The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA; the Coalition) is an alliance of faculty senates from NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) schools. COIA’s mission is to provide a national faculty voice on intercollegiate sports issues. Areas of concern include academic integrity and quality, student-athlete welfare, campus governance of intercollegiate athletics, commercialization, and fiscal responsibility. The Coalition is committed to the development of effective strategies and proposals for significant, long-term reform in college athletics. COIA works with university faculties, administrations, trustee boards, and national associations concerned with higher education, to implement these strategies and proposals.

Fifty-eight of the 115 FBS schools that have faculty senates are members of COIA. During the past several years, COIA has produced a number of white papers and other documents that lay out recommendations for reform. These recommendations offer best practices that can be used by schools to examine their own policies and practices with regard to intercollegiate athletics. Many of these recommendations have also been discussed with the NCAA as possible action items.

The faculty governance body of any NCAA FBS school can be a member of COIA (see How to Join COIA). We are an ad hoc group and operate without staff or budget. Our direction is determined by our member senates, and we warmly welcome any NCAA Division IA senate that votes to join the COIA on the basis of a general agreement with the principles laid out in our policy papers and reports.

COIA’s national meeting will be held January 21-22, 2012 at the University of Tulsa. Representatives from both member and non-member senates and other interested parties are welcome to attend.

Confirmed speakers include: Steadman Upham, Tulsa President and member of the NCAA Division I Board; George Dohrmann, Sports Illustrated writer who won the Pulitzer Prize for uncovering academic fraud in college sports; John Walda, President and CEO of the National Association of College and University Business Officers; Britton Banowsky, C-USA commissioner and chair of the NCAA infractions committee, and other top officials from the NCAA and Conference USA.
Topics of discussion include: future of the collegiate model, amateurism and pay for play; subsidies and financial sustainability of athletics; lessons learned from Penn State; challenges of smaller universities and conferences; academic misconduct in intercollegiate athletics, and the status of the NCAA reform agenda.

Details and registration information are here.

COIA/John Curley Center for Sports Journalism articles published in Journal of Intercollegiate Sport

Most universities with big-time sports programs have not used all the tools at their disposal to protect academic integrity and improve transparency and accountability of intercollegiate athletics on their campuses, according to a national survey conducted by the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) and researchers at Penn State. Read more about the COIA/Curley Center survey and case studies of six high-scoring institutions.

Or download the full articles in the Journal of Intercollegiate Sport at the links below:

Integration of Athletics and Academics: Survey of Practices at FBS Schools
By John S. Nichols, Thomas F. Corrigan, & Marie Hardin

Case Studies in Athletic-Academic Integration: A Closer Look at Schools that Implement COIA's Best Practices
By Thomas F. Corrigan, Marie Hardin, & John S. Nichols

The full issue of Journal of Intercollegiate Sport is available here.

New COIA Member

COIA welcomes its newest member. By a unanimous vote of its faculty senate, Florida Atlantic University became the 58th member of COIA. FAU faculty senate president, William McDaniel, appointed Eric H. Shaw, professor marketing and NCAA faculty athletic representative, to be FAU's representative to COIA. With the addition of FAU, COIA now represents more than half of FBS schools that have faculty senates.

COIA Legal Fund

Thank you to those schools that have contributed to the COIA legal fund, which will allow us to apply for non-profit status:

University of Alabama; University of Arizona
University of Arkansas; University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Oregon; Southern Methodist University
Stanford University; University of Texas, Austin
Wake Forest University
Member Schools

Below are links to the websites for each of COIA's 58 member faculty senates

Atlantic Coast Conference
- Clemson
- Duke
- Florida State
- North Carolina
- Wake Forest

Big East
- Cincinnati
- Connecticut
- Rutgers
- South Florida

Big Ten
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Michigan
- Michigan State
- Minnesota
- Northwestern
- Ohio State
- Penn State

Big XII
- Missouri
- Oklahoma State
- Texas

Conference USA
- East Carolina
- Houston
- Marshall
- Memphis
- Southern Methodist
- Southern Mississippi
- Tulsa

Mountain West
- Hawaii (MWC for football)
- Fresno State
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- San Diego State
- Texas Christian

Pacific-12
- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Oregon
- Oregon State
- Stanford
- Washington
- Washington State

Southeastern
- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Auburn
- Georgia
- Mississippi
- Mississippi State
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Vanderbilt

Sun Belt
- Arkansas State
- Florida Atlantic

Western Athletic
- Idaho
- New Mexico State
- San Jose State

For a comprehensive list of Faculty Senate websites in the United States, see [here](http://www.coia.org)
COIA in the News

COIA'S STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC FRAUD (08 April 2008)

NEWS & COMMENTS ON COIA's 2007 "FRAMING THE FUTURE: REFORMING INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS" PAPER (Various sources, June 2007)

RE-INTEGRATING ATHLETICS INTO ACADEMICS: SUPPORTING THE ATHLETIC ACADEMIC ADVISOR, NATHAN TUBLITZ, COIA Co-Chair (National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics (N4A) Convention, 9 June 2007)

FACULTY GROUP'S EFFORT TARGETS INTEGRATION OF ATHLETICS (NCAA News, 4 June 2007)

PUTTING THE STUDENT BACK INTO THE STUDENT-ATHLETE, NATHAN TUBLITZ, COIA Co-Chair (NCAA Convention, 6 January 2007)

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT – FACULTY KEY TO DEALING WITH IMMINENT CRISIS (NCAA News, 1 January 2007)

COIA'S STATEMENT ON THE NCAA PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE REPORT (30 October 2006)

COIA’S STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC DATA COLLECTION (21 July 2006)

COIA’S RESPONSE TO 20 MAR 2006 PBS NEWSHOUR SHOW WITH JIM LEHRER (27 March 2006; 20 Mar 06 NewsHour transcript)

THE FACULTY ROLE IN SPORTS REFORM (insidehighered.com, 9 November 2005)

FACULTY GROUP PRESENTS SYLLABUS FOR REFORM (NCAA News, 23 May 2005)

FACULTY INTEGRAL TO INSTILLING INTEGRITY WITHIN ACADEMIC REFORM, MYLES BRAND, NCAA President (NCAA News, 14 February 2005)

ACCOUNTING HOLDS SPORTS ACCOUNTABLE, MICHAEL GRANOF, COIA Steering Committee member (NCAA News, 22 November 2004)

THE FACULTY'S ROLE IN REFORMING COLLEGE SPORTS, JAMES EARL, COIA Co-founder & former chair (Academe, September-October 2004)

UNUSUAL ALLIANCE FORMING TO REIN IN COLLEGE SPORTS (New York Times, 17 January 2003)
Join COIA

Why Should My Institution Join?

COIA is a national, grass-roots faculty governance organization whose goal is to promote comprehensive reform of intercollegiate sports. Our membership consists of FBS (Division 1A) campus faculty governance bodies (i.e., faculty senates or equivalent), not individual faculty. COIA is the only national organization of campus faculty governance bodies on any issue. Our current membership includes faculty senates from 57 of the 115 FBS (Division 1A) institutions with faculty senates. We work by means of flexible consensus, guided by the values and principles articulated in our policy papers. We generally present our recommendations as best practices that campuses can use to guide their local athletic governance.

A hallmark of the COIA is that we are respectful of institutional differences and embrace our differences as strength rather than a weakness. We do not require lockstep agreement – it is likely that no single member senate agrees with every one of the many proposals and best practice standards the COIA membership has adopted. Our internal governance structure is informal. The two co-chairs and our 15-member national steering committee work together to provide direction for the COIA on a day to day basis. Papers, major issues and policies are discussed and decided by the entire membership.

An important COIA work product has been our papers and reports on intercollegiate sports reform. These have demonstrated our commitment to sports reform issues and have generated broad interest at the local, conference and national levels. Our most recent paper, "Framing the Future: Reforming Intercollegiate Athletics" adopted by the general COIA membership in June 2007, lays out a comprehensive reform agenda and proposes 28 specific reforms aimed at the local, conference and/or national levels.

We have developed strong working ties with the NCAA, the Knight Commission, the Division 1A Faculty Athletics Representatives and many other national groups involved in intercollegiate sports. We are currently working closely with the NCAA to put forward several proposals from Framing the Future for adoption by the NCAA through its legislative and/or Certification processes.

Our 20010 efforts include working with the Curley Center for Sports Journalism at Penn State University to develop a national survey instrument that will assess and compare the integration of athletics into the academic goals and mission of NCAA FBS schools.

How Can My Institution Join?

Full membership in COIA is limited to NCAA FBS (formerly Division IA) schools. Becoming a member of COIA simply requires a vote of the faculty governing body.

There are no obligations to membership in the COIA; there are no dues, and participation in our annual meetings is completely voluntary. The internal processes and procedures we use are set for in our by-laws. We encourage and hope for active participation from all our members. We do not require lockstep agreement—indeed no single member senate agrees with every one of the many proposals and best practice standards the Coalition membership has adopted. We work through flexible consensus, guided by values and principles as set forth in our policy papers and reports.

Member senates appoint a COIA representative to be a liaison between the COIA and the faculty senate. This may or may not be the current senate president/chair. The institutional COIA representative receives all COIA communications and is strongly encouraged to participate in our on-line discussions and annual meetings. If the COIA representative is not the current faculty senate president/chair, the latter also receives all COIA information and is welcome to participate in all COIA discussions.

For additional information, please feel free to contact our current co-chair, John Nichols (Penn State). Also, consider reviewing and using this powerpoint in discussions about COIA with fellow faculty members.