I. Structure

Position
The National Collegiate Athletic Association’s Constitution stipulates that the Faculty Athletics Representative, a discretionary appointee of the President drawn from the regular faculty, shall represent the university in its relationship to the NCAA and respective conference. The California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) furthermore stipulates that “the FAR must be a full-time faculty member with a teaching appointment and have no institutional relationship to the athletic department.”

CCAA FARs: Institution (Department) – Cal Poly Pomona (Psychology), Chico (Management), Dominguez Hills (Kinesiology), East Bay (Geography & Environmental Studies), Humboldt (Oceanography), Los Angeles (Mathematics), Monterey Bay (International Education), San Bernardino (Educational Psychology), San Francisco (Social Work), Sonoma (Management), Stanislaus (Theatre), U.C. San Diego (Chemistry)

Organizational Relationship
The FAR is critical to the checks-and-balances system ensuring the academic integrity of the athletics program and the welfare of our student-athletes. Authority for oversight responsibility comes from the President and NCAA Bylaws. Thus, the FAR reports directly to the President; and maintains a working relationship with the Vice President of Administration and Finance, Director of Athletics, Senior Woman Administrator, and other campus units of importance to Intercollegiate Athletics (e.g. PEMSA).

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

Administration
- Advise the President on Athletics matters; provide a voice that reflects the values of the faculty and the academic ethic
- Serve as CSUEB’s voting delegate at the NCAA Convention and on CCAA’s Executive Council; attend FARA
- Verify eligibility of student-athletes: initial eligibility; transfers from 2-yr and 4-yr colleges; and continuing students
- Provide annual performance evaluations of head coaches
- Participate in searches for Athletics administrators and head coaches

Compliance
- Ensure compliance with all NCAA, CCAA and CSUEB rules and regulations
- Oversee compliance-related documents generated by the athletics department
- Review coaches’ recruiting logs for completeness and accuracy (mandated by Chancellor’s Office)
- Report any violations to the NCAA and CCAA
- Prepare institutional requests for waivers/appeals of NCAA/CCAA rules or regulations

Student-Athlete Welfare
- Review travel and competition schedules with an eye to missed class time for student-athletes
- Assume an advisory and reporting role with respect to the academic preparation and performance of student-athletes
- Attend new-student-athlete orientation activities and meet, when needed, with the Student-Athlete Advisory Com
- Participate in, and review the results of, student-athlete exit interviews (seniors only)
- Nominate qualified CSU East Bay student-athletes for NCAA postgraduate scholarships

II. Perennial Obligations

University Athletics Council
The FAR serves as chair of the UAC, an advisory committee that meets quarterly during the AY. The UAC provides recommendations to the President on proposed NCAA Division II Legislation and other matters related to Athletics. UAC members: Director of Athletics, Senior Associate Director & Compliance Officer, V.P. Administration & Finance, Academic Senate Chair, ASI President, SAAC President, one elected representative of the Head Coaches.
Coaches Certification Examination
The FAR administers the NCAA-mandated examination for all head and assistant coaches who will have off-campus contact with potential student-athletes. Exam is given in spring, summer, and fall. A “passing” score is 80% or higher. Last year our success rate was 100%; 12 coaches recorded a perfect score (40/40).

NCAA Research Studies
The FAR administers surveys of student-athletes (selected at random by NCAA) that provide data for a series of longitudinal studies conducted by the NCAA’s research division. The survey instruments and protocols are vetted by the NCAA’s external Research Review Board and Cal State East Bay’s Institutional Review Board.

III. AY 2011-12
The Decision
On July 8, 2011, via conference call with the NCAA Membership Committee, CSU East Bay learned that our 3-year provisional period was over. We had been granted full membership in Division II, effective AY 2011-12.

Metrics
Academic Performance (bold indicates team’s competition season was during the quarter)
Fall Qt Team GPA: Top 3: W-Basketball 3.34, W-Soccer 3.28, W-Swimming 3.27
Bottom 3: W-Cross Country 2.58, Baseball 2.86, W-Water Polo 2.88
Summary: 58 student-athletes (23%) above 3.50; another 84 (33%) above 3.0

Winter Qt Team GPA: Top 3: W-Basketball 3.60, M-Soccer 3.29, W-Soccer 3.23
Bottom 3: W-Cross Country 2.73, W-Water Polo 2.74, M-Track 2.77
Summary: All 15 of our sponsored sports teams earned an average GPA of B- or better, with 6 above 3.0.
15 student-athletes achieved 4.0 GPA; 118 (54%) earned GPAs above 3.0

2010-11 CCAA All-Academic Award Winners (3.4+ GPA, 36+ units): 25 (+11 others in non-CCAA-sponsored sports)
2011-12: Through Winter Qt, on pace to equal or surpass last year’s totals
Equal Opportunity in Athletics for Women (former CSU/CA NOW Consent Decree) [Statistics for 2010-11]
CSUEB: Undergraduate population: 60% Women / 40% Men
CSUEB: Athletics participants: 58.8% Women / 41.2% Men
CSUEB: Grants-In-Aid: Women: 59.4% of dollars / Men: 40.6% of dollars
Violations (2, both “minor”)
W-CC: Offer of Financial Aid made prior to Letter of Intent signing date
W-WP: High School junior participated in a pool try-out. Coaches were led to believe she was a HS senior based on comments by the student’s club coach. Only later did they learn she was not a senior.

Community Engagement
Throughout the academic year student-athletes have participated in community engagement programs to the benefit of our service area. These include but are not limited to: “Read with the Pioneers” program at local elementary schools; Hayward Family Skate Night; Centerville (Fremont) Junior High’s Family Fun Fitness Night; and other events which raised funds for the “Make-A-Wish Foundation.”

List of Top-5 Achievements (as determined by the FAR)
#5. Women’s Basketball becomes the first East Bay team to advance to CCAA postseason and nearly upsets eventual champion Monterey Bay in playoff game.
#4. Women’s Water Polo posts best-ever season, finishing 3rd at the WWPA Championships; three Pioneers named to All-Tournament Team.
#3. Men’s Golf becomes first East Bay team to reach NCAA postseason, earning the first NCAA Central/West Regional berth in program history and finishing 10th overall.
#2. Women’s Swimming named a Scholar All-America Team (based on Team GPA)
#1. Of the nearly 3,000 CCAA student-athletes, only 24 will receive the Dr. Hal Charnofsky Memorial Award, which recognizes those “who have distinguished themselves in the classroom and in their sport.” Two from CSUEB will be so honored.

Respectfully submitted, May 15, 2012
Dave Larson
Professor and Chair
Geography & Environmental Studies
Faculty Athletics Representative