What followed for Division II was a comprehensive study, which demonstrated that Division II institutions could realize net tuition gains with a properly managed athletics program, in addition to other benefits. As for Bogner, what followed was five years on the Division II Presidents Council, the last two as chair, and a ringside seat to some of the biggest developments in recent NCAA history. How big?

Since 2009, Bogner has served on the search committee that identified Mark Emmert as Myles Brand’s successor, taken part on the team that developed the NCAA’s new media contract with Turner and CBS, and participated in last summer’s historic Division I presidential retreat as a representative of Division II.

Combine that with myriad achievements in higher education, and it’s been a great decade for Bogner.

“He’s done a fantastic job,” said West Texas A&M President Pat O’Brien, who will replace Bogner as Council chair in January.

Bogner is so skilled and comfortable in the field of education that it’s surprising to learn that he first pursued an M.D. rather than a Ph.D. After his undergraduate years at Newman in his hometown of Wichita, Kan., he spent 18 months at the University of Kansas Medical School.

“When I got in (to medical school), I realized that mainly getting in was my goal,” he said. “So then I started thinking about what I really wanted to do, and I decided that education was where I wanted to go.”

That proved to be the right choice. After earning his Ph.D. from Kansas, Bogner returned to Newman, originally teaching biology. He shifted to the department of education, where he was given the opportunity to start an evening program. From there, he went on to become dean of alternate education and then chief academic officer. In 2000, he was recruited as Molloy’s president.

Division II’s real issue, Bogner said, was bigger than whether members were migrating to Division I, which was Division II’s real issue, Bogner said, was bigger than “If you’re going to invest in athletics, what’s the return?”

The student-athletes at the summits left him especially impressed.

“They are prepared and they have great insight,” he said. “They have thought about the legislation before they come in. Their comments are good, and their questions are probably even better as they push us to think it through on another level.”

That next level, of course, is where Bogner is most at home.

“He’s kept us focused,” said West Texas A&M’s O’Brien in summarizing Bogner’s leadership. “He’s been a ringside seat to some of the biggest developments in recent NCAA history. Clear and decisive.”

That seems like plenty for most mortals, but Bogner is so skilled and comfortable in the field of education that it’s surprising to learn that he first pursued an M.D. rather than a Ph.D. After his undergraduate years at Newman in his hometown of Wichita, Kan., he spent 18 months at the University of Kansas Medical School.

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Under Bogner’s leadership, Molloy’s reputation for quality has continued to grow, with favorable rankings from the Princeton Review and U.S. News & World Report.

Bogner has built a list of presidential achievements, from the Princeton Review and U.S. News & World Report. Bogner has built a list of presidential successes, including the development of the Ease of Burden Reduction Division II legislative package, which aligns comfortably with the balance promise. Though Bogner is proud of the accomplishments, he doesn’t position Division II as being somehow more high-minded than Division I. Despite the ugly headlines of the past year, Bogner sees favorable shifts in Division I that may not be apparent to others.

“I was thinking how often in the last three or four months I have seen an article where the lead spokesperson for change is one of the Division I presidents,” Bogner said. “That’s not lost on me. That is a fundamentally different place than even two years ago when the chief spokesperson for change was the president of the NCAA.”

Such insight has been much appreciated throughout the NCAA, and especially in Division II circles, where Bogner became known as a strong student-athlete advocate. He attended both Division II National Championships Festivals conducted under his watch as chair of the Presidents Council when the legislation was developed and approved. As chair, he worked hard to maintain the gains and shepherded through a second phase at the 2011 Convention. Most recently, he has overseen development of the Ease of Burden 2012 legislative package, which aligns comfortably with the balance promise.

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