutes

The Committee adopted the minutes unanimously.

### II. Schedule Models

Ulrich presented hypothetical scheduling models showing the inclusion of Washington & Lee to show the effect on travel for CC members. Ulrich also stated that the longest trip in miles within the Conference is 153 miles between Muhlenberg (Allentown, Pa.) and Johns Hopkins (Baltimore, Md.). The *shortest trip* between a Conference member and Washington & Lee (Lexington, Va.) is 207 miles to McDaniel (Westminster, Md.). The committee weighed the pros and cons and agreed that there were too many problems to overcome to justify a recommendation for the Presidents to consider adding W&L to the Conference.

The committee discussed the request from the football committee to consider adding another member. Catholic University, which was considered in the fall for associate membership in football, only would consider joining if full-time membership would follow in a few years. The committee requested that Ulrich gather some academic and athletic information on CUA and distribute as soon as possible.

### III. Membership Issues

The committee received a copy of a letter from John Strassburger of Ursinus who noted that the president of Lincoln University asked him about pursuing membership in the Conference. The Executive Committee does not wish to pursue the request. Ulrich reported on the "Future of Division III" survey results, noting that 46 percent of the respondents (approximately 154 schools) support or strongly support the elimination of the multidivisional classification – that is, the ability to have certain athletic programs compete in Division I, while the remainder compete in Division III. Johns Hopkins (men's and women's lacrosse) and Franklin & Marshall (wrestling) are two of the 12 schools in Division III that use this exemption. There is some sentiment to eliminate the multidivisional classification, but grandfathering the 12 schools. **The Executive Committee wants to support the 12 schools, noting that a "deal is a deal."**

### IV. Alliance for NCAA Division III Reform

Ulrich reported on the survey results and the summary of the other conference positions following executive meetings within the NESCAC and the North Coast Athletic Conference. An executive summary can be found here ([www1.ncaa.org/membership/governance/division\\_III/d3\\_future\\_of/exec\\_summ\\_042803.htm](http://www1.ncaa.org/membership/governance/division_III/d3_future_of/exec_summ_042803.htm)) Some highlights from the 335 respondents (of 426, 79%)...

76% support equal emphasis to all sports  
74% support retention of Division III; 16% support subdivision  
69% support specific start and end dates for seasons; 56% support modifying length of playing seasons  
46% support elimination of multi-division classification  
44% support further limitation on nontraditional segment (fewer contests or practice only); 23% support elimination  
40% support practice or competition during a season would count as one of four available seasons  
28% support recruiting dead periods  
25% support raising sport sponsorship to 16 sports  
14% support consideration of athletics in granting aid

-more-

The Executive Committee also heard reports from the NESAC and NCAC meetings. Both conferences' "grand plan" is to 1) reform within Division III; 2) subdivision; 3) any Alliance tournament play needs much more discussion and consideration.

The Executive Committee requested to place the following "Alliance proposals" before the Presidents' Council on June 4 for adoption by the Centennial Conference:

**Playing and Practice Seasons**

- Start / End dates
- Games / Dates of Competition
- Nontraditional segment

**Eligibility / Red-Shirting**

Ulrich will prepare the information for dissemination in early May to the Presidents Council and the Administrative Delegates. A presentation will be made at the Annual Meeting, giving a summary of the Alliance document and a recommendation on the Alliance's future and its potential impact on the Centennial Conference.

**V. Executive Session**

The Executive Committee discussed the job description and title for the Executive Secretary. The job description can be found in Attachment A. The committee also reviewed the job performance of the Executive Secretary. The Executive Committee is prepared to ask the Presidents Council to change the title of the position to "Executive Director."

**VI. Agenda for Annual Meeting of the Centennial Conference**

- I. Presidents-only meeting (9:30-11:00)
  - A. Welcome and Introductions
  - B. Membership Issues
  - C. NCAA Division III Reform
  
- II. Annual Meeting of the Centennial Conference
  - A. Welcome and Introductions
  - B. "State of the Conference" address (Steve Ulrich)
  - C. Membership Issues
    1. Voting changes for accepting new member
    2. Goucher College
    - 3, Washington & Lee University
    4. Future discussions on expansion
  - D. 2003-04 Budget
  - E. Consent Package from Administrative Delegates
  - F. NCAA Division III and Conference reform
  - G. Executive Secretary job description and title
  - H. New Business