

Report of the Faculty Athletics Representative
3 July 2019

The Annual Report of the FAR and the Committee on Academic Performance to the ULAA Board is below. Please feel free to ask any questions about the report.

At its meeting yesterday, CAP reviewed the data from this year's in-house End of Year Survey of Student-Athletes, an annual anonymous questionnaire which provides us with student-athlete feedback on matters that pertain to their academic experience. While the percentages and responses have remained fairly consistent over the last three years, I share with you several areas of concern. First, we still have a sizeable number of student-athletes who report that their instructors do not conform to the (Senate-Approved and Provost-Adopted) Policy on Excused Absences for University Sanctioned events. Too, we note that many student-athletes have difficulty completing coursework for specific majors because required courses are consistently offered only during normal practice times. Finally, we see more student-athletes taking online courses and majors rather than in-person courses. We suspect that scheduling courses in the major so as not to conflict with work or other obligations is a problem for many other students. Over the summer, we will be making a comparative study of the general student population and student-athletes who take online options, using data supplied by IR. We note that our major concern as a faculty should be the quality of all instruction.

Best wishes for a productive and peaceful summer.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Wise, FAR

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
University of Louisville Athletic Association Board of Directors
10 June 2019

CAP Activities for 2018-2019

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 second or third Tuesday of the month at noon in the Bingham Humanities Building, Room 300, throughout the calendar 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--concerning academic issues and student-athlete wellbeing.

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

Administration and Review of End-of -Year Student-Athlete Questionnaires.

Coordination of the election and selection of faculty members to the ULAA Board of Directors in accordance with the guidelines approved last year.

Review and update of CAP policies.

Guests to meetings included Vince Tyra, AD; Dale Ramsay of Intermural Sports, Lisa Dickman, Athletic Certification Officer for the Registrar; and Amy Shoemaker, Counsel for Athletics. The Committee recommended that U of L investigate joining the SportSafe Inclusion Program, and asked Amy Calabrese to do so.

Meghan Nay, our student liaison from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee attended regularly, and provided excellent updates on student-athlete activities and concerns.

CAP's Sub-Committee on Academic Integrity, in cooperation with the President, Provost, and Institutional Research, has developed a checklist of academic data to be reviewed annually. The checklist includes examination of data on issues that have impact on student-athletes as well as all students: grade changes and incompletes, independent studies and internships, and online courses, to cite a few.

The Committee also reviewed the Academic Conduct proposals that are under review by the President's Council of the NCAA, noting that CAP serves most of the functions of the recommended institutional Academic Oversight Committee.

The Committee participated in the Twenty-Third annual Red and Black Celebration for Scholar Athletes and their Faculty Mentors on at the KFC Yum! Center. The Athletics Department sponsors the reception for over 300 student-athletes and spirit team members who earn an invitation by virtue of a 3.25+ cumulative GPA.

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 ninth annual questionnaire was completed by over 440 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 as well as the dramatic increase in the choice of online courses and majors. The data also enables the Committee to assess the effectiveness of the University Excused Absence Policy in its application to student-athletes. Our review this last year led to a Faculty Senate recommendation to strengthen the policy's wording. The Provost approved change.

Additional FAR Activities for 2017-2018:

In addition to my role as FAR, chair of CAP, and a member of all ULAA committees, I served the Provost as the Liaison to Athletics. In that capacity, I scheduled bi-monthly meetings with the Provost to review student-athlete performance by team and to confer on matters pertinent to student-athlete performance and well-being as noted above under the title of Academic Integrity Issues.

This was the second year that NCAA legislation concerning Time Management was in place. As FAR, I met with our compliance time management team to develop our processes and to review the feedback from each coach and team at the year's end. That information helps us fine tune the process and informs a report to the President in July.

I met twice with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee to discuss student concerns and met with every athletic team at its first Compliance team meeting to discuss the role of FAR and strategies for achieving academic excellence.

As Faculty Athletics Representative, during AY 2018-2019, 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; 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 coordinated our four U of L nominations for ACC Postgraduate Scholarships; met with many seniors to discuss graduate and professional school opportunities; served on the Financial Aid Review Committee; advised the President about proposed Autonomy and NCAA legislation and other matters of concern at U of L and 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; attended monthly compliance meetings with coaches; 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 Vice Provosts and other university administrators.

This fifth year as full members of the ACC has been especially eventful. I have represented U of L in all pertinent legislative and governance meetings of the Atlantic Coast Conference, serving as U of L's representative to the Autonomy Committee, attending in-person 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. In addition to the Autonomy Committee, I serve on the Sportsmanship and Infractions Review Committee. In addition, I am a member of the Division 1A FAR Council that meets each September in Dallas and reviews pertinent issues throughout the year.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of CAP for their dedication and their diligent work on behalf of our student-athletes: Professors Sheldon Bond, Medicine; Dawn Heinecken, A&S; Mary Hums, Education; Sharon Moore, Kent; David Owen, A&S; Shelley Santry, Law; Lars Smith, Law; and Michael Voor, Medicine. Their work on behalf of the University of Louisville's student-athletes has been diligent and exemplary. Professors Hums and Smith will complete their terms this August, having earned our special thanks for their service. Please join me in saluting the commitment of our U of L faculty athletics oversight committee.

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Chair of the Committee on Academic Performance
Provost's Liaison for Athletics
10 June 2019*