

N4A



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As we look forward to the 2023 National Convention in Orlando, Fla., I am grateful for the opportunity to connect with colleagues from across the country. I would like to send a heartfelt thanks to Convention Coordinators Jessica Goerke (UCSB), Cathy Badger (Utah), N4A Chief of Staff Patrice Ayeni and the rest of the N4A Board of Directors and the NACDA support team, for assembling an outstanding Convention program.

This year, we continued with a renewed focus and reinvestment into the membership, including hosting the first ever stand-alone Steve McDonnell Professional Development Institute (PDI) and increasing the value of N4A

Opportunities Scholarships offered to our membership. During the fall semester, we hosted PDI in Kansas City, Mo., offering four of the five professional development tracks to our membership. Over 100 N4A members gathered in Kansas City to hear and learn from leaders within N4A and across collegiate athletics. In addition, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors increased the value of each Opportunities Scholarship, which covers the cost of registration and hotel expenses for the National Convention.

As an organization we are entering the last year of our 2019-24 Strategic Plan and have reengaged Heather Ould (Oh-Fey Insights, LLC) to help with the development of our next strategic plan that will help to continue to guide and grow the Association. Some of the changes in the new strategic plan will include the introduction of two new Division Directors for Revenue Generation (2023-24) and for Leadership Initiatives (2024-25). We are excited to continue our work with Heather and the Strategic Planning Task Force, led by Stephen Darville (Boston College) and the new leadership opportunities that our new structure will

present. The hard work, dedication and guidance of our current leadership, Past Presidents and former Board members has helped N4A in thriving through the last four years.

I am grateful for all that N4A has done to support our profession, and for the collective talents, ideas and contributions that make N4A the thriving Association it is today. The diversity of our work with student-athletes and other administrators across collegiate athletics have become cornerstones of the Association. With over 2,000 members, N4A continues to be the largest and most professionally diverse affiliate under the NACDA umbrella. N4A will celebrate its 50th anniversary during the 2024-25 academic year. I look forward to seeing how the organization continues to grow and flourish, under the leadership of our incoming President Dr. Kayleigh McCauley-Sayer.

@NAACConnect

NAAC



Matt Burgemeister

Atlantic Coast Conference

Associate Commissioner/
Compliance & Governance

For many in college athletics, the start of summer represents a turning of the page from one academic year to the next and is generally a time that we can both reflect on the prior year and hopefully take time to recharge for the year ahead. But summer also means the annual NAAC Convention. This year, perhaps as much as any year, we will benefit from face-to-face discussions about the many critical issues currently facing college athletics and compliance professionals – from the Transformation Committee recommendations to NIL to transfers, there is no shortage of key topics keeping our attention.

The NAAC Convention Committee is a group of your peers that works throughout the year to develop a Convention program that strives to meet the various educational, networking and social goals that each of us have for the

Convention. As we return to the familiar Convention home in Orlando, this year's schedule features a host of programs intended to equip you to better serve your institution and student-athletes.

Among the highlights of this year's schedule are multi-session tracks on NIL and transfers; roundtable discussions related to hot topics within rules modernization, basketball, and football; and sessions to enhance your institution's compliance program and your professional development. These sessions will provide an opportunity to learn from experienced administrators, subject-matter experts, and other industry leaders. Additional programming will provide networking and social opportunities in addition to Association-wide sessions with new NCAA President Charlie Baker, Beth Paretta and Inky Johnson.

If 2023 will be your first NAAC Convention, I also wanted to offer a few tips to help maximize your experience:

- Plan ahead. Convention attendance can serve many purposes and provide many benefits. Think about goals in attending and optimize your schedule accordingly. Is your primary objective to learn best practices from peers during the educational sessions? To learn about

new developments throughout college athletics? To build your network of college athletics administrators? Use your time intentionally to achieve the benefits you are seeking.

- Log in. Download and use the NACDA & Affiliates Convention app which includes the Convention schedule, speaker bios, and session descriptions as well as information about the host hotel, exhibitors and sponsors, and a live Twitter feed.
- Reach out. The NAAC Convention is a prime opportunity to connect with colleagues from across the country. Sit by someone you have not met before. Follow up with one (or more) panelists after a session. Introduce yourself to a member of the Board of Directors and ask how to get involved in a NAAC Committee.
- Expand your horizon. One of the great benefits of the Convention is the opportunity to attend sessions conducted by any of the other NACDA Affiliate Associations. Review the full schedule and look for sessions that may be interesting and/or beneficial.
- Take time for yourself. Take a lap (or more) on the running trail, spend an hour at the pool, or enjoy a book you've been wanting to read.

I look forward to seeing you in Orlando for #NAAC23!