

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
University of Louisville Athletic Association Board of Directors
9 June 2014

CAP Activities for 2013-2014

The Committee on Academic Performance, made up of the faculty members of the ULAA Board and chaired by the Faculty Athletics Representative, is charged with oversight of the eligibility and academic performance of our student-athletes. It serves as the faculty oversight committee for athletics at U of L. The Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month at noon in the Bingham Humanities Building, Room 300, throughout the academic year.

Among its regular duties, the Committee received reports about and/or acted upon the following matters:

U of L Cohort reports for Summer, Fall, and Spring, tracing student-athlete grade point averages and graduation rates for the last five years.

NCAA Academic Performance Rate (APR) and Graduation Rate Reports, as they apply both to student-athletes and head coaches.

Annual Review of Compliance Operations

Annual Review of Athletic Academic Advising Services and of Student-Athlete Exit

Interviews information concerning academic issues and student-athlete welfare.

Review of Provost Admits: Student-Athletes admitted under special conditions.

Review of End of Year Student Athlete Questionnaires.

One student-athlete appeal for waivers to the University of Louisville 2.0 Rule which requires a 2.0 cumulative GPA after 60 credit hours are completed to remain eligible for competition. The Committee also established Guidelines for the 2.0 Policy in order to facilitate the process.

In addition, the Committee planned the annual Red and Black Banquet for Scholar Athletes and their Faculty Mentors, which was scheduled to be held on 2 March 2014 in the Brown and Williamson Room of Papa John's Cardinal Stadium. Unfortunately, this event (which enables student-athletes to thank their professors and professors to applaud their students' academic achievements) had to be canceled due to an ice storm. The Athletics Department, however, provided a happy substitute in order to acknowledge the over 250 student-athletes earning an invitation and over 80 faculty members invited as their faculty mentors. The Red and Black Barbeque before the Spring Football Game was a grand success.

Our End of Year Questionnaire for Student-Athletes gathers pertinent and timely information related to missed class time and academic satisfaction of student-athletes. This fourth annual questionnaire was completed by over 450 student-athletes from all teams. Based on data received, the committee continues to monitor student-athlete choice of major and the factors which limit student-athletes from choosing some majors. The data also enables the committee to assess the effectiveness of the University Excused Absence Policy in its application to student-athletes.

Acting for the Committee, the Faculty Athletics Representative reviewed and monitored the missed class time policy and schedule of competitions in order to conduct a more effective review of the academic impact of missed class time. Having implemented “protocols” for effective communication channels for student-athlete academic issues, the Committee voted that its members would serve as a “proctor pool” during the final examination period, should a student-athlete need to take a make-up exam when the instructor is not available on campus to administer it.

The Committee met with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee to discuss student concerns, and also met with the Olga Peers Academic Counselors, to discuss with them academic issues that continue to be problematic. Again this year, the Committee collaborated with Chi Alpha Sigma, the national student-athlete honor society by asking the society to design the program for the Red and Black Banquet ceremony.

Additional FAR Activities for 2013-2014:

In addition to my role as FAR, chair of CAP, and a member of all ULAA committees, I serve the Provost as her Liaison to Athletics. In that capacity, I meet with the Provost at least eight to ten times a year. We review every team’s performance for spring, summer, and fall semesters and confer on matters pertinent to student-athlete performance and well-being.

As Faculty Athletics Representative, during AY 2013-2014, I administered the NCAA Coaches Certification Exam to all coaches, including assistant coaches, and discussed with them U of L academic procedures and policies in order to promote their inclusion in the academic mission of the University; met with every athletic team at its first Compliance meeting to discuss the role of the FAR and strategies for achieving academic excellence; reviewed and signed off on eligibility reports for each student-athlete, on waiver appeals, and on formal reports to the NCAA; reviewed secondary violation reports; attended at least one competition in every sport at U of L; wrote nominations for student-athlete for NCAA postgraduate scholarships, and met with seniors to discuss graduate and professional school opportunities; served on the Financial Aid Review Committee; advised the President about proposed NCAA legislation and other matters of concern in college athletics; advised the AD on issues related to student athlete welfare and academic integrity; reported monthly to the Faculty Senate; reviewed proposed NCAA legislation with Compliance staff and met with compliance staff and the Associate AD for Athletics to monitor various academic and compliance matters; mediated faculty/student-athlete concerns in relation to the Excused Absence Policy for University Sanctioned Functions; and coordinated the activities of the FAR and CAP with the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and other university administrators.

This last year has been especially gratifying, as I have been included in all pertinent meetings of the Atlantic Coast Conference, attending meetings of the ACC FAR Council and participating in numerous conference calls. In the ACC, Faculty Athletics Representatives cast the vote for their institutions and serve on all major committees.

This coming year I will serve on the ACC Infractions Committee as well as on the FAR Council. In addition, I am a member of the Division 1A FAR Council and attended the annual meeting in Dallas.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of CAP for their dedication and hard work on behalf of our student-athletes: Professors Carmine Esposito, Dentistry; Brenda Hart, Speed; Mary Hums, Education; Bruce Kemelgor, Business; Chris Peters and Kenneth Schikler, Medicine; Robert Staat, Dentistry, and Karen Turner, Nursing, as well as Pam Feldhoff, Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate. Their work on behalf of the University of Louisville is exemplary. Professors Hart, Peters, and Schikler have completed their terms and are due a special thanks for their service, as is Ms. Angela Koshewa, who regularly attended our meetings for many years. All have been given a Certificate of Appreciation from the Committee.

*Prof. Elaine O. Wise, Faculty Athletics Representative
Chair of the Committee on Academic Performance
Provost's Liaison for Athletics
Chair of the Division of Humanities, Arts and Sciences*