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There is excitement in the air, and there are freshmen in faculty parking spaces, so the fall term must be beginning. I hope all of you had a restful and enjoyable summer, and are ready to begin a new academic year. My summer was busy but enjoyable, including a trip to Vienna to deliver a paper at a professional meeting, and the birth of my third grandchild, an adorable baby girl named Marie Claire.



In previous issues of FARA Voice, I have mentioned the program that the N4A is sponsoring, in conjunction with the NCAA, titled the Winning Strategies Seminar. This program is designed to provide assistance to campuses as they work to improve their APR in certain sports, or across the board. As a follow-up, let me indicate that, at the November 8-10 FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium to be held in Baltimore, a portion of the Division I Friday afternoon agenda will be devoted to various programs designed to help in the improvement of an institution's APR. This session is titled "Help! In Coping with the Academic Progress Rate." Not only will there be a detailed description of the N4A Winning Strategies Seminar, but there will also be a discussion of two programs sponsored by NACADA, one of which is an online course designed to acquaint individuals with the nuts and bolts of the Academic Performance Program. The other is an in-person Academic Reform Summer Institute, which gives individuals a hands-on experience in working with APRs, as well as direct dialogue with colleagues as important APR issues and procedures are discussed. Last week I was in Indianapolis at the meeting of the NCAA Academic Reform Curriculum Advisory Board, which did careful planning to coordinate all these programs. They are quite exciting and helpful, and I encourage you to make use of them.

As noted, the details about these programs will be discussed Friday afternoon during the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium in Baltimore November 8-10. If you have not already registered for that meeting, please do so soon. What I have described is only one example of the many exciting and helpful programs that will be conducted at the FARA meeting. Elsewhere in this month's issue of FARA

Voice are instructions for registering for the meeting. You do not want to miss out on this exciting opportunity.

This issue's main article, by FARA President Dennis Leighton, gives more detail concerning the meeting in Baltimore, and also mentions the new electronic registration, which will make your registration very simple. Dennis also notes the current work being done by the executive committee on FARA's budget, as well as the initiatives that the funding from the NCAA has enabled FARA to launch. This financial support from the NCAA, as well as the work of Bill Regan, Roberto Vicente, and Karen Cooper on behalf of FARA, is greatly appreciated.

I close my comments in this issue of FARA Voice on a bit of a wistful note. When the executive committee supported my launching FARA Voice almost a year and a half ago, I did not know how much I would enjoy doing this. However, all good experiences eventually must end. Since I will become President of FARA after the November meeting in Baltimore, I need to pass the torch to other hands. Joe Catanese and William Edwards have graciously agreed to take over the editing of FARA Voice, beginning with the September issue, and it is good to know that FARA Voice will rest in very capable hands. Thanks to Joe and William for taking on this task.



With that said, let me sign off with my wish to you for a successful fall semester, as well as many enjoyable experiences as you work with your student athletes.

**Alan Hauser, Editor**  
**FARA President Elect**  
**Appalachian State University**

## LOOKING TO NEXT YEAR, WHICH STARTED LAST YEAR

I intended to begin this article with something along the lines of "As your summer winds down and you look to the start of the new year," I am reminded that the new year is upon us, and for many going strong. In Divisions I and II, practices are underway and at Division III will begin soon.

For faculty athletics representatives, (FARs) and for FARA, the year never begins and never ends. The executive committee has been working since November getting ready for the upcoming academic year. Our biggest and most important task at this time is preparing for the FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium (formerly the Fall Forum). We have exchanged hundreds of e-mails and telephone calls, and during the July conference call we reviewed the entire meeting agenda in detail. Executive committee members are putting the final touches on session titles and speakers, and NCAA staff liaisons Roberto Vicente, Karen Cooper, and Bill Regan have been hard at work bringing it all together.

Just recently, you should have received an e-mail from Karen Cooper directing you to the **NEW** electronic registration process. If you have not received this e-mail, please contact Karen at [kcooper@ncaa.org](mailto:kcooper@ncaa.org). When the agenda is finalized, it will be sent to you via the FARA listserv.

The theme for this year's meeting is "Engaging the Faculty." The theme is based on the premise that, as FARs, we all could use some help on how to get the general faculty on our campus better informed and more interested in the value of intercollegiate athletics. This theme was an important part of the NCAA Presidential Task Force Report on Intercollegiate Athletics, where in the report FARs are called upon to work with their campus colleagues to fully integrate academics and athletics at all NCAA institutions. FARA has always felt that this integration is vital to the student-athlete experience, and welcomes the challenge of spearheading this process.

The Annual Meeting and Symposium will feature a number of speakers, professional development workshops and

breakout sessions to help FARs be more effective in their duties. I hope you will join us in Baltimore.

Another important project before the FARA executive committee is development of our budget request to the NCAA. This current budget cycle (September '06 to August '08) was the first time that FARA submitted a detailed budget request with new initiatives tied to the NCAA strategic plan. FARA received a substantial increase in the budget and over the past two years has been able to introduce several new initiatives as a result of the improved funding. The 2008-2010 budget process will soon begin. I have appointed executive committee members Kim Capriotti (Jacksonville University), Joe Catanese (St. Anselm College) and Dan Fulks (Transylvania University) to an ad hoc budget committee. They will lead the executive committee through the budget request phase so we will be prepared to submit our request by November.

Finally, FARA continues to work hard to be recognized as the representative voice of all FARs on academic matters related to intercollegiate athletics. We have continued to work with groups such as the Knight Commission, the D1-A FARs and COIA to promote a quality student-athlete experience. The NCAA national office staff continues to consult FARA in this regard. Again this year, several staff members will join us in Baltimore for the Annual Meeting and Symposium. NCAA President Dr. Myles Brand will deliver the opening keynote address.

It looks to be an exciting year, one that began some time ago. I wish you all a good year as you promote student-athlete well-being on your campus. We'll see you in Baltimore.

**Dennis Leighton**  
**FARA President**  
**University of New England**

## 2007 FARA ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM

Please register for the 2007 FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium soon!

Registration for the 2007 FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium went live last month and registrations are coming in at record speed. In order to secure a hotel room for the meeting, please go to <https://www.planningpoint.net/Events/2007FARA> as soon as possible to register for the conference and hotel. You may pay by credit card online or you may follow-up your registration with payment by check. Instructions are on the Web site.

A tentative agenda will be available for viewing on the registration site next week. Please bookmark the site so you can refer to it from time to time to get the latest information on the meeting.

We hope to see all of you at this very important meeting. Should you have any questions, please contact Karen Cooper at [kcooper@ncaa.org](mailto:kcooper@ncaa.org)



### Mark Your Calendars!

October 4, 2007

Annual Meeting and Symposium Registration DEADLINE

November 8-10, 2007

FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium Baltimore

Register now at <https://www.planningpoint.net/Events/2007FARA>

January 11-14, 2008

NCAA Convention

Nashville

May 18-23, 2008

NCAA Regional Rules Compliance Seminar

Boston

June 1-6, 2008

NCAA Regional Rules Compliance Seminar

San Antonio

November 13-15, 2008

FARA Annual Meeting and Symposium

San Diego

January 14-17, 2009

NCAA Convention

Washington, DC

*Tell us How We Are Doing!*

We would love to hear from you regarding the FARA Voice.

If you have any comments, questions, or ideas for future articles, please direct them to

Karen Cooper at [FARA@ncaa.org](mailto:FARA@ncaa.org) or Alan Hauser at [hauseraj@appstate.edu](mailto:hauseraj@appstate.edu)

