PRESIDENT’S NOTE >>>>

Dear NAIA Athletics Directors,

It is hard to believe we are halfway through the fall semester! It has been a busy fall for the ADA Board of Directors and I wanted to share some of the highlights from our ADA BOD meeting in Kansas City in September.

Twenty members of the board convened the first fall meeting in conjunction with the COP and CCA. The agenda covered a range of topics designed to move the ADA forward with planning and purpose.

ADA National Office Liaison Lynn Meredith shared that the NAIA will be expanding its partnership with NACDA to elevate the ADA’s professional presence and expand services. NACDA will assist with newsletter distribution and NAIA-ADA exposure and online presence at NACDA events, with the goal of full engagement by all NAIA ADs.

With a standing-room only mentoring “interest” session at convention in April, Jeff Bain, Martin Methodist College, discussed the potential for serving the overwhelming interest shown by attendees from all campus roles. The board discussed the potential for supporting interest outside of the ADA and determined at this time that the mentoring program would be focused on ADs. The group will share its experiences and best practices in developing the mentoring activities with other groups within the NAIA. A survey on the mentoring program was sent out earlier this month that I hope you all took time to complete.

Building on the success and positive response to the professional workshops at convention, the board brainstormed on key topics for the 2016 convention.

Cont. on page 2.

UPCOMING EVENTS >>>

Nov. 1 — Fall Opening Rounds Bids Due
Nov. 9 — Champions of Character Luncheon

NEWSLETTER FORMAT CHANGE>>>

Continuing with the goal of offering NAIA Athletics Directors with the best possible product, a revamped ADA Newsletter will be revealed with the release of the November issue. The new version will provide more of a glimpse into current NAIA news, while still offering other valuable material. We encourage all Athletics Directors to keep us aware of important updates, so we are able to celebrate the great work being performed on NAIA campuses in future newsletters.

RECOMMENDED READS>>>

Dakota Wesleyan Unveils New Athletic Logo and Website and Athletic Facility
Southern Oregon Golf tournament raises over $300,000 for scholarships
25th Lithia/Raider Club Shootout Hits $300,000 Mark Again
Carroll College Hall of Fame honors NAIA greats
Emmet, Cooper Highlight 2015 Carroll College Hall of Fame Class
Vanguard Great honored by NAIA
Johansson Named to NAIA Hall of Fame and Coach of Character
Corban University Men’s Soccer program’s diversity is key to success
We Are All Warriors: Diverse Group of Soccer Players All Working Towards Same Goal
College of Idaho SID receives national honor
Safford Honored with Prestigious Ike Pearson Award
Menlo Adds Cross Country and Track for 2015-16
Menlo College to Offer Cross Country and Track in 2015-16, Dan Noel Tapped to Head Program

WELCOME NEW ATHLETICS DIRECTOR >>>

Marcus Moeller
Athletics Director
Mid-America Christian University
PRESIDENT’S NOTE CONTINUED

An emphasis will remain on utilizing a diverse group of individuals as presenters. Quin Monahan, University of South Carolina-Beaufort, will continue to collect potential topics for the ADA-BOD to review. Please contact Quin if you are interested in serving on a panel during this year’s convention. Matt Sayre, Southern Oregon University, reported on the improved ADA Newsletter and received input for improvements and content ideas for future editions.

A lot of discussion during the joint ADA, COP, and CCA sessions focused on 5 seasons of competition and drug testing. The COP voted not to continue the exploration of a 5th season for a myriad of reasons. At this point, I consider this a dead issue for the NAIA. Drug testing for performance enhancing drugs continues to be a hot topic. I am pleased to note that Keith Spataro, Menlo College, was appointed to represent the ADA on the National Drug Testing and Education Committee. More information on this important topic will follow in the months ahead.

I am appreciative of the NAIA National Office for all of their help with resources and funds to help make this meeting possible for the ADA-BOD. We continue to build positive momentum for the ADA and I look forward to our next steps as we continue to lead our ADA and I look forward to our next steps as we continue to lead our momentum for the ADA and I look forward to our next steps as we continue to lead our ADA and I look forward to our next steps as we continue to lead our ADA.

Sincerely,

Darin Wilson
NAIA ADA-President
Director of Athletics, Georgia Gwinnett College

AD SPOTLIGHT

Get to know Jeff Bussell, University of Antelope Valley, California Pacific Conference

What was the last book you read? “You Win In The Locker Room First. The 7 C’s to Build a Winning Team in Business, Sports, and Life.” Authors Jon Gordon and Mike Smith

Who is your favorite musical group or artist? Hillsong United

What is the first concert you ever attended? Pearl Jam

What is your favorite restaurant where you live? Black Angus Steakhouse

What is your favorite food? Steak and Potatoes

What was your first job when growing up? 5th grade basketball coach at the Orangevale Park and Recreation

Best advice you’ve ever been given? “The Big Time is not a place; it’s the state of your heart. It’s not something you get; it’s something you become.” Frosty Westering

If you could be a superhero, who would you be and why? Captain America- Though he’s often presented with moral dilemmas, he always tries to do the right thing, even when doing so is difficult. He seeks to be anonymous, to blend into the culture he is in and he’s always generous in his praise of the team, while minimizing his own contributions. He protects his team. He adapts to strengths and weaknesses.

AMERICAN RED CROSS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The application for sophomores to apply for the American Red Cross NAIA Leadership Program is now available online. This year is the 10th anniversary of the program, which was established to put the Champions of Character values to work through a partnership with the American Red Cross. Through this program, NAIA student-athletes serve as Champions of Character ambassadors during a two-week leadership training in Washington, D.C. These students are expected to exemplify the core values and implement their leadership skills when they return to campus.

Participating student-athletes receive:
- $2000 scholarship, furnished by the American Red Cross and State Farm Insurance
- Two-week internship at the American Red Cross Headquarters in Washington, D.C.
- Roundtrip transportation to Washington, D.C., room & board, and stipend
- Opportunity to learn from top American Red Cross and NAIA representatives

The deadline to submit an application is November 13, 2015.

Link to application

Link to more information

NAIA.ORG/WELLNESS

Your source for all information and resources related to Drug Education and Testing.

ADA MISSION

Engage our Athletic Directors with meaningful collaboration, forums and national recognition;
Empower our Athletic Directors in their professional development and leadership roles in the NAIA;
Promote NAIA Athletic Directors’ collective voice on issues affecting membership and college athletics on a national scale.

2015-16 NAIA ADA Officers: President Darin Wilson, Georgia Gwinnett College • VP Matt Sayre, Southern Oregon University
• Secretary Quin Monahan, University of South Carolina Beaufort • Past President Kevin Steele, MidAmerica Nazarene University

NAIA Athletics Directors Association • www.NAIA.org/AD