**Faculty Athletics Representative’s Report to Faculty Senate for 2013-14 Academic Year**

Submitted by AJ Grube

September 19, 2014

**Academic GPA Summary for Student Athletes (2013-14)**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Semester GPA** | **Cumulative GPA** |
| **Spring 2014** | 3.058 | 3.122 |
| **Fall 2013** | 3.011 | 3.098 |
| **Spring 2013** | 3.112 | 3.134 |
| **Fall 2012** | 3.102 | 3.118 |
| **Spring 2012** | 3.140 | 3.125 |
| **Fall 2011** | 3.037 | 3.096 |
| **Spring 2011** | 3.108 | 3.166 |
| **Fall 2010** | 3.108 | 3.152 |
| **Spring 2010** | 3.100 | 3.141 |
| **Fall 2009** | 3.160 | 3.175 |
| **Spring 2009** | 3.085 | 3.383 |
| **Fall 2008** | 3.161 | 3.303 |
| **Spring 2008** | 3.424 | 3.407 |
| **Fall 2007** | 3.153 | 3.238 |
| **Spring 2007** | 2.954 | 3.063 |

More detailed academic information will be distributed at the Sept. 24 Faculty Senate meeting.

**Summary of Clustering Report Prepared for UNC General Administration**

The term *clustering* is used when > 25% of a class is comprised of student-athletes. In 2013-14, WCU’s report indicated the following:

Summer 2013 22 sections flagged

Fall 2013 23 sections flagged

Spring 2014 18 sections flagged

The report also required answers/analysis of the following:

* If more than 25% of students in a section were student-athletes….
	+ Are more than 50% of the student-athletes in the section from the same sport? WCU had no instances of this.
	+ Average GPA for student-athletes in the section compared to average GPA for non-student-athletes in the same section. If this was flagged as irregular, written justification had to be included. WCU had zero sections that required written justification.
	+ Average GPA for student-athletes in all sections of the course compared to average GPA for non-student-athletes in all sections of the course (i.e. – In Spring 2014, ACCT 252-01 had 30.43% student-athletes. Therefore, all sections of ACCT 252 were compared to determine discrepancies in GPA for student-athletes and non-student-athletes.) If this was flagged as irregular, written justification had to be included. WCU had zero sections that required written justification.

The complete report is available. Please send an email to agrube@wcu.edu if you would like a copy.

**WCU’s Response to UNC Athletics Financial Transparency Reporting Requirement**

The complete report is available. Please send an email to agrube@wcu.edu if you would like a copy. This report is about 85 pages long (just FYI if you want to print it).

**Duties of the FAR**

The following outlines the job description of WCU’s FAR. The text written in italics reflects accomplishments of the 2013-14 academic year.

# WCU Duties

1. Be accessible to student-athletes. Attend meetings with student athletes and attend sporting events.

*Attendance at monthly Student Athlete Advisory Council meetings.*

1. Attend WCU Management/Administrative Team meetings in the Department of Athletics.

*Every other Tuesday from 10:45-12:15.*

1. Meet with the Director and Assistant Director of Academic Support Services to discuss academic progress of student athletes.

*At least once per semester for individual review of each student-athlete’s academic progress and eligibility.*

4) Nominate students for post-graduate scholarships and academic honors.

*Six student-athletes were nominated for NCAA post-graduate scholarships and three were nominated for Southern Conference post-graduate scholarships. Two women’s basketball players received Southern Conference scholarships.*

1. Serve as an advisor to the Chancellor and Director of Athletics.

*Scheduled meetings with Chancellor and Director of Athletics quarterly. Ad hoc meetings as needed.*

1. Serve as ex-officio member of the University Athletics Committee.

*First meeting for 2014-15 academic year was Sept. 19th.*

1. Administer the NCAA recruiting test as needed.

*Administration of test to most coaches in August. New hires take the test upon arrival to campus.*

1. Assist with arrangements for student-athlete appeal hearings.

*There were no appeals for the 2013-14 year. Athletics Committee also participates.*

1. Review continuing eligibility for each student-athlete at the end of each semester. Approval should be indicated by signature on the appropriate institutional, conference and/or NCAA forms.

*After review and discussion, each student-athlete’s eligibility form is signed (in order) by four campus officials:*

* *Academic Advisor (Grace Hnizdil)*
* *Director of Compliance / Senior Woman Administrator (Stacey Miller)*
* *Faculty Athletics Representative (AJ Grube)*
* *Registrar (Larry Hammer)*

# Southern Conference Duties

1. Attend at least two conference meetings per year.

*Held in October and May.*

1. Serve on conference committees.

*Held position of Vice President for Conference. Served on the following 2013-14 Committees:*

* *Audit (chair)*
* *Constitution and Bylaws Revision*
* *Finance (chair)*
* *Investment*
* *Television*
* *Tennis*

NCAA Duties

1) Serve as a representative of WCU in its relationship with the NCAA.

1. Serve as one of the five recognized individuals authorized to make contact with the NCAA legislative services staff in the normal interaction between the NCAA and WCU.

*The other four people are the Chancellor, the Director of Athletics, the Director of Compliance, and the Senior Woman Administrator.*

1. If needed, prepare, on behalf of WCU, requests for waivers or appeals for NCAA legislation or other processes.

*A handful of these are submitted each year – typically for medical reasons.*

1. Be included in official notification from the NCAA that an official inquiry is being initiated to determine if rules violations have occurred.
2. Serve on NCAA committees as opportunities arise.

*Currently, I serve on the Committee on Institutional Performance (formerly the Committee on Athletic Certification).*

**New for 2014-15**

Academic progress reporting for student-athletes

Eliminated the 13th week report. Please encourage faculty to complete these (5th, 8th, and 11th weeks). They are read and discussed by athletic and academic staff.

**Suggestions for 2014-15 FAR Report**

Please email agrube@wcu.edu or call x3028 if there is something you’d like added to the FAR report.