

Introduction

The George Washington University, as a Division I member of the NCAA, will be going through its second cycle of the Athletics Certification Program. In doing so, the University is required to conduct a self-study of the athletics program which will include an assessment of the progress it has made since its first-cycle self-study in each of three certification areas: governance and commitment to rules compliance; academic integrity; and equity and student-athlete well-being.

The second-cycle self-study will allow the University community to examine the Athletics Department's operations in the three areas listed above to ensure the University is in full compliance with all NCAA requirements and policies, as well as to identify any problems within these areas of responsibility that should be addressed. This effort is a university-wide review that will allow The George Washington University to determine its compliance with NCAA rules and regulations, and at such time, the institution will develop a plan to correct any weaknesses and problems identified. The George Washington University's general goal is to ensure it has implemented and/or made progress with those plans approved during the first-cycle and identify any areas in which the University is not complying with NCAA principles, and to formulate and implement additional plans of corrective action.

Goals

The George Washington University is committed and dedicated to the NCAA Certification process. The Institution aspires to achieve the following goals during the second-cycle of the Certification process:

- Ensure implementation/progress on required actions from the certification committee's first-cycle decision and those plans for improvement adopted by the University in the first cycle for the following areas: governance and commitment to rules compliance; academic integrity; and equity and student-athlete well-being.
- Ensure implementation/progress on both the Gender and Ethnic/Race plans adopted by the University in the first-cycle.
- Conduct a broad-based University-wide comprehensive self-study of the institution's athletics program through the participation of members of The George Washington University community including: administrators, staff, students, alumni, faculty and athletics department personnel.
- Educate members of The George Washington University community as to the Athletics Department's goals and operations through the use of public notices in University newspapers and magazines, as well as through a web page created specifically to allow for any individual to access information pertaining to the self-study and the University's Athletics Department.
- Identify any weaknesses and problems, and correct those problem areas. Also, to acknowledge and highlight the strengths of the program.
- Complete the self-study and final report successfully.

Role of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is comprised of members of The George Washington University as appointed by the President of the University. The Committee is comprised of an adequate number of individuals that represent broad-based participation, have time to devote to the process and have access to any and all information needed. The Committee has been given clear authority from the President to speak and act on behalf of the institution and the chair is a senior level administrator who has been given the clear authority from the President to ensure all members and committees have access to any and all information needed. The Committee also includes those individuals required to be members of the Committee, per NCAA requirements (e.g., President, FAR, Director of Athletics, SWA and Subcommittee chairs).

The steering committee is charged with overseeing the subcommittees, and is responsible for overseeing the self-study and completion of the final report. Other responsibilities of the steering committee are as follows:

- Meet regularly to discuss information as it is required;
- Record attendance and keep accurate minutes of each committee meeting in a systematic fashion;
- Assist the subcommittees in organizing and gathering pertinent data to be included in the final report;
- Monitor the progress of the self-study and ensure that the self-study is completed on time;
- Meet periodically to discuss pertinent issues related to the self-study and update the members of the steering committee on subcommittee activities;
- Ensure implementation/progress on required actions from the certification committee's first-cycle decision and those plans for improvement adopted by the University in the first cycle for the following areas: governance and commitment to rules compliance; academic integrity; and equity and student-athlete well-being.
- Ensure implementation/progress on both the Gender and Ethnic/Race plans adopted by the University in the first-cycle.
- Submit reports to be included in University papers, magazines, and web page; and
- Assist the subcommittees in answering any questions they may encounter during the self-study.

Role of the Subcommittees

The four subcommittees [Governance and Rules Compliance, Academic Integrity, Gender (Equity and Minority) and Student-Athlete Welfare] are comprised of members of The George Washington University as appointed by the President of the University. The Subcommittees are comprised of an adequate number of individuals that represent broad-based participation, have time to devote to the process and have access to any and all information needed.

The Governance and Rules Compliance, Academic Integrity, Gender (Equity and Minority) and Student-Athlete Welfare Subcommittees are charged with examining their respective areas.

The four subcommittees are charged with the following duties:

- Meet regularly to discuss information as it is required;
- Record attendance and keep accurate minutes of each subcommittee meeting in a systematic fashion;
- Subcommittee chairs are responsible for ensuring that their designated subcommittees are adhering to schedules and that reports are completed on time;
- Ensure implementation/progress on required actions from the certification committee's first-cycle decision and those plans for improvement adopted by the University in the first cycle for the following areas: governance and commitment to rules compliance; academic integrity; and equity and student-athlete well-being.
- Ensure implementation/progress on both the Gender and Ethnic/Race plans adopted by the University in the first-cycle [Gender (Equity and Minority) Subcommittee only]
- Each subcommittee's finding will accurately identify any problems found within its specified areas; and
- Each subcommittee is responsible for providing suggestions as to how to correct such problems.

Schedule for Completing the Self-Study

September 26, 2007	NCAA Video Conference with Steering Committee and Subcommittee Members
October 24, 2007	Meeting of Steering Committee, discuss certification process
October 30, 2007	Meeting of Academic Integrity Subcommittee, define individual roles and discuss certification process
October 31, 2007	Meeting of Governance & Commitment to Rules Compliance Subcommittee, define individual roles and discuss certification process
October 26, 2007	Meeting of Equity (Gender & Minority) Subcommittee, define individual roles and discuss certification process
November 1, 2007	Meeting of Student-Athlete Welfare Subcommittee, define individual roles and discuss certification process
Late October to December, 2007	Athletics Department and Institutional Research Data Collection
December 4, 2007	Meeting of Academic Integrity Subcommittee, data collection review and review of self-study items and completion of previous plans – begin report drafts
December 4, 2007	Meeting of Governance & Commitment to Rules Compliance Subcommittee, review of self-study items and completion of previous plans – begin report drafts
December 3, 2007	Meeting of Equity (Gender & Minority) Subcommittee, data collection review and review of self-study items and completion of previous plans – begin report drafts
December 6, 2007	Meeting of Student-Athlete Welfare Subcommittee, review of self-study items and completion of previous plans – begin report drafts
February 5, 2008	Meeting of Steering Committee, discuss progress of subcommittees and review report drafts
January 29, 2008	Meeting of Academic Integrity Subcommittee, discuss and revise report and develop institutional plans if needed
January 25, 2008	Meeting of Governance & Commitment to Rules Compliance Subcommittee, discuss and revise report and develop institutional plans if needed
January 25, 2008	Meeting of Equity (Gender & Minority) Subcommittee, discuss and revise report and develop institutional plans if needed
January 31, 2008	Meeting of Student-Athlete Welfare Subcommittee, discuss and revise report and develop institutional plans if needed
March 25, 2008	Meeting of Academic Integrity Subcommittee, finalize report for Steering Committee
March 21, 2008	Meeting of Governance & Commitment to Rules Compliance Subcommittee, finalize report for Steering Committee
March 26, 2008	Meeting of Equity (Gender & Minority) Subcommittee, finalize report for Steering Committee

March 27, 2008	Meeting of Student-Athlete Welfare Subcommittee, finalize report for Steering Committee
April 1, 2008	Meeting of Steering Committee, finalize report
Mid-April, 2008	Provide opportunity for campus groups to review final report and recommend changes
End-May, 2008	Meeting of Steering Committee, finalize report with comments from campus groups (if warranted)
May 1, 2008	Self-study report submitted to NCAA
July 15 – August 15, 2008	Respond to Committee on Athletics Certification Analysis (if needed)
Fall 2008	Peer Review Team visit
December 15, 2008	Response to Peer Team Report due to NCAA

- ❖ Steering Committee and subcommittees may choose to have additional meetings as needed.
- ❖ All dates are preliminary, and subject to change at the discretion of the committee members.

Institutional and Conference Liaisons

The George Washington University will not require assistance from the conference office during the self-study process. The campus liaison will be Chandra V. Bierwirth, Assistant Athletics Director/Compliance. The liaison will be responsible for coordinating and collecting information about the self-study and certification process. The liaison will forward any questions the Steering Committee may have directly to the NCAA.

Report Writer

The chief report writer will be Chris Kormis, Assistant Vice President for University Relations. The report writer will be responsible for assisting the Steering and subcommittees with writing the self-study report. This individual will have access to all committee meetings, have access to any and all information needed and be provided adequate assistance with work-related needs (e.g., computer, internet access, etc).

Campus Review

The Steering Committee will begin the review process by examining the reports of the subcommittees. The final report will then be presented to various governing bodies such as the Faculty Senate, The Board of Trustees, the President's Office and the Faculty Athletics committee. Information pertaining to the self-study will be shared with the University community via newspaper and a web page created specifically for the self-study.

Final Report

The final report will include the subcommittee reports, in addition to input and analysis from the Steering Committee. Also included will be a plan of corrective action with a specific timetable for the implementation of any changes.