

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE Minutes
Thursday, February 13, 2025 (3:30 – 5:00 p.m.)
Zoom Meeting - <https://tinyurl.com/UAC-Feb-2025>

Members Present: Emma Atkinson, Dan Thorp, Rachel Holloway, Amy Ingram, Robin Queen, Lisa Karlisch, Jen Irish, John Galbraith, Paul Knox, Phil Miskovic, Mark Feldman, Brent Kremer.
Absent: Alex Efird, Dirk Buengel, Frank Thompson, Joe Tront, Christopher Wise, Eric Martin, Whit Babcock, Liesel Ritchie, Simon Allen, Travis Burns, Leanna House, Brad Whitney, Brad Wurthman.
Guests: Sarah Anderson, Danny White, Reyna Gilbert-Lowry

1. **Approval of Agenda.** Group
2. **Electronic Approval of January 23, 2025 Meeting Minutes.** Posted on the Governance web page (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>). Galbraith
3. **Athletic Director Update:** Danny White shared a document (attached) listing some of the current objections to the proposed settlement of *House v. NCAA* case. There are potentially 250,000-300,000 former athletes who will benefit from the \$2.8 Billion class-action suit, particularly the athletes who played from June 15, 2016 and November 3, 2023. The settlement imposes roster restrictions as well. Any athletes who are cut in anticipation of the settlement can be reinstated within the new roster limitations. Danny shared a report by an external consultant group that studied collegiate gambling by student athletes. VT Compliance brought the group to campus to present to staff and students. Their anonymous report suggested that 45% of male collegiate athletes and 30% of female collegiate athletes gambled. In the past year 21.5% gambled and in the past month 5% gambled. It is illegal for any NCAA athletes to bet on any NCAA sport in which a championship is awarded, but in some states it is legal for student athletes to bet on other sports. It is illegal for anyone in Virginia to bet on any Virginia college sports.
4. **Faculty Athletics Representative Report:** Jen Irish reported about the Winter ACC meeting in early February. ACC Winter Meeting / ACC FAR group discussion summary
 - a. Discussed the pending House settlement, uncertainty, and implementation on our campuses.
 - b. Visited with President Sands, who is chairing a NCAA D1 working group that will be identifying possible governance models in the post-House era.
 - c. Discussed academic best practices as well as NCAA legislation and policy related to academics.
 - d. Heard from ACC SAAC representative (Matt Dennis) on ACC SAAC and NCAA D1 SAAC updates. Discussed (a) House settlement, (b) access to mental health services, (c) potential new models for eligibility.
 - e. Possible eligibility model that aligns with undergraduate academic timeline. A real concern in the post-transfer-portal era is loss of opportunities for incoming freshman

students as current student-athletes seek waivers to complete for longer durations. Combined with cuts in roster sizes with the House settlement, this means fewer opportunities.

- f. Discussed transfer-window concept under discussion by men's football coaches: have a single window in January. The ACC FARs raised concerns about misalignment with admission and enrollment timelines—an impossible situation from the academic perspective at our ACC institutions across the board. The FAR opinion aligns with the ACC academic support leaders opinion.

She asked committee members to become familiar with the pending *House v. NCAA* settlement, and to refer to Danny's comments, Whit's communication about how this will look on our campus when communicating with their constituency (College, Senates, etc.) as opportunities arise.

5. **Guest Presentation:** Reyna Gilbert-Lowry also reported about the Winter ACC meeting. The ACC Commissioner reported that the ACC has a good balance between academics and athletics. There was discussion about fan and player safety when fans rush the field or court after a big victory. Both need to be kept safe. Other topics included legal updates and potential waivers for playing time at Division II level, and questions about who leads in the future between NCAA and the power 4 conferences. Her presentation is attached below.
6. **Student-Athletic Academic Support Services Update:** Sarah Armstrong stated that her staff must evaluate about three-times as many athletes as the number who actually transfer into Virginia Tech. Well over one hundred athletes are evaluated between the transfer window in December and the beginning of the spring semester in January. Less than 50 actually transfer in (this includes all sports). Their transcripts must be evaluated to see if the courses will transfer in and their path to graduate in their chosen major and on time must be evaluated and communicated to them before they decide on transferring. The number of students who request a transfer has gone up considerably since 2022-23 and is expected to continue to rise. Her presentation with those numbers and current transfer windows is attached below.

7. **Adjourned at 4:45 pm.**

Proposed Spring 2025 UAC Meeting Schedule

March 20th – 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (TBD)

April 17th – 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (TBD)

May 7th (if needed) – 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (TBD)

House v. NCAA Settlement – Filed Objections Summary

1. Megan and Kevin Lang (Parents of an Ohio University Soccer Player)

- **Concern:** Their daughter was told she would lose her roster spot for the 2025-2026 season due to **roster limits**.
- **Argument:** This contradicts the NCAA's mission to provide academic and athletic opportunities.
- **Source:** [AP News](#)

2. De Ann Woodall-Watson (Mother of a University of Utah Swimmer)

- **Concern:** Her son, William Woodall, was **cut from the swim team** in anticipation of the settlement's roster limits.
- **Argument:** Athletes may have made different college choices had they known about these cuts.
- **Source:** [AP News](#)

3. Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA)

- **Concern:** Possible **unintended consequences** of the settlement on **non-revenue sports**.
- **Argument:** The agreement should be evaluated to **protect smaller sports** and student-athletes.
- **Source:** [AP News](#)

4. Camden Dempsey (Walk-On Football Player, University of Colorado)

- **Concern:** Roster limits will lead to teams cutting **walk-ons**, harming participation.
- **Argument:** Walk-ons contribute significantly to teams and should not be eliminated.
- **Source:** [Front Office Sports](#)

5. Grace Kirk & Tamenang Choh (Ivy League Athletes)

- **Concern:** The settlement **may force them to drop claims** in a separate lawsuit against Ivy League schools.
- **Argument:** The agreement should not interfere with their **ongoing legal battle over scholarships**.
- **Source:** [Front Office Sports](#)

6. Female Rowers from Yale, George Washington, Texas, and Oregon State

- **Concern:** The settlement disproportionately benefits **male football and basketball players**.
- **Argument:** Female athletes deserve **equal compensation** for lost opportunities.
- **Source:** [Front Office Sports](#)

7. Plaintiffs in *Fontenot v. NCAA* and *Cornelio v. NCAA*

- **Concern:** The settlement **fails to account** for damages from **their lawsuits** regarding athlete compensation.
- **Argument:** The proposed agreement unfairly restricts **future legal claims**.
- **Source:** [Front Office Sports](#)

8. Sedona Prince (Former Oregon Basketball Player)

- **Concern:** The settlement lacks **structural changes** for athlete representation.
- **Argument:** Athletes need a **players' association** to negotiate contracts and benefits.
- **Source:** [AP News](#)

9. U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

- **Concern:** The settlement's **revenue-sharing cap** may **violate antitrust laws**.
- **Argument:** The cap artificially limits what **free-market competition** would pay athletes.
- **Source:** [Front Office Sports](#)

10. Livvy Dunne (LSU Gymnast & Social Media Influencer)

- **Concern:** The settlement **excluded** athletes from negotiations & lacks **transparency**.
- **Argument:** Compensation calculations are unclear, and **athletes should have a voice** in discussions.
- **Source:** [On3](#)

11. Jelena Sever (Former Wisconsin-Milwaukee Soccer Player)

- **Concern:** The **settlement's compensation structure** fails to reflect athlete value.
- **Argument:** Despite a viral moment, Sever would receive only **\$280** in backpay, showing **flaws** in the distribution formula.
- **Source:** [AP News](#)

12. Unnamed Walk-On Football Player (University of Minnesota)

- **Concern:** The settlement **only provides backpay** to scholarship athletes.
- **Argument:** Walk-ons contribute but are **excluded from compensation**, which is unfair.
- **Source:** [AP News](#)

13. Unnamed Walk-On Football Player (Stanford University)

- **Concern:** The **proposed roster limits** will **force teams to cut** walk-on players.
- **Argument:** Walk-ons **deserve inclusion** as they play a critical role in team success.
- **Source:** [ESPN](#)

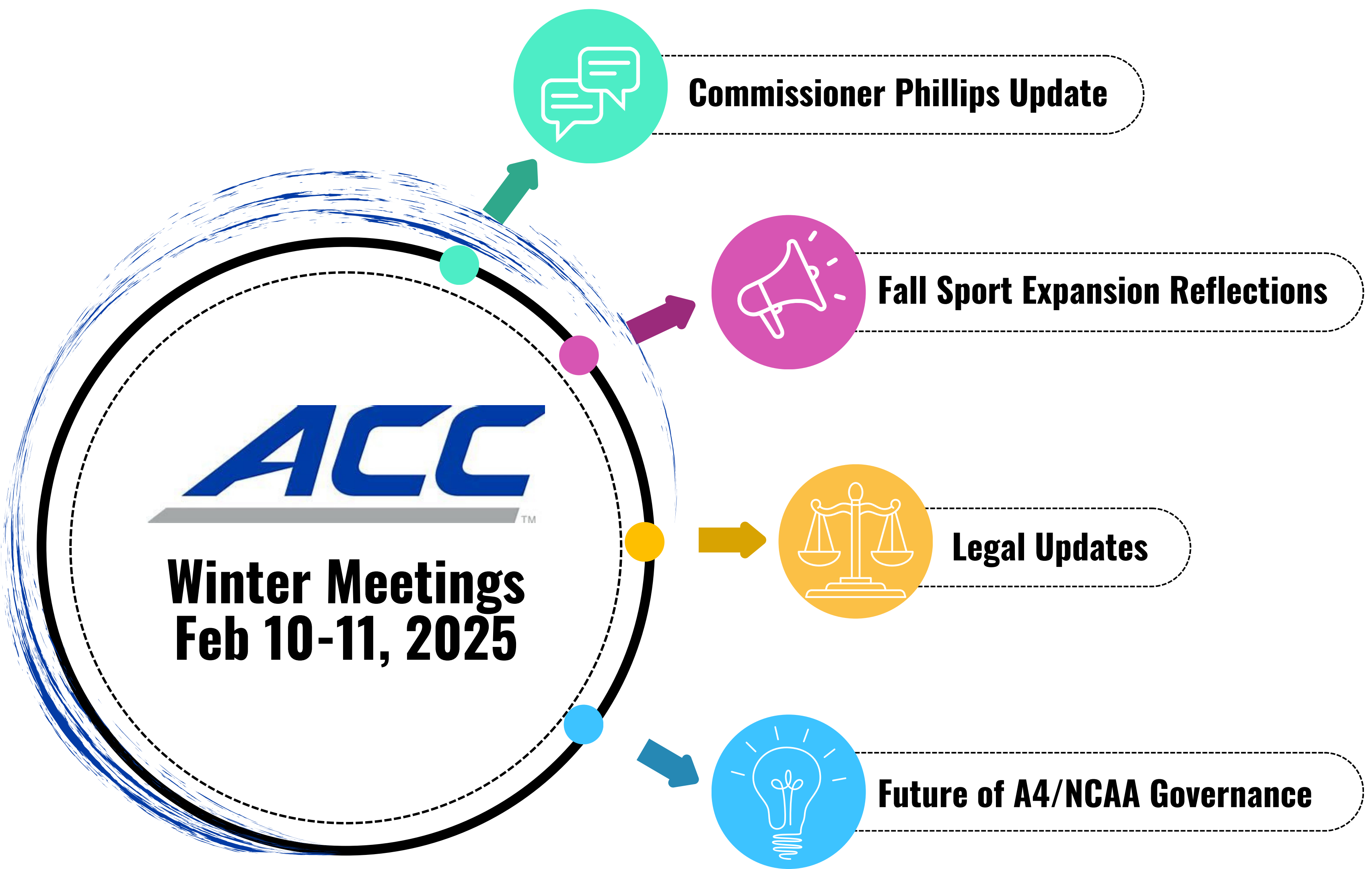
14. Unnamed Gymnast (Temple University)

- **Concern:** The **proposed roster limits** will **force teams to cut** walk-on players.
- **Argument:** Walk-ons **deserve inclusion** as they play a critical role in team success.
- **Source:** [ESPN](#)

Key Takeaways

- **Roster limits:** The most common objection, affecting **walk-ons and Olympic sports**.
- **Lack of athlete involvement:** Several objectors, including Livvy Dunne and Sedona Prince, argue **athletes were shut out** of negotiations.
- **Gender equity concerns:** Female athletes say the **settlement disproportionately favors** male football/basketball players.
- **Legal & antitrust risks:** The DOJ warns about **antitrust violations** with revenue-sharing caps.

*This list compiles **known objections** to date. If any further challenges arise, they will likely be discussed during the **April 7, 2025, final approval hearing**.*



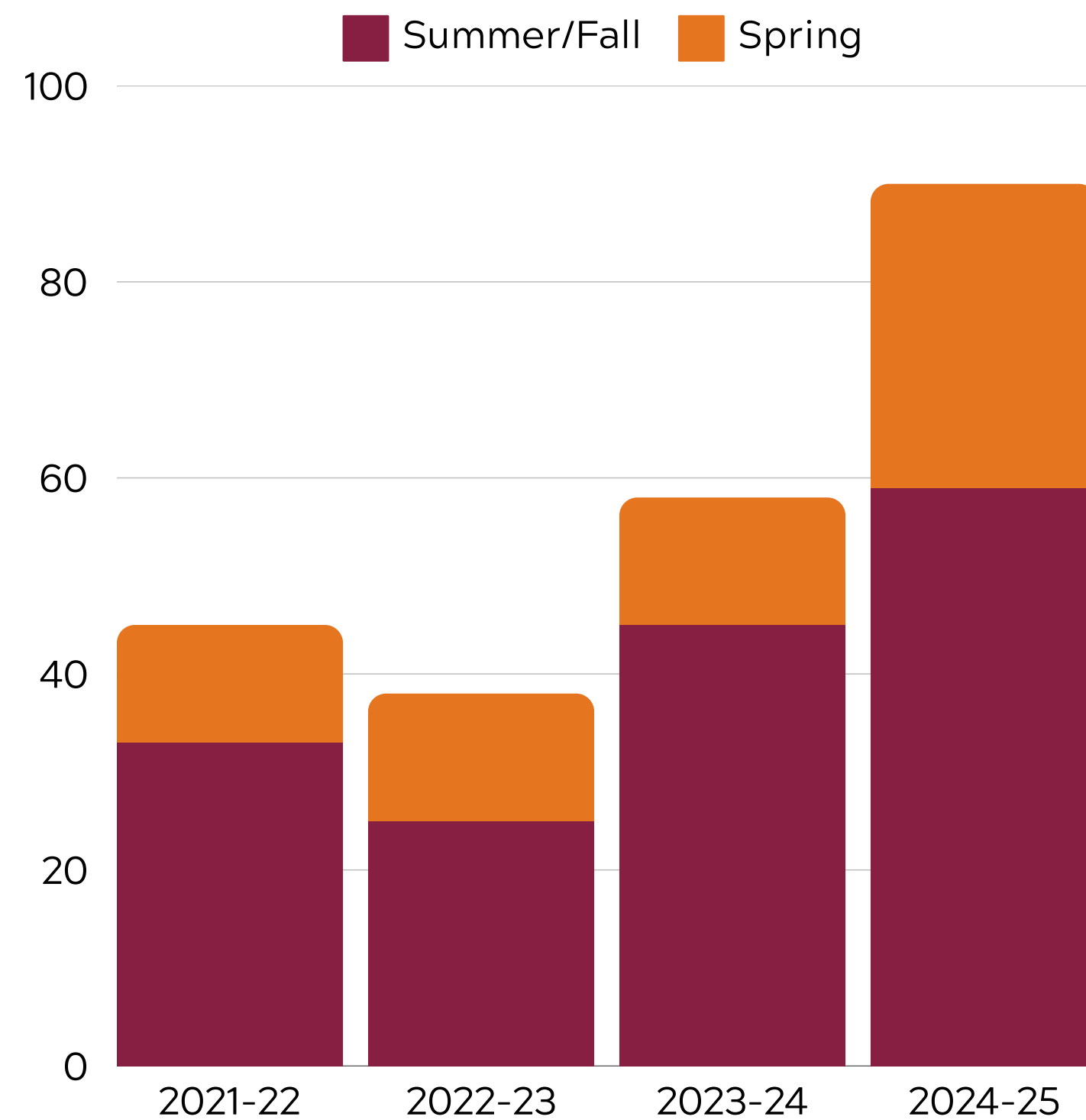
Virginia Tech

Student-Athlete

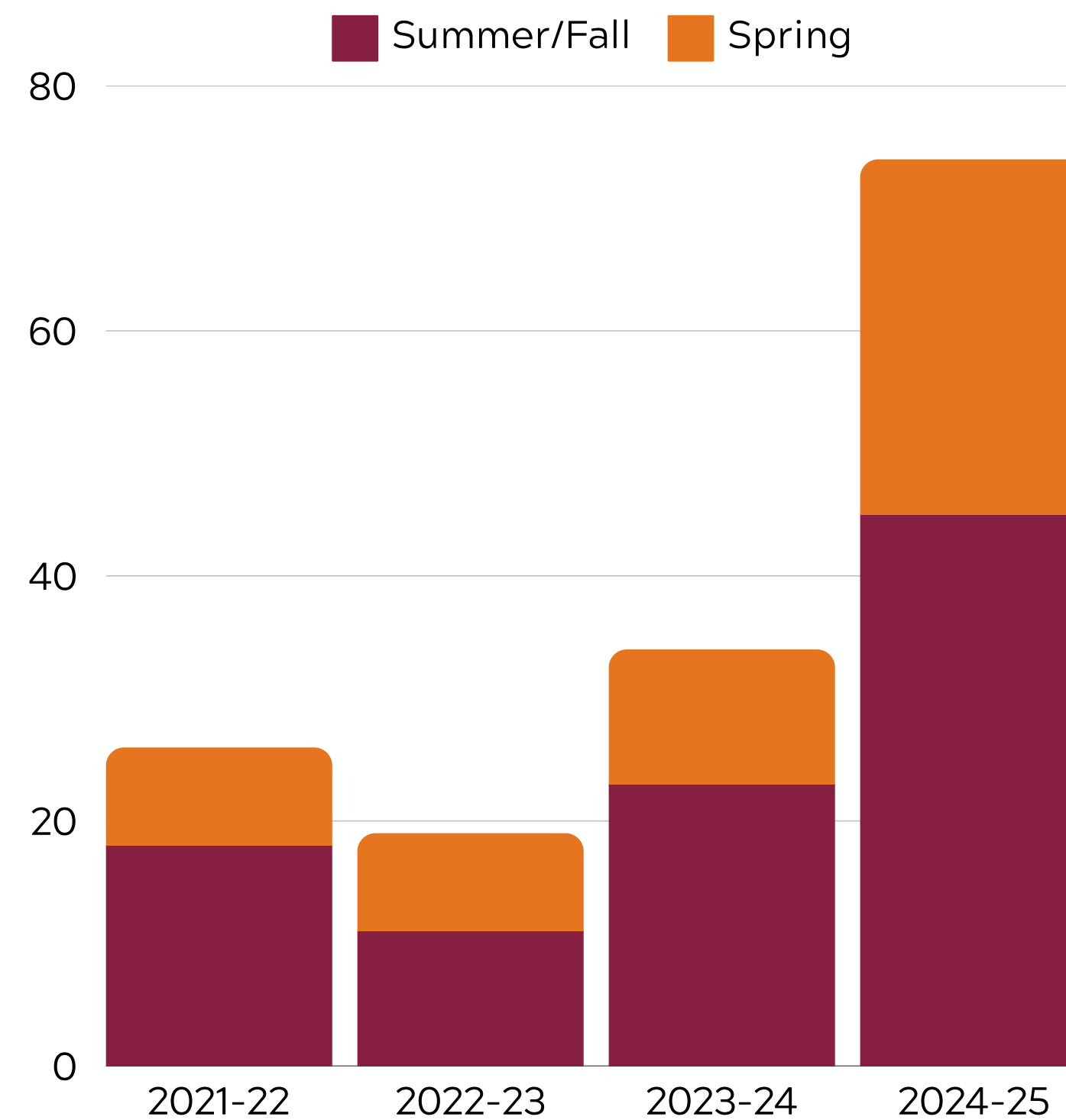
Transfer Population

University Athletics Committee

February 13, 2025



Admitted Transfers



Undergraduate Transfers

2021-22

Summer/Fall

- 33 Transfers
- 18 UG

Spring

- 12 Transfers
- 8 UG

2022-23

Summer/Fall

- 25 Transfers
- 11 UG

Spring

- 13 Transfers
- 8 UG

2023-24

Summer/Fall

- 45 Transfers
- 23 UG

Spring

- 13 Transfers
- 11 UG

2024-25

Summer/Fall

- 59 Transfers
- 45 UG

Spring

- 31 Transfers
- 29 UG

NCAA Transfer Windows

Fall 2024

TRANSFER WINDOWS			
SEASON	SPORT	FIRST DAY	FINAL DAY
FALL	Cross Country	Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024	Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024
	Field Hockey	Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024	Monday, Dec. 16, 2024
	Football (FCS)	Monday, Dec. 9, 2024	Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024
	Football (FBS)	Monday, Dec. 9, 2024	Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024
	M Soccer	Monday, Nov. 25, 2024	Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024
	W Soccer	Monday, Nov. 18, 2024	Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024
	W Volleyball	Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024	Monday, Jan. 6, 2025
	M Water Polo	Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024	Monday, Dec. 30, 2024
	Football - Spring Window	Wednesday, April 16, 2025	Friday, April 25, 2025
	Other Sports - Spring Window	Thursday, May 1, 2025	Thursday, May 15, 2025