

## President's Message



First, thanks to all of you for your continued support of The Drake Group and your commitment to advocating for academic integrity and protecting the health and well-being of college athletes. Second, we want to share our 2019 Annual Report - a summary of all we have accomplished this year. **Most important - we need your help. Would you please click on the link in the sidebar on the right to ask your U.S. Congressperson to sign on as a co-sponsor of H.R. 5528, a bipartisan bill to establish a Congressional Advisory Commission to address the need for intercollegiate athletics reform.** The NCAA is incapable of reforming from within. Thus, we need a two-year Congressional Commission to carefully study all issues, hold public hearings, educate Congress and the general public and, hopefully, to recommend solutions in the form of an Intercollegiate Athletics Reform Act. The education process is critical. Last, if you think we are doing good work, please renew your Drake membership (January to December is our membership year) by [clicking here](#). Wishing you a healthy and rewarding New Year!

*-- B. David Ridpath, President*

## Congressional Advisory Commission Bill and Other Drake Work With Congress

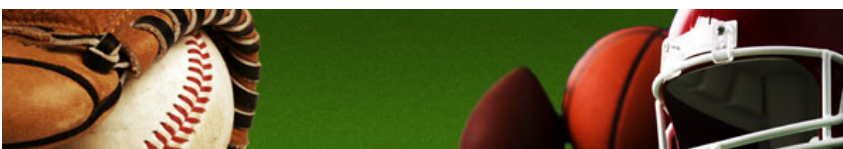


**H.R. 5528**, a bipartisan bill currently before Congress, would mandate the appointment of a Congressional Advisory Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics to study fifteen current issues that threaten the academic integrity, athlete health and welfare and financial stability of college athletics programs. The Commission's charge

would be "to investigate the relationship between institutions of higher education and intercollegiate athletic programs" and not later than two years after the date on which the Committee meets for the first time, the Commission shall submit a report to Congress summarizing its findings and recommendations for the resolution of such issues.

During the past four months, Drake members met with over 50 members of the House of Representatives to brief them on the contents of the bill and request their support. In addition, Drake provided experts to work with the office of Senator Chris Murphy (CT) in the production of three reports to educate Congress about critical athletics issues. Learn all about these and other [Drake efforts working with Congress](#) this year.

## New Drake Position Papers on Critical Issues



The Drake Education Working Group has completed another productive year of in-depth work on critical issues in intercollegiate athletes. The focus this year was on college athlete compensation and health. In response to public calls for colleges to pay salaries to athletes in revenue sports, Drake critiqued the various proposals offered and championed an educational sport rather than professional athlete compensation model in a [Critical Analysis of Proposed Models of College Athlete Compensation](#). Then, in response to actions by multiple state legislatures to guarantee college athletes' rights to market

## We Need You!



**We ask each Drake member and friend to request that his or her respective member of the House of Representatives sign on as a co-sponsor of H.R. 5528, a bipartisan Congressional Bill to establish a Congressional Advisory Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics**  
[Click here to help...](#)

## NEWS

### Fritz Polite at COIA Annual Meeting

The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) is an organization representing the elected faculty governance bodies of Football Bowl Subdivision universities in activities related to the administration and governance of intercollegiate athletics. Drake President, Fritz Polite, attended COIA's February 2019 conference.

### "The NCAA Model is Broken and It's Time for Congress to Step In"

Drake Board members Andrew Zimbalist and Donna Lopiano took aim at the NCAA model in a recent issue of *Forbes*.

*"But at the heart of the matter is the fact that the system is ethically broken. Athletes in highly commercialized football and basketball in particular are not provided with the educations they were promised."*

[Read more...](#)

### Our Favorite 2019 Op-Ed

We thank Drake Board member Sandy Thatcher

their own names, images, and likenesses (NILs) outside their universities and NCAA complaints about how such rights would be the death of college sports, Drake issued a paper to demonstrate how institutions and athletes could balance their respective rights: [Compensation of College Athletes Including Revenues Earned from Commercial Use of their Names, Images and Likenesses and Outside Employment](#). Last, Drake issued a major paper on [College Athlete Health and Protection from Physical and Psychological Harm](#).

## Continuing to Object to Actions Not in the Best Interests of College Athletes...



A Drake tradition is to stay on top of breaking news and issue comment whenever the NCAA or its member institutions operate against the best interests of athletes or the academic integrity of higher education. Failing to do otherwise is acceptance of wrong doing. Unfortunately, there were too many occurrences in 2019 which mandated that we speak out. Drake press

releases called for the [NCAA to Address Athlete Violence](#), demanded that [College Medical Decisions be Free of Athletic Department Interference and Control](#), asked for an [Independent Investigation of UNC Concussion Research Allegations](#), insisted that the [NCAA and Member Institutions Prohibit Physical Punishment of College Athletes](#), issued a [Caution About Trusting the NCAA to Develop Pro-Athlete NIL Rules](#), called upon the [NCAA to Work With Congress to Install a System Allowing College Athletes to Earn Outside Compensation from Currently Prohibited Employment/NILs](#), criticized [College Presidents for Choosing to Enable Academic Fraud in Athletics](#), and objected to the [NCAA Changing its College Athlete Transfer Waiver Provisions](#).

## Kudos When Applause was Due...



And its important for Drake to lead the cheering section when good things happen to college athletes or when institutions do the right thing. Drake issued kudos when [Federal and State Legislators Filed Bills to Prevent the NCAA from Denying College Athletes' Rights to Commercially Exploit their own NILs](#), the [NCAA announced its \\$208 Million NCAA Grant in Aid Settlement, Indiana University and the University of Texas at Antonio Adopted Strong Athlete Anti-Violence](#)

[Policies](#), and [U.S. Senator Chris Murphy Issued a Series of Reports on College Athlete Issues](#).

for penning our favorite commentary this year.

Read "[In Loco Parentis...or Just Loco?](#)"

## More Drakes!



## Encourage Colleagues to Join!

Share this newsletter with faculty colleagues or sports management students.

### Membership

is only \$50 for professional, \$35 for faculty and \$10 for students. Be a part of making change happen!

## Thanking our Institutional Sponsor



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