

Faculty Athletics Representative Report to the CSUN Faculty Senate
May 2013
Tina Kiesler

Profile of our Student-Athletes:

The number of student-athletes changes over the course of an academic year. As of late April 2013 we have 323 student-athletes. Thirty-nine different majors are represented in our student-athlete population. Kinesiology is the most popular major among CSUN student athletes (n=56).

Table: Spring 2013 Student-Athlete Majors by College

| College | Number of Majors | % of All Student-Athletes |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Arts, Media & Comm | 32 | 9.9% |
| Business & Econ | 48 | 14.9% |
| Education | 1 | 0.3% |
| Engineering & Computer Sci | 15 | 4.6% |
| Health & Human Dvlpmt | 94 | 29.1% |
| Humanities | 8 | 2.5% |
| Science & Math | 22 | 6.8% |
| Social & Behavioral Sci | 61 | 18.9% |
| Undecided | 42 | 13% |
| TOTAL | 323 | 100% |

Academic Success and APR:

Each spring the Athletics Department celebrates the academic accomplishments of student athletes with the Varsity N honor roll for student-athletes who have completed one season of competition and have averaged a 3.2+ GPA over the previous spring and fall semesters. Fifty-four student-athletes are celebrated this week for their academic success in spring and fall 2012. In addition, two student-athletes were celebrated in March by the Big West Conference as Big West Scholar Athletes. Joe Franco is a Finance major with a Sociology minor and he's a men's soccer scholar-athlete. Chloe McDaniel is a Kinesiology Exercise Science major and a women's soccer scholar-athlete. Both student athletes excelled in the classroom and on the field, earning Big West Defender of the Year awards while maintaining high GPAs. They are both tutors as well.

Academic Progress Rate (APR) is used by the NCAA to measure academic success, along with Graduation Success Rate (GSR). At the start of each academic year we report the previous academic year's APR to the NCAA. (We will report 2012-13 APR for each team to the NCAA in September 2013.) Those data become public the following spring. The 2011-12 academic year APRs will become public early June and I will be happy to report it to you at that time.

Fifty-three student-athletes will graduate this month.

Grant to Support Academic Services for Student-Athletes:

In Fall 2012 we submitted a grant proposal to the NCAA for the Lower-Resource Institution Pilot Grant Program. We have received a \$900,000 grant (\$300,000/year for 3 years, to be renewed each year) to enhance academic support for our student athletes. The grant allows us to increase the space used for tutoring and mentoring, to purchase new furniture and equipment for the space, and to expand our tutoring and mentoring program for student-athletes. The new space will be called “The Matador Achievement Center”. In addition, we desire to expand the Faculty Liaison program to pair faculty with teams with the goals of providing the students with academic role models and potential mentors and increasing faculty connections with Matador athletics. We also plan to implement faculty-run workshops to assist student-athletes with development of skills necessary for academic success. If any faculty members are interested in becoming a liaison, please contact Tina Kiesler at tina.kiesler@csun.edu. I’d like to run some workshops over the summer and at the beginning of the 2013-14 academic year.

Athletic Success:

Both men’s and women’s soccer were the Big West Conference champions in Fall 2012. Men’s volleyball finished the season ranked #13 nationally. Water Polo is in the post-season now and is ranked #15 nationally.

Student-Athlete Community Service:

Our student-athletes engage in a variety of community service activities, often organized through the Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC). For instance, each week a team visits Granada Hills Elementary School to assist with their reading program and to reinforce the importance of education. During the holiday season, our student-athletes contributed over \$1500 to adopt a family through Meeting Every Need with Dignity (MEND). The students visited their adopted family of 10, spoke with each child and each parent to secure gift lists, and then purchased gifts, food, and Christmas decorations. They took study breaks during finals week to wrap each gift and then delivered all of the holiday items to the family, allowing a Christmas holiday for a family who otherwise couldn’t afford one. In addition, as part of the Big West Conference Coin Drive in February, our students raised over \$8000 for 100 Citizens, Professor Loy’s San Fernando Valley wellness initiative.

New Hires:

This academic year we hired a new Athletic Director, Dr. Brandon Martin and two head coaches. In the Fall we hired a head coach for women’s golf—Annie Young. Last month we hired a head coach for men’s basketball—Reggie Theus.