

Navigating the New Landscape: A Division II Perspective on Sports Gambling and Transfer Policies



Pete Crabb holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Oregon and an MBA in Finance from the University of Colorado. His research on finance and economics is published in several peer-reviewed journals and he is a regular contributor to the Idaho Statesman. Pete also serves in the Center for the Study of Market Alternatives at NNU and as the NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative.



Mariah Murdock is an Assistant Director of Research at the NCAA. She serves as the research liaison to Division II and conducts research related to student-athlete academic success (ASR) and student-athlete well-being. Prior to joining the NCAA, Mariah was a graduate assistant in the Department of Psychological Science and an intern at the Office of Institutional Research and Decision Support at Ball State University. She received her M.A. in Clinical Psychology with a certificate in Institutional Research from Ball State University (2024) and her B.A. in Psychology from Indiana University (2022).

Exploring the Impact of Self-Promotion and Social Media on Sleep and Mental Health among Student-Athletes



Rhonda Cross Beemer is an Associate Professor within the School of Health Science and Wellness at Northwest Missouri State University where she serves as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), outgoing president of Faculty Senate, Program Coordinator for Applied Health Sciences, and Assistant Director of the School of Health Science and Wellness. Dr. Beemer, a former student-athlete, earned her B.S. in Exercise Science with a double emphasis in Athletic Training and Health/Fitness from Missouri Valley College, a Master's degree in Physical Education from Eastern Kentucky University, and a PhD in Administration and Teaching in Human Performance and Recreation from the University of Southern Mississippi. Following her undergraduate degree, Dr. Beemer became a certified athletic trainer from the Board of Certification for Athletic Trainers where she previously worked at the DI, DII, DIII, and high school levels. In addition to working as a certified athletic trainer, Dr. Beemer has experience in parks and recreation, coaching, is a mom of 5 children, and has taught in higher education since 2000, all of which bring a unique experience to her current roles. Since starting her role as FAR, Dr. Beemer was chosen to participate in the FAR Leadership Institute, Advanced Leadership Institute, and then was asked to assist in leading the 2023 FAR Leadership Institute at the NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis, IN. These experiences lead Dr. Beemer to serve on the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) for the NCAA where she serves as the chair of the Research sub-committee.

Honoring Academic Excellence with Student-Athletes



Andro L. Barnett is a career professional in athletics, recreation, administration and leadership, and education. Dr. Barnett started his academic endeavors in his home state of Mississippi at William Carey College. He then continued his education to earn his Bachelor of Science at Jackson State University. In 1991, Dr. Barnett earned a Master of Education in Sports Administration and Leisure Studies from Mississippi State University. Dr. Barnett concluded his formal education in 2005 with his Doctorate in Education from Temple University.

Even though Dr. Barnett has a plethora of degrees to support his education, his work experience, presentations, publications, and leadership roles hold as much, if not more value to Dr. Barnett's expertise. Dr. Barnett served in the United States Marine Corps during his academic successes. He has numerous presentations at various state, regional, and national level conferences and conventions. Dr. Barnett has several publications to his accord.

Dr. Barnett ranks as a Professor at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. He has also served as Department Chair for six years. Dr. Barnett has served as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) since 2005. Dr. Barnett has attended both the Fellow Institute and the Advance Fellow Institute and served as a mentor for the Fellow Institute. Dr. Barnett also served as President of the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association of the NCAA.



Kellen Wells-Mangold was named the Executive Director of Chi Alpha Sigma in July 2018 and was promoted to the first full time position of the organization in July 2024. In addition to his

role with Chi Alpha Sigma, Wells-Mangold serves as the Director of Athletics Compliance for DePauw University.

A native of Washington, Iowa, Wells-Mangold previously served as the Associate Athletics Director and Deputy Title IX Officer at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls after stints at DePauw University, Murray State University and North Central College. Most recently at UW-River Falls he oversaw compliance, student-athlete services, was the sport supervisor for five sport programs and all health and well-being initiatives and was also an elected leader on campus serving as the chair of the Academic Staff Council and the Executive Committee for Faculty Senate. He is a graduate from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Arts in Health and Sports Studies and then went on to earn his Master's in Sports Business from La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia.

Wells-Mangold resides in River Falls with his partner, Robyn, their two children, Breyker and Willa and dog, Niko, and two cats, Trouble and Elsa.



Jim Crawley

Jim Crawley is an Assistant Professor in the Health Sciences Program at Dominican University New York. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education from Towson State University in 1985, his Master of Education degree from the University of Virginia in 1986, and his Master of Science degree in Physical Therapy from Dominican University in 2004. He has been a Certified Athletic Trainer for 38 years and a practicing Physical Therapist for 20 years and brings a unique perspective to his role as Faculty Athletics Representative. He has served as DU's NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative for the past 17 years. His service as FAR includes being the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference's member of the NCAA Division II Management Council from 2013 to 2017. While serving on that committee he also served on the Division II Degree Completion Award Committee, Competitive Safeguards & Medical Aspect of Sports Committee, the NCAA Drug Education and Drug Testing sub-committee, and the Division I Concussion Management Review Committee. He was honored as a 2022 Dr. Dave

Pariser Faculty Mentor Award Finalist by the NCAA Division II Student – Athlete Advisory Committee and one of 17 faculty members honored in Division II. He just completed a three-year appointment with the Division II Nominating Committee, and he also serves as a Division II Representative to the FARA Executive Committee. Jim was recently selected to the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Region I Selection Committee.

Jim came to Dominican in 1998 as the Program Director for the Athletic Training Education Program and stayed in that role until the program ended in 2021. He is the current chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee and has served on several other college wide committees over his 26-year career at the institution and educated and mentored hundreds of students.

Synergizing Success: The Collaborative Role of the FAR



Kurt Beron is a professor of Economics at The University of Texas at Dallas. He has worked on projects spanning economics, education, sports, sociology, and psychology with a focus on cross-disciplinary applications of quantitative methodology.

Dr. Beron has been UTD's Faculty Athletics Representative for almost 25 years and has been very involved with collegiate athletics at the campus, conference (DIII transitioning to DII), and national levels.

At the local level, Dr. Beron works with the AD, VP for Student Affairs, and the UTD President on policy issues overlapping academics and athletics. He chairs UTD's Athletics Compliance Committee and is a member of UTD's Athletic Advisory Board. Beron meets with SAAC and has successfully nominated several UTD student-athletes for the prestigious NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship.

At the national level, Dr. Beron has been on many DIII NCAA committees including Management Council, Interpretations and Legislation, and Strategic Planning and Finance, and has twice chaired the NCAA association-wide Research Committee. He served twice on the DIII Interpretations and Legislation Committee. He has served for ten years on the FARA Executive Committee as a DIII member, as Vice-President (twice), and association-wide as Secretary – the position he has held for six years and currently holds.

Stan Wagnon



Stan Wagon is the University of Central Oklahoma's first vice president for Athletics. Wagon previously served as Central's director of athletics, becoming the ninth director in the school's more than 125-year athletic history.

An Edmond native, Wagon earned his bachelor's degree in journalism/public relations from Central in 1995, when he was named Outstanding PR Student of the Year. He also holds a master's degree from Midwestern State University. His father, Skip, worked at Central for 30-plus years and was athletic director from 1986-2003.

Under his leadership, the Bronchos have claimed three NCAA national championships, three national runner-up finishes and 12 conference titles. The university's teams also have made 26 NCAA postseason appearances in eight different sports and claimed eight NCAA regional championships.

Previously, Wagon joined the NCAA Division II's Lone Star Conference as assistant commissioner, before eventually becoming the league commissioner — a position he held for nearly eight years.

Wagon and his wife, Jill, have three children, Abby, Macy and Knox.



Sydni Nelums joined the University of Central Oklahoma in August 2022 and serves as Director of Athletic Compliance.

Nelums, a native of La Mesa, California, comes to UCO from San Diego State, where she worked in compliance from 2020-22. Nelums previously worked at Southern Nazarene's compliance office before that.

Nelums is a former student-athlete at SNU, playing softball for the Crimson Storm from 2014-18. She was also a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) board and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), as well as serving as a resident advisor.

She received both her bachelor's degree studying Science of Sports and Leisure and her master's degree in business administration from SNU.

Nelums is from San Diego, California and attended Helix Charter in La Mesa. She is married (A.J.) and has one son (Alohi).



John Martin has been Central Oklahoma's baseball coach since 2015 and has led the Bronchos to become a strong contender for both conference and regional titles.

Martin has a 282-164-1 record in nine seasons at the helm since taking the head coaching position ahead of the 2016 season. He reached 100 career wins in 2018 and did it in style, winning the final game of the regular season to not only reach the milestone, but also win Central Oklahoma its first MIAA Championship since joining the league in 2012.

Martin has also led UCO in advancing to the NCAA Tournament Central Regional in each of the three seasons from 2017-19. UCO reached the regional finals in 2017 and 2019.

Martin has had a trio of Major League Baseball draft picks. Holden Capps was picked in the eighth round by the Kansas City Royals in 2017, Austin Lambright was picked in the 10th

round by the Royals in 2018, and Spencer Van Scoyoc was also taken in the 19th round in 2019. Dylan Hall was also signed by the New York Mets following the shortened 2020 MLB Draft.

Central has had 28 players earn a combined 31 All-MIAA selections since 2016. Eight have earned All-Region honors, and four were named All-Americans.

John, a former standout at Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association rival Emporia State and Major League Baseball draft pick of the Los Angeles Dodgers. John is married (Courtney) and has one daughter (Emmie).

Trey Cone



Trey Cone is a Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies where he has been teaching since the fall of 2001. He began serving as the University of Central Oklahoma's Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) in the fall of 2007.

Trey received his bachelor's degree in 1997 from Ouachita Baptist University where he attended school on a track and cross country scholarship. He then became a teaching assistant and a graduate assistant track and cross country coach at Texas A&M University-Commerce where he received a master of science degree in Health and Kinesiology. He received his doctorate degree from Commerce in 2001.

As an FAR, Cone serves in various capacities including chair of the UCO Athletics Advisory Council, chair of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) Faculty Athletics Representative Council, MIAA Conference liaison to the NCAA, and Division II Representative to the National Faculty Athletics Representatives Association's Executive Committee.

Trey is married (Tiffany) and has two kids (Chase and Maci).

Empowering Voices: The FAR's Role in Supporting SAAC



Davaris Cheeks is a former Division II football student-athlete from Concordia University, St. Paul. During his time as an undergraduate student, Cheeks was a heavily involved student leader as he was formerly appointed as Student Body President, Black Student Union President, and the NSIC Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative. Cheeks currently serves on the NCAA Division II Executive Board as a student representative which is the highest governing body in Division II and currently serves as the Director of the Dr. Cheryl T. Chatman Diversity Center as his alma mater, Concordia University, St. Paul.



Haley White – Graduate Student

Haley is working towards an MBA Degree in Business Administration, Sports Management at Lincoln Memorial University (LMU) in Harrogate, TN. She is a 2023 graduate of LMU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. In 2024, Haley was elected President of the LMU Student Athletic Advisory Council and was selected as an at-large representative to the NCAA Division II Student Athlete Advisory Committee. Haley is from Maysville, KY (Mason County High School 2020), where she represented her school in numerous sports. At LMU she was a 4 year member of the LMU Women's Tennis team and is currently a team Captain on the LMU Women's Field Hockey team. Off the field, Haley is a Graduate Assistant working in the Sports

Information Department where she is the primary contact for women's volleyball, cross country, and softball. Haley also works as a tutor, tutoring students in Mathematics. Outside of this, Haley enjoys spending time with her dog, Umi.



Matt Wilson is Professor and Director of Liberal Arts at Wilmington University. He has served as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) since 2018. Matt holds degrees in psychology, ministry, and higher education leadership. During his time at Wilmington University, he has served on a variety of committees including Chair of the Faculty Senate's policy committee, curriculum committee, the Middle States Accreditation Self-Study Steering Committee, and two terms as the Chair of the Faculty Senate. He also serves on several committees with the CACC and NCAA.

Bridging the Gap: Engaging Faculty to Enhance Student-Athlete Support



Shellie Hanna is a professor of curriculum and instruction at Arkansas Tech University. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree from Arkansas Tech University and a Ph.D. from Oral Roberts University. She also serves as the Faculty Athletics Representative as well as a member of the FARA Executive Committee as a Division II representative.