

EDITOR'S STATEMENT

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In the cycle of life, change must and will occur. It is from this perspective of time that I humbly acknowledge some of our dedicated colleagues. Dr. Eric Denson, most recently a former staff member of the University of Washington, has outstandingly served the N4A and this journal as the previous editor. Thank you so very much for countless hours of focused service. Dr. Ursula Walsh, most recently of the NCAA, your many contributions to the success of this journal will also be greatly missed. The NCAA national office and the membership of the NCAA and N4A will feel your absence. Best wishes to you both in all your new endeavors. Last, a word of thanks and appreciation to Dr. Ron Brown and Jill DeMichele for their leadership and support. This editor takes full responsibility for the delay of this issue.

Formal research papers and papers of an applied nature that describe innovative academic and advisement support programs and successful plus creative methods of service delivery are welcome. Social and cultural factors affecting the student-athlete experiences are encouraged among the membership, specifically those that work with student-athletes. An adjustment of attitude to embrace new ideas and vision must occur if the benefactors of our service are to earn life's rewards. Eric Denson challenged "the discussions that such factors are not better left to sociology journals, because current models of student-athlete support services view student-athletes as holistic beings with concerns spanning many domains." It is vital we investigate pertinent social and cultural influences and issues among our membership, and those issues affecting our youthful student athletes within the contents of our *AAJ*.

The articles presented by Yap & Nelson addressing the contributions of an outstanding advisement system will enlighten many, while creating vision for growth in others. Eiche and colleagues focus our attention to leadership, an ever popular and growing research item, while Carodine and colleagues describe an investigation of predicting academic success among student athletes at the Division I level.

There has been great discussion of the new role of technology, particularly electronic learning resources, in student-athlete support services. In-depth discussion has occurred addressing the concept of placing our valuable data on the internet web to inform and attract many more than just our fellow peers and association colleagues. Suggestions to include remarks from guest speakers at recent regional N4A conferences shall be met in upcoming issues of *The AAJ*. As always, the *AAJ* is still extremely interested in outcome studies. The literature on student-athlete services is sorely lacking in the psychology, counseling and sport administration fields. Although the N4A has aggressively encouraged and progressed with our vital task of enhancing this body of literature, more members must contribute in this important area of athletic advisement, the research.