

# A FOUR-PART SERIES **TRANSFORMING THE NCAA D-I MODEL**

SESSION 4

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE

Thursday, Dec. 3 1-2pm ET

# **Session will begin shortly**

Carol Cartwright

Jacques McClendon



Len Elmore





Nancy Zimpher

Kniaht Commission **On Intercollegiate Athletics** 

FEATURED SPEAKERS Knight Commission Leadership

Peter Roby





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Welcome

Alberto Ibargüen President, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation







# **Overview for Today's Session**

Len Elmore Attorney, Television Commentator, Former NBA Player and Former Men's Basketball Player, University of Maryland





# **Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics Official Reports**

## KEEPING THE FAITH WITH THE STUDENT-ATHLETE

A New Model for Intercollegiate Athletics 1991

A CALL TO ACTION	
TO ACTION	

Reconnecting College Sports and Higher Education 2001



## **RESTORING THE BALANCE** Dollars, Values, and the Future of College Sports

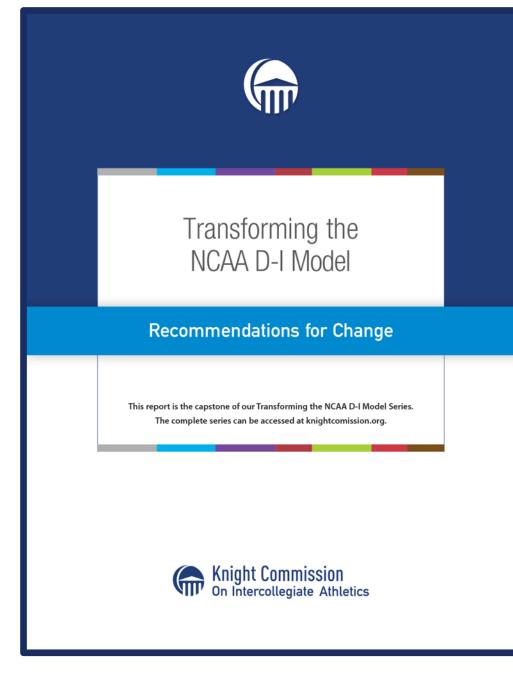
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# **Knight Commission Members**



## Eric Barron

President Pennsylvania State University

## Pam Bernard

VP and General Counsel Duke University

## Carol Cartwright

President Emeritus Kent State University & Bowling Green State University

## Christine Copper

Faculty Athletics Representative and Professor US Naval Academy

## Scott Cowen

President Emeritus Tulane University

## Michael Crow

President Arizona State University

## Arne Duncan

Former US Secretary of Education

## Len Elmore

Attorney, TV Commentator, Former NBA Player

Walt Harrison

President Emeritus University of Hartford

#### Chris Howard President Robert Morris University

Alberto Ibargüen, Ex-officio President and CEO John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

## Derek Kerr

Executive Vice President and CFO American Airlines

## Shanteona Keys

Manager of Education Women's Basketball Coaches Association

## Penelope W. Kyle

President Emeritus Radford University

## Jonathan Mariner

Former Executive and CFO Major League Baseball

## Jacques McClendon

Director of Player Engagement LA Rams

## **Bud Peterson**

President Emeritus and Regents Professor Georgia Institute of Technology

## Jill Pilgrim

Principal Owner Pilgrim & Associates

## David Robinson

Co-Founder/Principal, Admiral Capital Group Former NBA Player

## Peter Roby

Former Director of Athletics and Recreation Northeastern University

## Kendall Spencer

Georgetown University Law Graduate, Former NCAA DI Board Member

## Paul Tagliabue

Former NFL Commissioner Georgetown University Board of Directors

## Nancy Zimpher

Chancellor Emeritus State University of New York





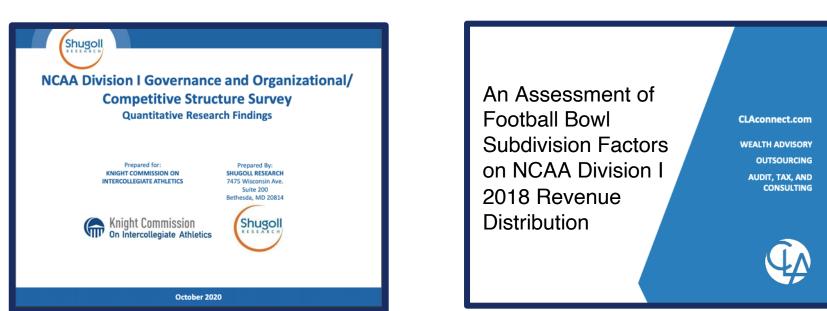
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# **Knight Commission – 2020 Examination**





#### A FOUR-PART SERIES

## TRANSFORMING THE NCAA D-I MODEL



## LITERATURE REVIEW OF DIVISION I ATHLETICS REFORM

Prepared for the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics

## www.knightcommission.org

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# **Information for Public Attendees**

- If you have a question, please click on the Q&A icon on your control panel. You can type a question at any time.
- We will answer questions at the conclusion of our presentation. Please identify your affiliation with your question.
- Today's session is being recorded and will be available on the Knight Commission website tomorrow.

# #transformingD1



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# **Recommendations and Principles**

Nancy Zimpher Chancellor Emeritus, State University of New York (SUNY)





# The Knight Commission is advancing three major recommendations to transform NCAA Division I by providing principled national athletics governance that prioritizes the education, health, safety, and success of college athletes.



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# **Knight Commission Recommendation #1**

# Create a new, separate entity to govern the sport of FBS football

- Completely independent of the NCAA, funded by College Football Playoff revenues
- Governs the sport of football currently operating at the D-I Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) level
- Conducts all FBS football operations, including its national championship
- Manage all issues related to FBS football athlete education, health, safety, revenue distribution, litigation, eligibility and enforcement





# **Knight Commission Recommendation #2**

# NCAA governs all other D-I sports under reorganized governance system

- NCAA governs and conducts national operations and championships for all D-I sports and for football at the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) level.
- New governance system should establish equal voting representation for all Division I conferences.
- NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament should be retained in its current structure.
- FBS institutions remain full NCAA Division I members in all sports except football.





# **Knight Commission Recommendation #3**

National governance entities should adopt 10 principles that will recognize college athletics as a public trust, rooted in the mission of higher education:

- 1. Prioritize college athletes' education, health, safety and success.
- 2. Require college athletes to be academically eligible, making satisfactory progress toward a degree.
- 3. Prohibit "pay for play," but allow institutional support tethered to education. Also allow college athletes to earn compensation similar to other students, including through the use of their NIL.
- 4. Demonstrate and advance commitments to racial and gender equity.
- 5. Hold athletics program leadership accountable to advance racial equity and reduce systemic racism in college sports.





# Knight Commission Recommendation #3 (cont'd)

- 6. Reflect appropriate voting and decision-making power.
- 7. Hold presidents accountable for leading their athletics programs.
- 8. Include meaningful representation of college athletes; governed by a majority of independent directors.
- 9. Control all national aspects of any sport which it administers, including national championships and revenues.
- 10. Distribution of national revenues should advance educational missions and educational opportunities for athletes.

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Page 14



**A FOUR-PART SERIES** 

# **TRANSFORMING THE NCAA D-I MODEL**

# Recommendations for Change



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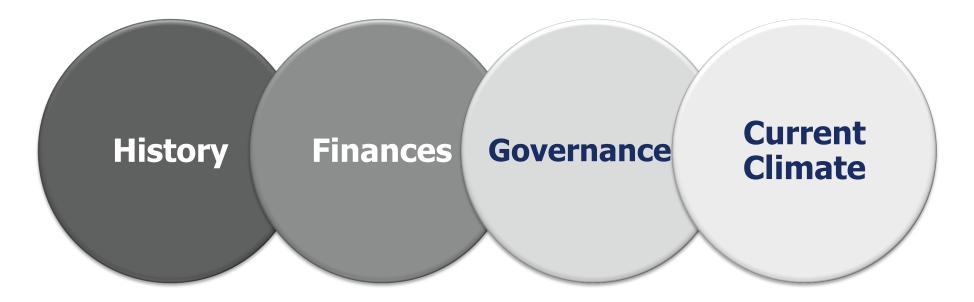
# **The Rationale for Change**

Michael Cross, Project Manager, Knight Commission Division I Survey





# **The Rationale for Change**





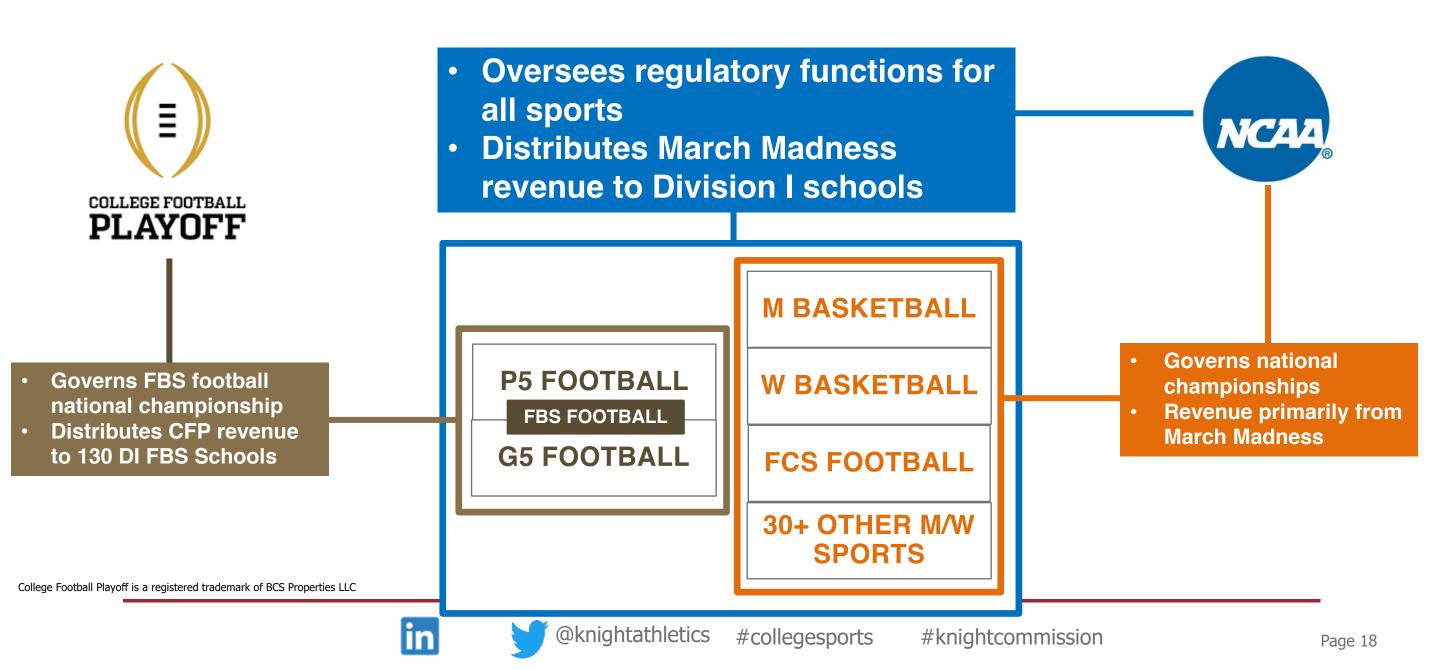
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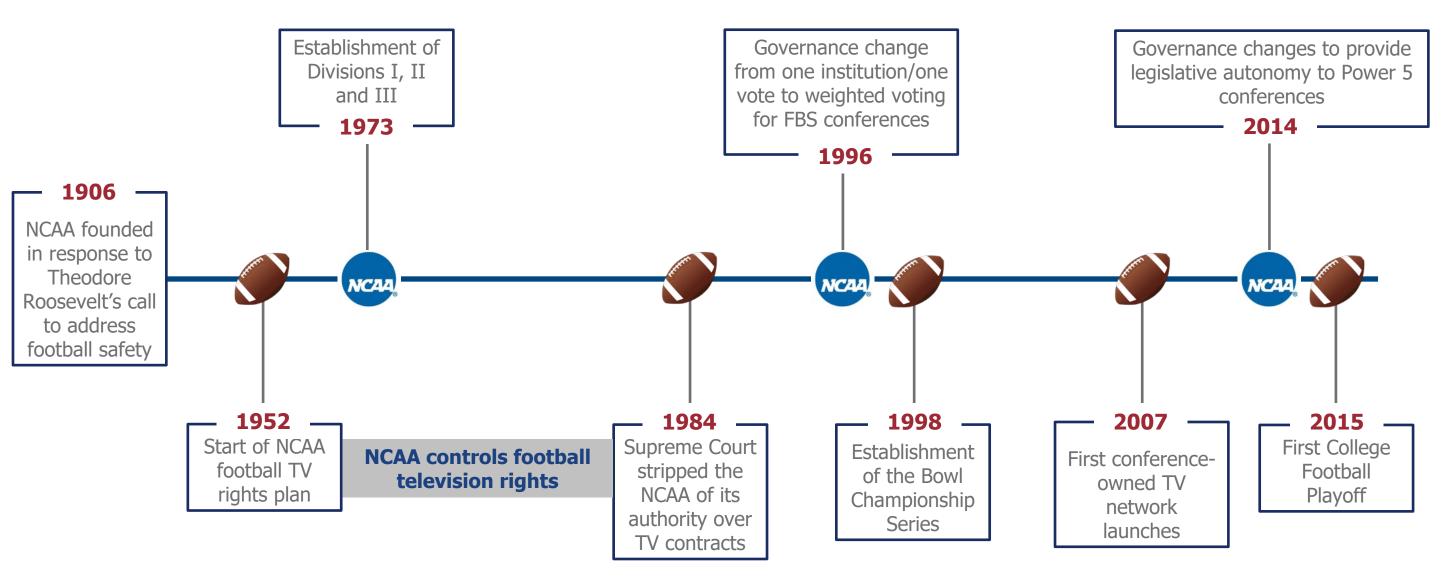
# **Current Structure**

History





# **Evolution of FBS Football and Governance**







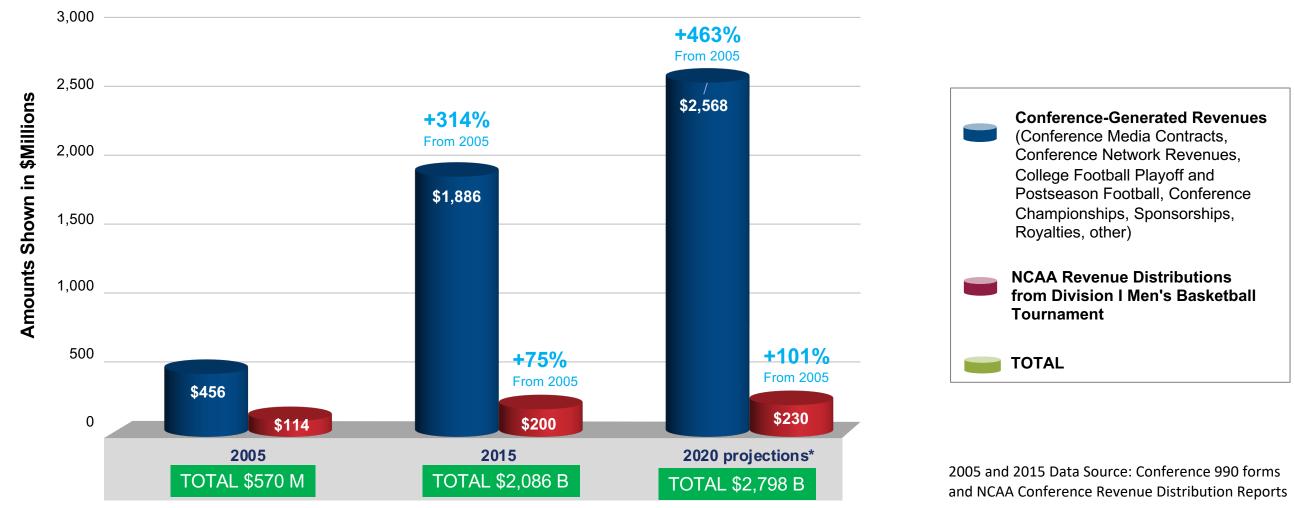
History



## How the Money Has Changed Exponential Growth for "Power 5" Conferences from only Two Major Sources for "Power 5" Con

Revenues from only Two Major Sources for "Power 5" Conferences

## (ACC, Big 10, Big 12, PAC-12, SEC)



Presented to Knight Commission, May 2016

Finances



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Page 20



# **Impact of Revenue Disparities and Soaring Spending**

## Revenue disparities

Finances

- o DI budget range: \$ 4 million to \$220 million in 2019
- o 130 FBS programs budgets disparity: \$16 million to \$220 million

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## Soaring spending

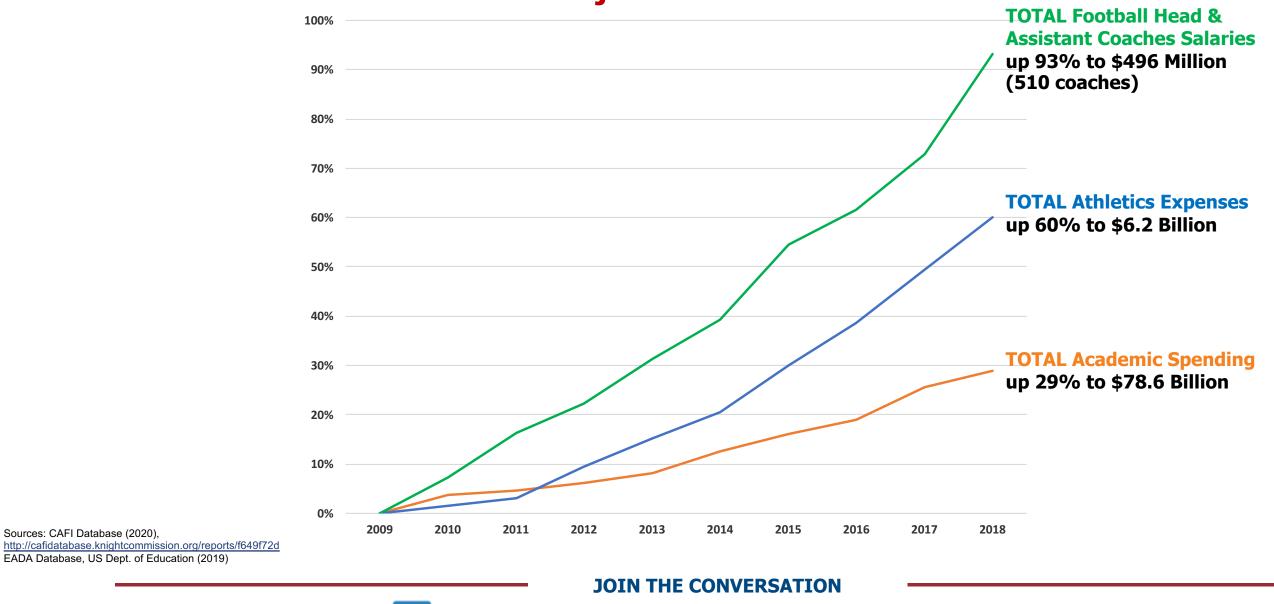
- Athletics expenses have outpaced "generated" revenues, particularly in FBS
- Spending trends for Power 5 demonstrate disproportionate increases in football coaching salaries, administrative staff and facilities expenditures (debt service).

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## **Change in Growth of Athletics and Academic Expenses** 51 POWER 5 Public Institutions, 2009-2018 **Adjusted for Inflation**





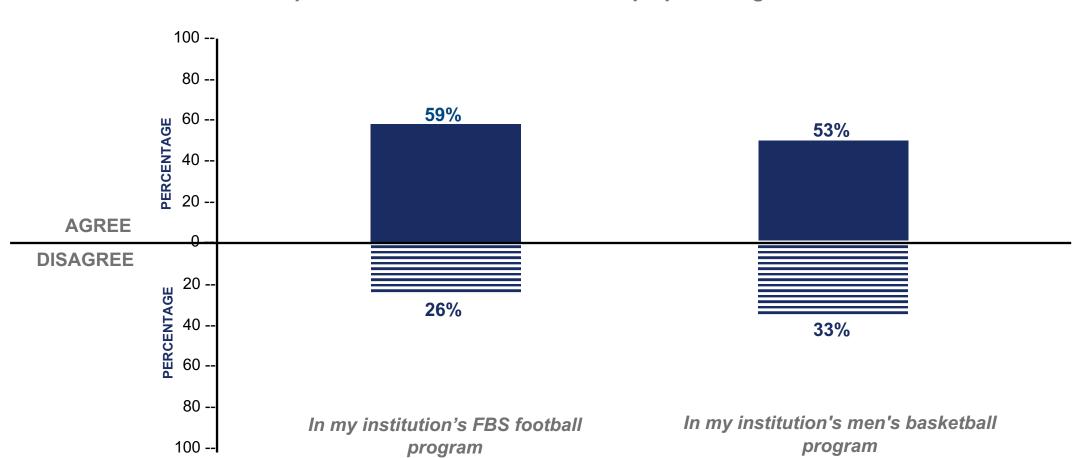
**Finances** 

Sources: CAFI Database (2020),

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# **Survey Finding: Overspending to Keep Up**







in

Finances

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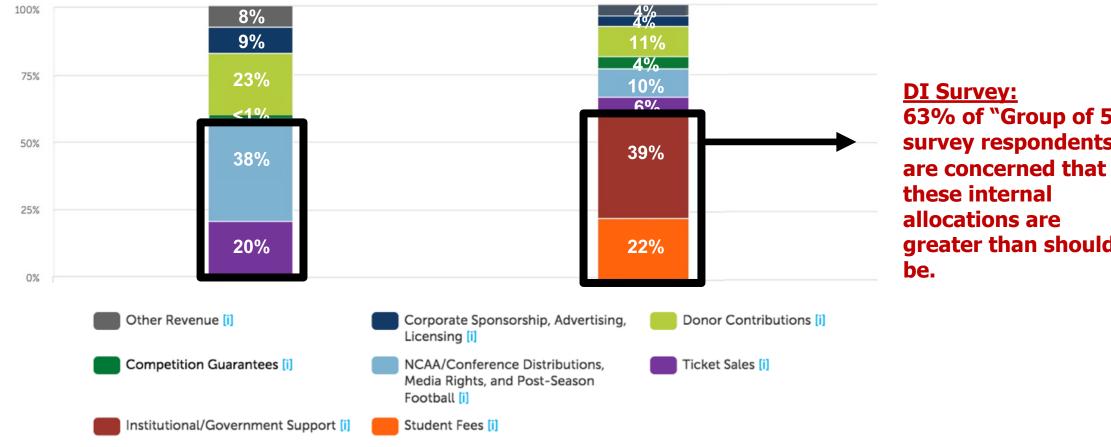
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## **NCAA Division I-FBS ALL Public Institutions:**

**Percentage of Budget from Revenue Sources, 2018** 

**"Group of 5" Conference members "Power 5" Conference members** (ACC, Big 10, Big 12, SEC, PAC-12) (AAC, C-USA, MWC, MAC, Sun Belt)



Amounts reflect current dollars.

#### Source: CAFI Database

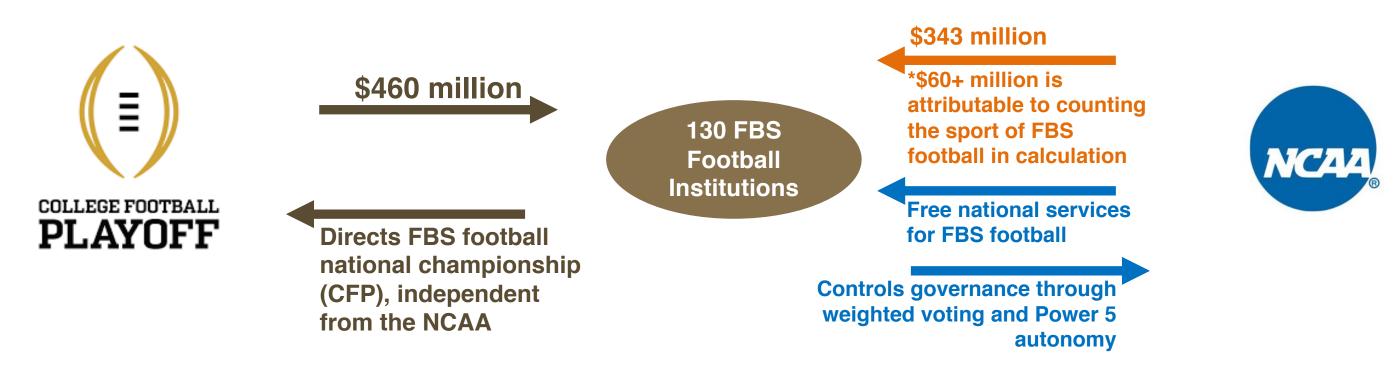
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# FBS Football Institutions' Relationship with the College Football Playoff and the NCAA



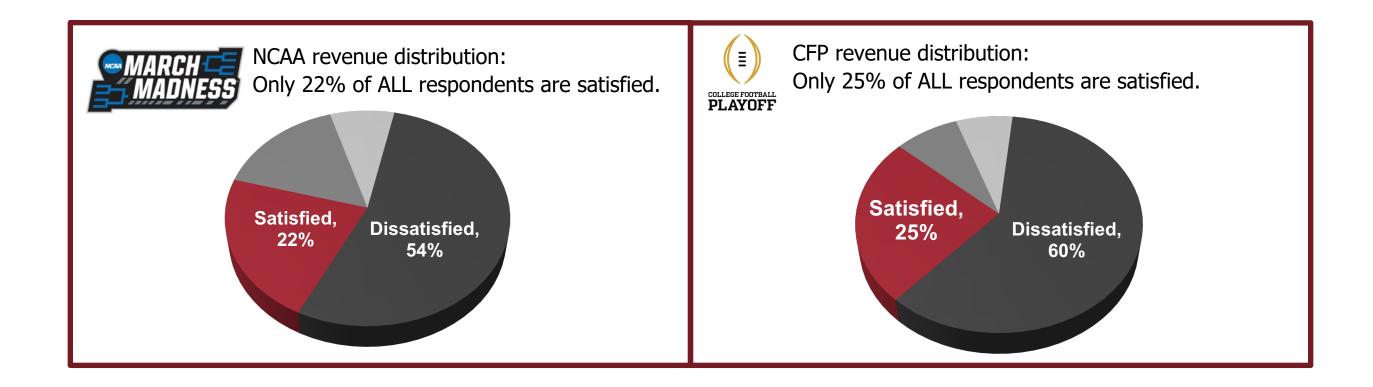


History

Finances Governance



# Survey Finding: Dissatisfaction with NCAA and College Football Playoff (CFP) Revenue Distribution





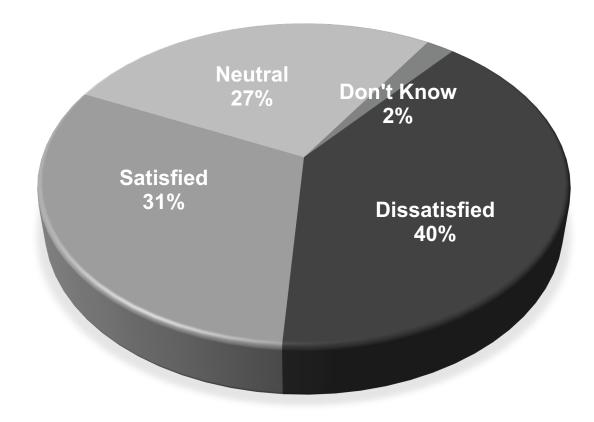
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# Survey Finding: Dissatisfaction with Current NCAA Division I Governance





Governance

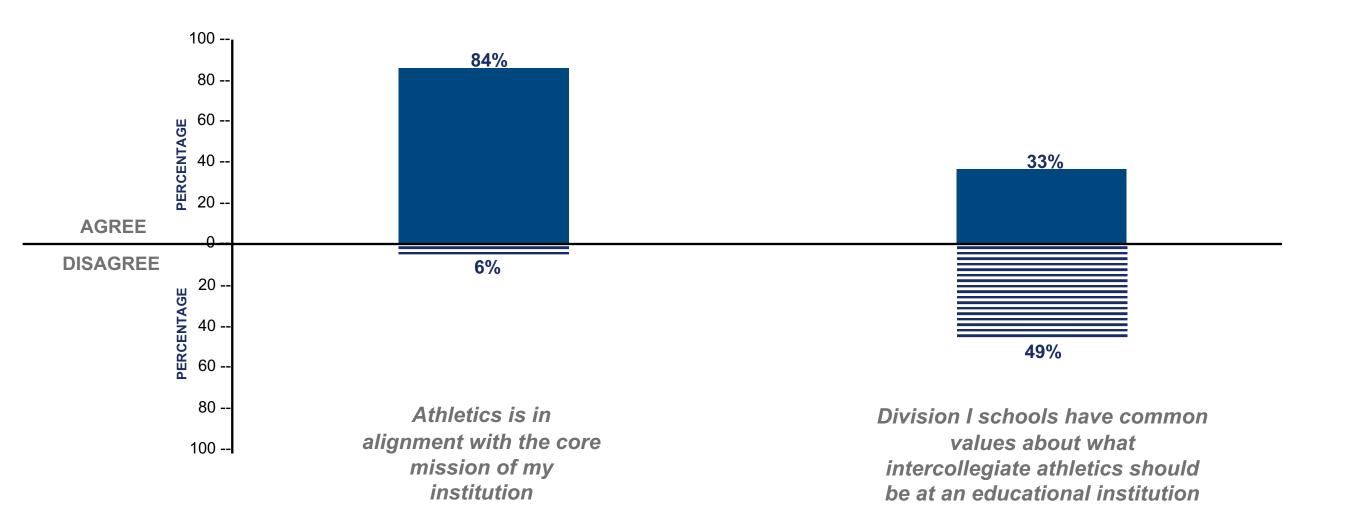
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Current Climate



## **Survey Finding: Absence of Common Values**





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The NCAA's three divisions were created in 1973 to align like-minded campuses in the areas of philosophy, competition and opportunity.

# DIVISION I DIVISION II DIVISION III

Source: ncaa.org



Current Climate

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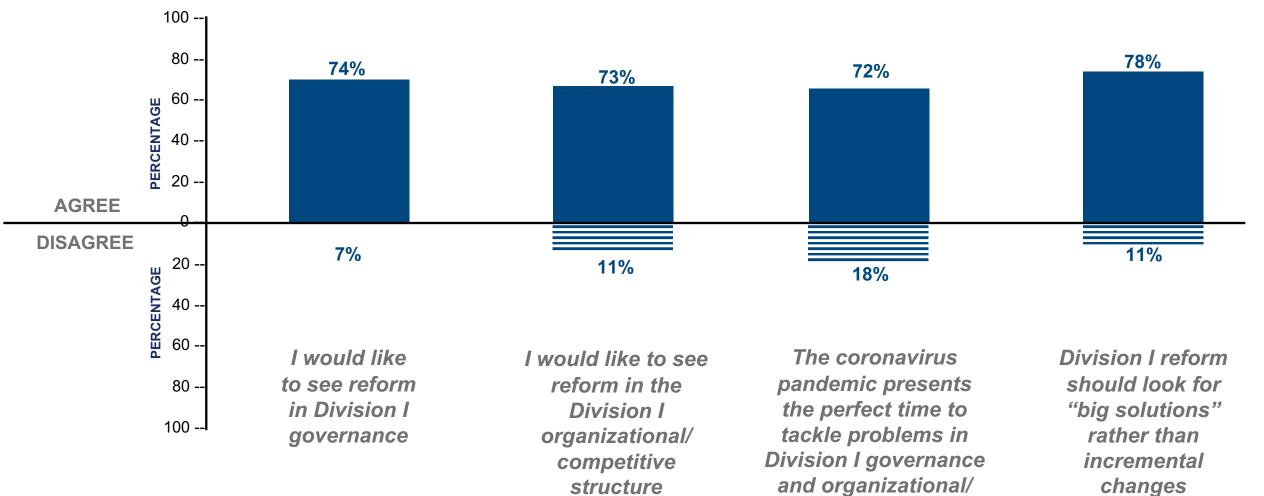
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Page 29

Current Climate



## **Survey Finding: Time for "Big Solutions"**



changes

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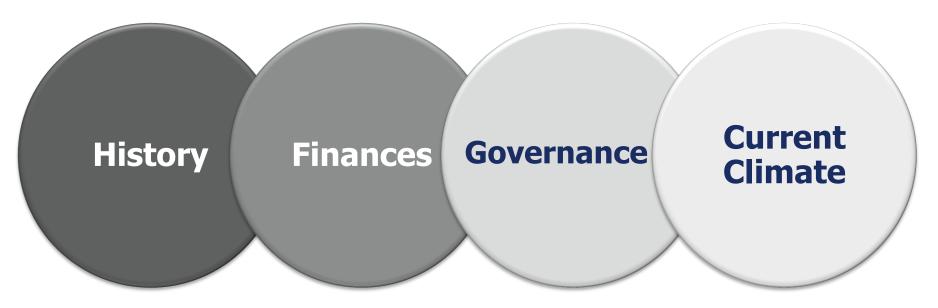


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competitive structure



# **The Rationale for Change**



Avoids history of incremental changes that have contributed to current state

Evaluation and alignment of revenue distributions and financial models

Restore faith in the governance of both the NCAA and FBS Football

Provides "big solutions" that D-I leaders are seeking







# **Key Issues and Implications**

Carol Cartwright President Emeritus, Kent State University and Bowling Green State University





# **Recommended Model**

NATIONAL COLLEGE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

- Governs NCFA (FBS football) competition
- Generates revenue from CFP media contract
- Distributes revenue to NCFA schools
- Oversees regulatory functions, including enforcement, eligibility and athlete safety
- Responsibility/liability for rules

## FOOTBALL PROGRAMS THAT MEET NCFA MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA



- Governs competition and national championships in all sports other than NCFA (FBS football).
- Generates revenue primarily from March Madness media contract
- Distributes revenue to Division I schools (Formula excludes football factors for NCFA members)
- Oversees regulatory functions, including enforcement, eligibility and athlete safety
- Responsibility/liability for rules

DIVISION I (FCS) FOOTBALL*	M BASKETBALL
30+ M/W SPORTS	W BASKETBALL





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## FOOTBALL PROGRAMS THAT MEET NCFA MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

## **Benefits:**

- Governance is unified to more effectively shape the future of the sport
- Conducts both its championship and its administration
- Clear public accountability currently no single entity is responsible for all aspects of FBS football
- Gives FBS football programs a "reset" opportunity as to whether they compete at the new NCFA level or remain with the NCAA for football



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# **Recommended Model**

## **Benefits:**

- Governance restructured to provide more equitable voting power and representation
- Better able to focus on the sport that provides revenues for all its operations
- Eliminates the distorting effect of FBS Football on the NCAA budget and its DI revenue distribution
  - removes the sport of FBS football from NCAA revenue distribution
  - no longer will incur national operating expenses in support of FBS Football
  - no longer will incur legal liabilities relating to FBS Football
- Tens of millions of dollars available for schools through potential new values-based distribution



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DIVISION I (FCS) FOOTBALL*	M BASKETBALL
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#### **Combined Benefits**



- Independent unified governance structure for the sports they each oversee; replaces current fragmented system
- More than 185,000 D-I athletes; 8% play FBS football
- Principled and better-focused administration
- Essential first step for tailored solutions to address unique needs of each structure and the college athletes they serve







#### **Takeaways from an AD Perspective**

#### Peter Roby Former Director of Athletics and Recreation Northeastern University





## **Top Questions from Athletics Directors**

- 1. How will the change impact the structure of athletics on campus?
- 2. How would this affect Title IX?
- 3. What are the benefits from a management standpoint?
- 4. What are the financial implications for athletics directors?







#### **Takeaways from a College Athlete Perspective**

#### Jacques McClendon Director of Player Engagement, Los Angeles Rams Former College Football Player, University of Tennessee





## **Benefits of the Recommended Model**

- Better serve college football players through unified entity
- Should include representation and voting power for college football athletes
- Athletes' voices and representation matter
- Representation should increase for Black college athletes, who make up more than half of all FBS players





## **Recommended Next Steps**

- 1. Knight Commission will convene an FBS presidential summit to consider these recommendations and the creation of an independent special task force to develop the "National College Football Association"
- 2. NCAA should immediately implement the Knight Commission proposed revenuedistribution changes
- 3. CFP should immediately implement Knight Commission proposed changes to its revenue distribution
- 4. NCAA governance changes to provide equal representation centered around basketball, not football



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### **Concluding Thoughts**

Arne Duncan Co-Chair, Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics





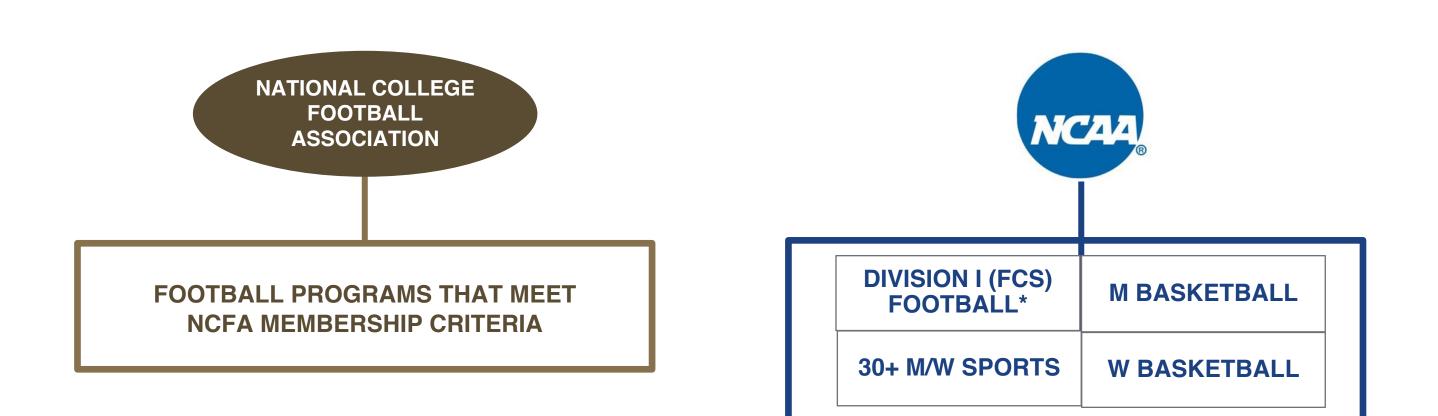
#### The Time is Right for Transformative Change

- Governance reform is urgent, not a wish list.
- Address overspending and reduction in opportunities.
- Upcoming media contracts and a new CFP contract threaten to widen financial inequities.
- Must improve accountability for prioritizing athlete education, health, safety and success.
- If implemented, the Knight Commission governance recommendations would represent a huge leap forward for Division I sports.





#### **Recommended Model**







**A FOUR-PART SERIES** 

## **TRANSFORMING THE NCAA D-I MODEL**

# Recommendations for Change



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#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR Q&A**

- Available for your questions: Carol Cartwright, Nancy Zimpher, Len Elmore, Peter Roby, Jacques McClendon, Arne Duncan, Amy Perko.
- If you have a question, please click on the Q&A icon on your control panel.
- Please identify your affiliation and also identify the presenter to whom the question is directed.







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 SESSION 2
 A NEW ANALYSIS OF THE D-I REVENUE DISTRIBUTION FORMULA INEQUITIES
 SESSION 4

 12/3
 12/3



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#### Thank you for attending.

For more information, visit us at <u>www.knightcommission.org</u>

Media inquiries: Contact Fred Frommer <u>fred.frommer@deweysquare.com</u>

