

**National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletes
Ethnic Concerns Committee**

June 10, 2007

Minutes

Acting Chair: Mary Clark

Secretary: Mattie White, Indiana University

Mission Statement:

To expand the awareness of N4A members of challenges facing ethnic minority student-athletes as well as athletic academic professionals. Also, to formulate a plan of action to increase the involvement of professionals from underrepresented programs and address the holistic nurturing of cultural, professional, and intellectual development of membership.

Meeting called to order 4:43 PM

25 members in attendance

Welcome and Introductions

Minutes reviewed and approved from June 23, 2006

Unfinished Business

Ethnic Excursion

- Group decided to take an excursion “off-site” at a local establishment in Phoenix on Saturday night. Demetrius Marlowe provided an historical perspective on the event and how it used to be beneficial in the past. The committee also discussed bringing back a formal hospitality night for members of ECC.

Annual Speaker

- Mary Clark explained that the Ethnic Concerns Committee had not sponsored a speaker this year due to Kerry Howland (N4A President) selecting a diversity speaker this year Dr. Angela Taylor to be a featured speaker.
- Mary Clark shared the concept of a speaker database for the members of the committee to use when searching for speakers and as a possible pool to find national convention speakers.
- Additionally, Mattie White discussed the possibility of having a speaker address ECC during the final committee meeting on the Monday meeting of the conference.

HBCU Strategic Plan

- For the past year, ECC has been wanting to create a proposal that would ask N4A to consider either a registration scholarship or be willing to waive fees in order to assist HBCU institutions attend the national convention. Mary Clark encouraged members to address the issue at the regional level.

Recognition

- Mattie White discussed the need to acknowledge the contributions of underrepresented populations to N4A. Demetrius Marlowe provided insight as to ways that the group

could sponsor an award in the name of a professional that has provided leadership to the association. Mattie White asked for volunteers to assist with this initiative.

Old Business

Leadership Investment

- Mary Clark and Renia Edwards discussed the importance of ECC members participating in the various leadership opportunities provided by N4A. Mary Clark gave a brief overview of Professional Development Institute (PDI) and Renia Edwards shared various leadership positions available in the association.

Two-year Colleges

- Mary Clark shared the importance of ECC reaching out to two-year colleges. Kim Ross gave insight about some of the concerns that two-year colleges face with attending the national convention (conference location). Renia Edwards talked about how the new NCAA legislation will affect two-year institutions.

New Business

Project G.A.M.E. O.N.

- Mary Clark decided to table the Project G.A.M.E. O.N. discussion until the Monday ECC meeting.

Elections/Officer Update

- Officer elections will be held during the Monday committee meeting.

Announcements

- Members shared their frustrations with the cancellation of the Basketball tournament. It was decided that ECC would help organize a basketball game on Sunday night.
- Members discussed the proposed changes to the N4A bylaws concerning the Treasurer position and the review of amendments to the association's by-laws.
- It was shared that ethnic concerns is an issue for all N4A committees and it is very important for there to be representation of minorities on all committees.
- It was proposed that ECC sponsor a professional to PDI.
- Members shared their interested in having a budget (or line item) in the N4A budget so that the committee can have funds to be more active within the organization and better serve the membership.
- A sign-in sheet was passed around and cards were collected for the ECC list serve (Kenneth Miles volunteered to set up a list serve for the committee).

Meeting adjourned 5:33 PM