

**STATEMENT OF THE ROLE AND SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES OF  
THE FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE IN THE  
NORTHEAST-10 CONFERENCE**

NCAA Bylaw 4.02.2 states "a faculty athletics representative is a member of an institution's faculty or administrative staff holding faculty rank, who is designated by the institution's chief executive officer or other appropriate entity to represent the institution and its faculty in the institution's relationships with the NCAA and conference".

The role of the faculty athletics representative is both important and multifaceted at each of our conference member institutions. While the chief executive officer must be the central figure in ensuring institutional control of the intercollegiate athletics program, the faculty athletics representative is an essential partner of the chief executive officer in protecting the centrality of the academic enterprise at the institution. The working relationship between the chief executive officer and the faculty athletics representative is a critically important determinant of the effectiveness of the faculty athletics representative in contributing to the oversight of the athletics program. The basis of this relationship should be a model of institutional control in which significant responsibilities for administration and oversight are assigned to the faculty athletics representative, as well as to the athletics director.

In this day and age it is important for each institution to recognize that the FAR position has become a fundamental administrative assignment that is a departure from the traditional committee assignments assumed by faculty members. Additionally, as each institution struggles to define the role as it pertains to their own specific situation, it is important to communicate throughout campus what those duties entail.

To this end, each institution in the Northeast-10 Conference should consider some or all of the following responsibilities and duties when formulating the role of the faculty athletics representative on campus.

- A. Act as guardian of the academic interests of the institution regarding the academic performance and educational experience of its student-athletes.
  - 1. Review and evaluate academic and general support services for student-athletes.
  - 2. Study and monitor student-athlete time demands, practice and competition schedules, conduct and welfare.

3. Review student-athletes' orientations, tutoring, study halls, drug education, special admits, class attendance and final grades.
- B. Assist in the determination and/or certification of student-athletes' eligibility (academic and general) under NCAA, conference and institutional rules.
- C. Monitor in conjunction with the director of admissions and registrar, decisions that affect student-athletes' eligibility.
- D. Process appeals in conjunction with the director of athletics, to the NCAA Eligibility Restoration Committee.
- E. Monitor in conjunction with the director of financial aid, conference and NCAA rules on grants-in-aid to student-athletes.
- F. Provide rules interpretations in conjunction with the compliance coordinator and help maintain a rules-education program for all institutional staff members with compliance-related responsibilities and athletics department staff members.
- G. Conduct or review results of exit interviews with student-athletes.
- H. Play a central role in overseeing any major institutional inquiry into alleged or suspected NCAA or conference rules violations (e.g. assist in determining the appropriate action in response to an alleged violation).
- I. Serve as a liaison to the NCAA and conference to create and maintain a clear and effective relationship between the institution and these organizations.
- J. Serve as a conduit for communicating faculty concerns to the director of athletics, athletics board or committee, and chief executive officer. Communicate and consult regularly with the faculty, both to provide information and to solicit meaningful faculty input regarding institutional policies and practices affecting the operation of the athletics program.
- K. Consult with the chief executive officer and the director of athletics, in preparation of voting on proposed legislation at the NCAA convention.
- L. Review and participate in the administration of NCAA and conference forms and applications.
- M. Assist in monitoring and participating in the institution's self-study process.
- N. Support and otherwise assist in the activities of the compliance coordinator.

- O. Spot-check athletics department records and documentation during the year (e.g. recruiting files, eligibility lists, squad lists).

In terms of faculty athletic representative involvement at the conference level, the Northeast-10 Conference, through implementation of a faculty council and committee representation, provide ample opportunity to express opinions with regard to conference operations, especially as they impact the academic and personal well-being of student-athletes. To this end, the conference faculty athletics representatives are currently involved in providing oversight and/or advice in the following conference activities:

- P. Decisions relating to waivers of NCAA eligibility requirements, especially academic requirements.
- Q. Discussions that determine the voting position of the conference at NCAA conventions.
- R. Determining recipients of conference academic honors.