

**NCAA SELF-STUDY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
2004-2005**

Written Plan for conducting the self-study

A. Objectives Related to the Self-Study

1. Stated goals for the NCAA self-study process.

Wichita State University's goals are two-fold: to maintain its commitment to integrity in intercollegiate athletics and to participate thoroughly, honestly, and thoughtfully in the certification process. The self-study is structured to achieve these objectives:

- To thoroughly demonstrate Wichita State's commitment to be in compliance with the three operating principles.
- To educate the broader University community regarding the integrity of the athletics program and its integration with the University's values.
- To review all major aspects of the WSU athletics program;
- To recognize and affirm the athletics program's strengths; and
- To identify any areas of concern, and to implement a plan of action to remedy that concern.

To successfully achieve these goals and objectives through this self-study process, it is imperative that they are consistent with the overall goals of certification. Therefore, an effective self-study which achieves the goals and objectives stated above will benefit the institution by providing self-awareness, affirmation, and opportunities for improvement.

2. First cycle institutional plans for improvement.

Identification of all plans from first-cycle self-study including all appropriate supplemental materials.

- Amend the institution's "Intercollegiate Athletic Association Affirmative Action Statement and Goals" document to indicate the dates that specific goals and strategies will be completed, as opposed to the dates on which the institution began to address the issues. (See Committee required actions from first cycle)
- Ensure that the institution's academic support services for student-athletes are approved and reviewed periodically by academic authorities outside the department of intercollegiate athletics

All committee required actions from first cycle.

- The ICAA mission statement should have on-going reminders, mandates, or other efforts that will reinforce to the appropriate constituencies the importance of the mission, and the rules-compliance that undergirds it.
- Produce a firm procedure designating the necessity for an annual review for the rules-compliance program.
- The creation of the Institutional Compliance Committee should satisfy the provision for annual reviews of rules-compliance using campus officials outside the Athletics Department. The Faculty Athletics Representative will be responsible for calling the Compliance Committee together.
- Improved procedures should be formulated concerning the way financial aid is monitored outside the Athletics Department. Since the beginning of the first self-study process, the Institutional Compliance Committee is addressing the issue.
- Personnel in both the Office of Admissions and the Office of the Registrar should be cross-trained to provide backup for the current personnel in the event that they leave the institution or are unable to perform their admissions and eligibility certification tasks.
- Additional resources should be made available to provide appropriate testing to assist in the diagnosis of learning disabilities.
- A new Center for Athletic Academic Services should be funded as part of the proposed facilities renovation project.
- Written documentation on the transferring of funds between the Endowment Association and the ICAA bank accounts is needed.
- The University's on-line Budget Information System should be expanded to include ICAA.
- Coaches and other budget officers within ICAA should be an integral part of budget development for their particular program area.
- To develop a plan to eliminate or reduce the practice of using revenues collected for the next fiscal year's operations to fund the current year's operations.
- In capitalizing on the recent success in men's basketball, the focus should be to address the overall debt status of the program as opposed to engaging in program expansion that might not be financially responsible for the long term.
- Compliance with the University's gender equity agreement with OCR.

- Periodic evaluation of the status of ICAA gender equity issues after closure of the OCR agreement using the University’s Gender Equity Committee.
- Redress of identified issues in the future through recommendations to the President.
- Broad-based participation in the University to review national trends, Missouri Valley Conference issues concerning sports sponsorships in intercollegiate athletics and to proactively address gender equity issues.
- A detailed statistical base of “availability” for each ICAA staff type (e.g., coaches, trainers, administrators) similar to that identified for academic programs.
- To increase the number of WSU-ICAA employees in all employment categories from underrepresented groups as current positions become vacant or new positions are created.
- A recruiting strategy for specifically identified ICAA staff types to obtain more diverse applicant pools for those searches.
- To continue to maintain/increase the number of student-athletes from historically underrepresented groups. To meet or exceed the minority participation rates nationally of student-athletes who attend NCAA Division I institutions and compete in the same sports sponsored by WSU-ICAA.
- To meet or exceed the national average of graduation rates of student-athletes who attend NCAA Division I institutions and compete in the same sports sponsored by WSU-ICAA
- A strategy to recruit minority student-athletes into athletics programs which do not yet reflect the number of minority student-athletes available to participate in those programs.

All committee required actions from the institution’s previous interim-report process.

- There were no committee required actions from Wichita State’s previous interim-report process

B. Major Components of the Self-Study

1. Appointment of steering committee chair.

President Donald L. Beggs has appointed Eric L. Sexton, Ph.D., Director of Government Relations as Chair of the Steering Committee. Dr. Sexton is a member of the President’s cabinet. President Beggs in his communications with potential committee members clearly communicated his strong endorsement an importance of this process.

2. Appointment of steering committee and subcommittees.

At the request of President Donald L. Beggs the Steering Committee will be chaired by, and the self-study will be coordinated by, Dr. Eric L. Sexton, Director of Government Relations. The appointment of the steering committee and subcommittees was coordinated by the steering committee chair, with members being recommended to the president from the following constituent groups:

- WSU Board of Trustees
- Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Inc., Board of Directors
- Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization Board of Directors
- Faculty Senate
- Unclassified Professional Senate
- Classified Senate
- Student Government Association
- WSU-ICAA Student-Athletes
- WSU-ICAA Administrators
- WSU-ICAA Coaches
- WSU Academic Administration
- WSU Alumni Association Executive Committee
- WSU Foundation Board of Director

The self-study steering committee membership reflects all of the positions suggested in the *NCAA 2003-04 Division I Athletics Certification Handbook*. Wichita State University has decided to add a Communications Coordinator as well. In each case, the participants' involvement was confirmed through an invitation from the President.

3. Responsibilities of steering committee and subcommittees.

The steering committee will have oversight responsibility for organizing and administering subcommittee meetings and completing the self-study report. The steering committee will review the subcommittees' draft responses and recommendations for the self-study, approve final recommendations, and prepare the final self-study report to present to the peer-review team. The steering committee, in coordination with the steering committee chair, will be responsible for preparing the institution's future plan in the areas of certification review, and will have clear authority, granted by the President, to act on behalf of the institution.

The subcommittees will be responsible for collecting and analyzing data, conducting interviews, and preparing the self-study draft responses and recommendations for the steering committee's review.

General Responsibilities:

Each subcommittee chairperson will appoint a member of their subcommittee to serve as the recorder of the meetings. At the conclusion of each meeting, the recorder will draft minutes and submit them to the chairperson for review. Upon the chairperson's approval, minutes will be distributed to the subcommittee members and to the steering committee.

The subcommittee chairpersons will be responsible for scheduling subcommittee meetings, overseeing and preparing the draft of their subcommittee report, and presenting the draft to the steering committee for approval. The Steering Committee and subcommittees will meet on a regular basis on the dates indicated in the attached Timeline.

4. Institution liaison.

Eric L. Sexton, Ph.D.; Director of Government Relations, will be responsible for fielding questions from steering and subcommittee members and forwarding the questions to the NCAA Representative, Mr. Keith Gill.

In addition, Dr. Sexton will coordinate arrangements for the Orientation and Peer Review Team Visits, including lodging, travel, scheduling interviews and other Peer Review Team activities and organizing work-related needs of the Peer Review Team (computers, secretarial access, meeting rooms). He will also serve as a resource from the Steering Committee to facilitate the organization and work of the subcommittees.

5. Conference assistance/use of outside individuals or agencies.

A representative of the Missouri Valley Conference office will be utilized as an observer in the certification process. Ms. Patty Viverito, Senior Associate Commissioner of the Missouri Valley Conference will serve in this capacity and will attend the peer review visit as an observer. Ms. Viverito will also be receiving a copy of the final self-study report as a means of informing the larger community and receiving outside input. There is no plan to involve an outside agency and/or consultant in the process.

6. Regional accreditation.

There is no plan for a joint visit from a regional accreditation entity. The accreditation process put forth by the NCAA will be sufficient for the needs of Wichita State University at this time.

7. Outline and schedule.

The time line for completing the self-study is attached to this written plan.

8. Self-study report.

Ms. Becky Endicott, Sr. Associate Athletic Director and Mr. Eric Kramer, Communications Coordinator, will serve as the general editor of the self-study report. The three subcommittee chairs, and their designees, will serve as editors of the three main sections of the report.

The final report will be patterned after the Self-study Instrument with sections addressing each of the three basic topic areas. Furthermore, each section will be divided into two parts, the first reserved for reporting findings and the second focused on evaluation and plans for improvement.

The three subcommittees will be responsible for preparing a finished draft within their specific area of concern, following the general guidelines provided on format, graphics and style.

Preparation of the self-study report will go through several stages. First, preliminary reports will be prepared by each subcommittee. These reports will be reviewed by the Steering Committee Chair for style, substance, and completeness. These component reports will be circulated among members of the Steering Committee; their task will be to review the drafts for consistency, completeness and minimum duplication of information.

A full-text draft report will be distributed to the entire University community via the NCAA Self-study Website. Faculty, staff, and students will be notified of the opportunity to comment on the final draft over a three-week period and the final edited document will be given to the following constituent groups:

- WSU Board of Trustees
- Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Inc., Board of Directors
- Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization Board of Directors
- Faculty Senate
- Unclassified Professional Senate
- Classified Senate
- Student Government Association
- WSU-ICAA Student-Athletes
- WSU-ICAA Administrators
- WSU-ICAA Coaches
- WSU Academic Administration
- WSU Alumni Association Executive Committee
- WSU Foundation Board of Director

The NCAA self-study certification process will be communicated both internally and externally through the use of the University and Department of Athletics web page; The Sunflower; The Wichita Eagle; and emails to university personnel. Final reports will be available through the University Library and the Department of Athletics.