The Certification Decision

In February, 2009, the NCAA certification committee will render its decision based on UNF’s self-study report and input from the peer-review team. Upon reviewing the institution’s self-study report, the issues identified by the committee, the peer-review team’s report, and the institution’s response to the peer-review team report, the committee will notify the institution of its certification decision.

The committee is obligated to choose from one of three options in determining each institution’s certification status:

1. **Certified.**
   An institution that has been “certified” is considered to be operating its athletics program in substantial conformity with the operating principles. This classification denotes that: (a) any problems identified by the institution in its self-study or by the peer-review team during its evaluation were considered by the committee to be not serious enough to affect the institution’s certification status; and (b) the institution demonstrated adequate follow-up to concerns and/or improvement plans directly related to the operating principles that were identified by the institution or the committee during the institution's previous regular or interim self-study.

2. **Certified with Conditions.**
   An institution that has been “certified with conditions” is considered to be operating its athletics program in substantial conformity with the operating principles. However, this classification denotes that: (a) problems identified by the institution in its self-study or the peer-review team during its evaluation were considered serious enough by the committee to cause it to withhold full certification until those problems have been corrected; or (b) the institution did not demonstrate adequate follow-up to concerns and/or improvement plans directly related to the operating principles that were identified by the institution or the committee during the institution's previous regular or interim report.

3. **Not Certified.**
   An institution that is “not certified” is considered not to be operating its athletics program in substantial conformity with the operating principles. This classification denotes that: (a) problems identified by the institution in its self-study or the peer-review team during its evaluation were considered by the committee to be very serious or pervasive; or (b) the institution did not demonstrate adequate follow-up to concerns and/or improvement plans directly related to the operating principles that were identified by the institution or the committee during the institution's previous regular or interim self-study and action must be taken by the institution before it can be certified conditionally.

An institution classified as “not certified” may be placed in a restricted membership category (ineligible for NCAA championships) for up to one year for failure to correct problems during a specified time period. If problems continue to remain unresolved, the committee may reclassify an institution as a corresponding member (no longer an active member of the NCAA).