



Wednesday, November 12, 2003

Meeting on NCAA athletics certification to be held

Oakland University's NCAA Certification Self-Study Committee will hold a town hall meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Oakland Center Fireside Lounge. Representatives from the committee will be on hand to give an overview of findings and to answer any questions. The meeting is open to the public.

In October 2002, the university began a year-long, campus-wide effort to study its athletics program as part of the certification process. NCAA Division I programs must be certified once every 10 years, with a five year interim-status report. This will be Oakland's first athletics certification process. Specific areas covered include academic and fiscal integrity, governance, rules compliance, commitment to equity, student athlete welfare, and sportsmanship. While academic accreditation is common in colleges and universities, this process focuses solely on certification of athletics programs.

The study's purpose is to help ensure integrity in the institution's athletics operations, opening up the program to the rest of the university community and to the public. Oakland will benefit by increasing campus-wide awareness and knowledge of its athletics program, confirming its strengths, and developing plans to improve areas of concern.

The NCAA is a membership organization of colleges and universities that participate in intercollegiate athletics. The primary purpose of the association is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body. Activities of the NCAA membership include formulating rules of play for NCAA sports, conducting national championships, adopting and enforcing standards of eligibility, and studying all phases of intercollegiate athletics.

For more information, visit [OU's NCAA Athletics Certification](#) Web site, which can be accessed from the [OU Athletics](#) Web site. The site contains lists of committee members, meeting minutes, a timeline, written plan, and links to the NCAA certification handbook and related materials.

SUMMARY

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