TO: Directors of Athletics, Head Men's and Women's Coaches, and Sports Information Directors of NCAA Institutions that Sponsor Division III Men's and/or Women's Swimming and Diving.

FROM: Stephen Looke, chair
NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Committee.

SUBJECT: 2009 NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Championships Information.

This memorandum is being sent on behalf of the NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Committee. The committee is most appreciative of the support and understanding you have extended throughout a somewhat challenging process to conduct combined NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Championships in 2009. Because of the efforts of several Division III members, the 2009 championships will make history this season as they will be conducted as combined championships for the first time. Macalester College will host the events March 18-21 at the University Aquatic Center, an exceptional facility on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. To view a standard four-day, common-site established schedule of events, please see page 126 of the 2009 NCAA Swimming and Diving Rules Book. The rules book is available for purchase or download on the NCAA Web site at [http://ncaapublications.com/ProductsDetailView.aspx?sku=SW09](http://ncaapublications.com/ProductsDetailView.aspx?sku=SW09).

Planning for the championships is an ongoing process. The initial distribution of information occurred July 28 in a memorandum sent via electronic mail to all Division III directors of athletics and head men's and women's swimming and diving coaches. This memorandum, along with the 2009 qualifying standards, diving entry information and other pertinent information regarding the championships, is available at [http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=37229](http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=37229) on the NCAA Web site. The early posting of information will remain a high priority for the committee.

2009 Qualifying Standards. It is important to note that the process to determine the qualifying standards for 2009 was modified in order to make allowances for the new technology swimsuits. Committees for NCAA Division I and Division II men’s and women’s swimming and diving made modifications as well. The committee felt the need to raise the standards sufficiently to prevent an excess of A-cuts being achieved and resulting in cap inequities.

In previous years, the qualifying standards in individual events for A-cuts have been determined using a three-year rolling average of the fifth-place qualifying time.
Standards for B-cuts were determined using a three-year rolling average of the 32nd-place qualifying time.

For 2009, the individual A-cut was based on the three-year rolling average of the third-place qualifying time, while the determination of the B-cut remained at the 32nd place. Relays have traditionally been based on the third-place and the 20th-place qualifying times. For 2009, the relay A-cut was determined by the three-year rolling average of second place, reduced by an additional 1 percent. The B-cut remained the three-year rolling average of 20th place.

Additional Information. All participants should expect increased restrictions on the opportunities for on-deck warm-up space, access to media personnel and timely reporting to race ready/awards ready. Additional issues that are being evaluated for the 2009 championships include the presentation of awards to finalists only and the methods in which to secure seating for participants and spectators. There will be assigned spectator seating at the 2009 championships based on ticket purchases.

Bids for the 2010 NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships are now being solicited for separate championships. Because the championships will be separate in 2010, the committee will keep as much of the separate structure as possible for the 2009 championships. To view all bid information for the 2010 championships, visit the NCAA Web site at http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=37555.

The committee welcomes any insight and/or ideas you would like to share as it continues in its preparations to conduct quality and memorable championships for the participating student-athletes. A committee roster can be found at http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=2153.

In addition to the committee, please direct any questions or concerns regarding the championships to the new NCAA Division III men’s and women’s swimming and diving championships manager and administrative assistant, Keshia Campbell and Katie Holmes. Both can be reached at 317/917-6222.

Best wishes for a safe and successful academic year.

SL: kmh

cc: NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Committee
Ms. Michelle Chaffin