

Report of the Faculty Athletics Representative

3 June 2020

Elaine Wise

As the academic year comes to an end, along with my tenure as Faculty Athletics Representative for U of L, I want to thank the Faculty Senate for its enthusiastic reception of my monthly reports for the last twenty-two years. Many of you have asked questions or written me with observations pertaining to those reports, always mindful that our student-athletes are assets to the academic mission of the university.

At its May meeting, the Committee on Academic Performance (CAP), reviewed the summary of responses we received on the annual End-of-Year Student-Athlete Questionnaire. 545 student-athletes completed the survey this year, a very solid number, and more of them added constructive comments than ever before. We noted that most student-athletes commend their coaches for emphasizing the importance of their academic pursuits, making every effort to accommodate choice of major, class schedules, and pursuit of academic services. We also noted that 87% of student-athletes now enroll in at least one on-line class (up from 44.9% in 2013). This number does not include courses that were converted to on-line because of the pandemic. It does indicate the rising availability of a variety of on-line options. The Committee will compare this percentage with that of the general student population.

The Committee remains concerned that student-athletes continue to report difficulty in completing coursework in a number of majors, due to their participation in athletics. We will continue to investigate whether accommodations are possible. While some may not be, the scheduling of required courses in the same time slot, semester by semester and year after year, should be reviewed and might be mitigated.

When I complete my Annual Report for the ULAA Board for its June meeting, I will share it with the Senate.

Again, I thank you for your good will these many years, and I congratulate Krista Wallace-Boaz on her selection as the new Faculty Athletics Representative for U of L. She and I are working together to make the transition as smooth as possible. Too, I thank Shelley Santry and Michael Voor for their service on CAP as their terms come to an end, and I welcome Jeremy Clark and Whitney Nash who will join CAP in July as the faculty's newly elected representatives to the ULAA Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Wise