



Senate Committee on Athletics -- March 19, 2025



GATE



ITA  
2025 MEN'S NATIONAL  
**TEAM INDOORS**  
DIVISION I  
DALLAS WACO

WAKE FOREST MEN'S TENNIS

# national champs



Multiple lawsuits against ACC in both FL & NC

**Lawsuit Settlement**, announced 3/4

- a) *Unequal Revenue Sharing*, based on brand value and TV viewers
- b) *Conference Exit Fees*:  
Shorter time frame, lower financial penalties if an ACC school can choose to reduce the conference:
  - 2025-26: **\$165 million**.
  - Fee decreases by \$18 million/year, floor of \$75 million in 2030-31
- c) *Retain Media Rights*, schools who exit no longer forfeit media rights

## Impacts to Wake Forest

- **Financial.** Unequal Revenue Sharing based on Viewership will not help WFU.
- **Grant of Rights** no longer valid. Was overwhelmingly expensive for a school to depart ACC; legality of this clause was challenged.
- **Avoids Lengthy Legal Battles**, with competing jurisdictions.
- **Increased Stability.** Clemson, FSU were litigants, but other schools (e.g., UNC) exploring departures. Now likely that all stay until 2030.

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## Impacts to Wake Forest – Long-term Future Uncertain

- Collectively, this settlement means the ACC is *more likely* to stay intact until 2030  
*more uncertain* beyond 2030
- TV contracts up for renewal: Big Ten, SEC, Big 12 in 2030-31  
Further realignment could occur
- Some of the bigger football brands (e.g., FSU, Clemson, UNC, Miami) may decide to exit the ACC



# Upcoming House vs. NCAA settlement

**Formal approval** scheduled for April 7; if approved, effective July 1, for all schools opting-in, including Wake Forest

- **\$2.78 Billion Settlement:** The NCAA has agreed to distribute \$2.78 billion over the next decade as back-pay damages to Division I athletes who competed from 2016 onward.
- **Revenue-Sharing Model:** The settlement introduces a framework allowing schools to share up to 22% of their annual athletic revenue directly with student-athletes, capped at approximately \$20.5 million per institution for the 2025-2026 academic year.



# Upcoming House vs. NCAA settlement

- **Title IX Compliance**. Initially, the Dept of Education under the Biden administration issued guidance: direct payments must be equitably distributed between male and female athletes to comply with Title IX.

However, in February, the Trump administration rescinded this guidance, asserting that Title IX does not apply to NIL payments, thereby removing the requirement for proportional distribution based on gender.

- **IMPACT to WAKE?**: We are not cutting sports, and will be opting into the settlement for at least the next fiscal year, meaning we will be paying athletes up to \$20.5 million starting July 1. This decision has been approved by the BoT. Importantly, Athletics is a core pillar of Wake Forest's strategic vision and future, something strongly reinforced in our Strategic Framing document and by the BoT's financial commitment. It is not going away anytime soon, even if it may look different in the years ahead.





## Course Registration Window for WFU Student-Athletes

- Joint FAC-SCA meetings on 2/25, we requested an expanded 12-hour window (up from the current 30 minutes) for student-athlete registration.
- Would not disadvantage any other students; great benefit to student-athletes (several teams traveling)
- Dean Krasas and Jason Parsley discussed 3/19
- This matter is currently with Provost & Registrar. Change **needs to occur ASAP** to affect upcoming Registration.



## Communication with faculty about upcoming Athletics changes

- How might we better communicate the upcoming changes in the Athletics model (and its resource implications) to faculty? Various platforms considered.
- Ongoing conversation, requires innovative thinking on how best to disseminate information, address concerns, and create transparency and trust, while still ensuring our competitive advantage..



#9 W-GOLF won Barnwell Derby last weekend



# Fringe Benefits Advisory Committee

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*February 19, 2025*

# FY25 Financial Update, Renewals, & RFP Update

## **FY25 Financial Update (through January 2025)**

- Medical is running favorably compared to budget
- Dental is running favorably compared to budget

## **Third-Party Administrators Contract Renewals for CY2026**

- Medical, pharmacy, and vision plans

## **Vision Plan Renewal**

- Utilization Observation: 56% of frames purchased in 2024 exceeded the annual maximum
- Reviewed renewal options that included increasing the frames frequency, increasing the frame allowance, and increasing the contact lens allowance.
- Renewal rates are guaranteed for 4 years

## **Request for Proposals (in progress)**

- Medical and pharmacy plans, & disease management

# CY26 Benefit Plan Considerations

## **Medical and Pharmacy Plan Evaluation (reviewed annually)**

- Cost-sharing (i.e. premiums, copay, deductible, out-of-pocket maximums)
- Network utilization

## **Medical & Pharmacy Plan Considerations**

- Evaluate adding Dermatology with Teladoc
- Evaluate Infertility lifetime maximum
- Evaluate adding a disease management program

## **Additional Consideration Options** (These require considerable time & resources; potentially evaluate one for 2026)

- Salary-banded premiums
- HDHP with HSA\*
- Onsite Health Clinic

## **What's Next** (mobile mammography March 12 - 13)

- Continue to monitor medical claims
- Evaluate RFP results
- Hinge Health, our new musculoskeletal program has great enrollment. Achieved 58% of engagement goal in only two months.
- FBAC Meetings: March 18, April 18, May 27, & August - TBD

## **Committee on Capital Planning of the Faculty Senate**

### **Update on the Bicentennial Comprehensive Campus Space Plan:**

Ayers Saint Gross (ASG) is compiling feedback from the various sessions held on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The next BCCSP workshop will be on April 10-11 and will focus on thematic listening sessions. There are likely to be additional listening sessions held virtually too. The original committees are working on determining the listening session themes and suggested participants. The listening sessions are a low-stakes commitment (likely one session with possible follow-ups). The potential themes are: academic & career support services, Business, the College, Divinity, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Law, SPS, ZSR, Creative Work, Interdisciplinary Research, Global, Residential College Experience, and Community Engagement & Academics. If you are asked to participate in a listening session, we strongly encourage you to do so!

### **Other Campus Space Updates:**

- The proposed new location for the Student Center is Manchester-Pruitt.
- Alumni Hall is in the design phase and the hope is for construction to be completed in 2026. Departments remaining in Manchester, Kirby, and Tribble will be contacted this semester with more information about possible moves.
- The Grounds project has underway and you can stay updated at [visitingthegrounds.com](http://visitingthegrounds.com).

**Members:** Lauren Reid, Saylor Breckenridge, J.K. Curry, John Pickel, Rais Rahman, and Steve Virgil