

University Athletic Board (UAB)  
2023-2024 Annual Report to Faculty Senate

**Members:** K. Bantley, D. Cohen, M. D’Arcy, E. Dlugolenski, D. Harackiewicz, R. Hernandez, A. Gagnon, S. Koski, M. Mackey, C. Murphy (SAAC Rep.) A. Strickland, M. Wizevich, I. Vera

**Academic performance of Student Athletes Fall 2023**

Fall 23 numbers (N=430)

52% of our Student Athletes earned a 3.5 or higher  
69% of our Student Athletes earned above a 3.0 GPA  
Average Student Athlete GPA 3.07  
President’s List (4.0): 44 student athletes  
Dean’s List (3.5): 178 student athletes  
36 Student Athletes placed on academic probation  
Men’s soccer had highest GPA – 3.63

Team GPA’S Fall 2023:

Sport	Term GPA
Men's Baseball	3.03
Men's Basketball	2.99
Men's Cross Country	3.41
Men's Football	2.54
Men's Indoor Track	2.9
Men's Outdoor Track	2.87
Men's Soccer	3.63
Women's Basketball	3.39
Women's Cross Country	3.31
Women's Indoor Track	3.18
Women's Lacrosse	3.34
Women's Outdoor Track	2.87
Women's Soccer	3.37
Women's Softball	3.24
Women's Swimming	3.32
Women's Volleyball	3.43

## APR

Academic Progress Rate (APR) update- Eight of the sixteen CCSU teams had scores of 1000 (perfect). The average APR was 985. For explanations of the APR and its calculation, see the links below.

- i. **NCAA DIVISION I Academic Progress Rate**  
<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2013/11/20/division-i-academic-progress-rate-apr.aspx>
- ii. **Calculating Academic Progress Rate (example)**  
<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2015/5/19/academic-progress-rate-explained.aspx>

## Academic At-Risk Student Process

In January, UAB members meet with academic at-risk students. Academic recovery plans were created for each student. The Academic Center for Student Athletes monitors the students progress as it pertains to the recovery plan. Members of the UAB make themselves available to the At-Risk students for extra support to the at-risk students as needed.

## Graduation Rates

### Federal Graduation Rates

The 2023 report gives graduation information about the most recent six-year graduating class of students and student-athletes who entered CCSU as freshmen in 2016-17. Student athletes measured are those who receive an athletic scholarship upon entrance as a freshman Fall 2016 or Spring 2017. All students are those who were enrolled in a full-time program of studies entering Fall 2016 of Spring 2017. The 2024 report is to due in June.

	Number Student 2016 Cohort	Six Year Graduation Rate	Four class average
All Students	1253	53%	54%
Student-Athletes	81	60%	58%

## Student-Athlete Graduation Success Rate

The GSR is specific to NCAA schools, it adds to the first-time freshman, those student-athletes who entered midyear as well as student-athletes who transferred into an institution and received athletics aid. The GSR also subtracts those who left the institution prior to graduation, had athletics eligibility remaining and were academically eligible to compete had they returned.

The GSR for student-athletes is 79%.

## Athletic Highlights

- 1) NEC Team Championships
  - a. 2023 Women's Soccer Tournament Champions
  - b. 2023 Men's Cross Country Champions
  - c. 2024 Women's Indoor Track & Field Champions
  - d. 2024 Women's Swimming & Diving NEC Champions
  - e. 2023-24 Men's Basketball Regular Season Champions
- 2) NEC Individual Student-Athlete Awards
  - a. Major Award Winners
    - i. James Sullivan – Cross Country Outstanding Performer
    - ii. Aiden Budge – Cross Country Rookie of the Year
    - iii. Gia Inzerillo – Women's Soccer Offensive Player of the Year
    - iv. Aofie Horgan – Women's Soccer Midfielder of the Year
    - v. Melina Ford – Women's Soccer Tournament MVP
    - vi. Samuel Whittaker – Indoor Track and Field MVP and Most Outstanding Performer (Distance)
    - vii. Brooke Morabito – Indoor Track & Field MVP and Most Outstanding Performer (Distance)
    - viii. Mariana Perry - Indoor Track & Field Most Outstanding Performer (Throws)
  - b. All-NEC Honors
    - i. 26 All-NEC Selections
    - ii. Five All-NEC Rookie Team selections
    - iii. 196 Academic Honor Roll selections
    - iv. Four women's soccer players named All-Tournament
- 3) Coaching Honors
  - a. Eric Blake – NEC Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year
  - b. Patrick Sellers – Men's Basketball
    - i. NEC Men's Basketball Coach of the Year
    - ii. NABC District 15 Coach of the Year
    - iii. Ben Jobe Award National Coach of the Year Award Finalist (top minority head coach)
    - iv. Hugh Durham Award Finalist (mid-major coach of the year award)
    - v. Skip Prosser Man of the Year Award Finalist
  - c. Bill Ball – Swimming & Diving Coaching Staff of the Year
- 4) Regional Awards
  - a. Gia Inzerillo – Women's Soccer
    - i. NEWISA All-New England First Team
    - ii. United Soccer Coaches All-North Region Second Team
    - iii. ECAC Offensive Player of the Year
    - iv. All-ECAC First Team
  - b. Aoife Horgan – Women's Soccer
    - i. NEWISA All-New England First Team
    - ii. United Soccer Coaches All-North Region Third Team
    - iii. All-ECAC Second Team
  - c. Kimal Clark (Football) All-New England
  - d. Jordan Jones (Men's Basketball) NABC District 15 First Team

- e. Allan Jeanne-Rose (Men's Basketball) NABC District 15 Second Team

5) Academic Awards

- a. CSC Academic All-District
  - i. Aoife Horgan – Women's Soccer
  - ii. Charlotte Simmons – Women's Soccer
  - iii. Victoria Violette – Women's Soccer
  - iv. Kiley Yepes – Women's Soccer
  - v. Ivan Farias-Martinez – Men's Soccer
  - vi. Birk Martinsen – Men's Soccer
  - vii. Jakob Welle -Men's Soccer
  - viii. Jake Barnum - Football
  - ix. Reggie Darkah - Football
  - x. Mason Schloop – Football
  - xi. Mia Lombardo – Volleyball
  - xii. Isabelle Roufs – Volleyball
  - xiii. Weronika Poczynek - Volleyball
  - xiv. Abby Bacon – Swimming & Diving
  - xv. Cassidy Stotler – Swimming & Diving
  - xvi. Kelly Stotler - Swimming & Diving
  - xvii. Gabi Wroblewski – Swimming & Diving
  - xviii. Meghan Kenefick – Women's Basketball
  - xix. Belle Lanpher – Women's Basketball
- b. Men's Cross Country – USTFCCCA All-Academic Team
- c. Women's Cross Country – USTFCCCA All-Academic Team
- d. Volleyball – AVCA Team Academic Award

6) International

- a. Andres Aldeguer (Men's Soccer) selected to the Philippines National Team for FIFA World Cup 2026 Preliminary Competition
- b. Kyle HaleHale (Men's Soccer) selected to Guam National Team for FIFA World Cup 2026 Preliminary Competition

## Gender Equity & Diversity

Kathy Bantley (*FAR*) and Amy Strickland (Assoc. AD/Compliance) conducted a comprehensive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) review of the Department for both the *NCAA* and *NEC*. In the fall, a DEI Plan for athletics was approved by President Toro and submitted to both the *NEC* and *NCAA*. The objective of the DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion) Plan is to promote DEI while aligning with the University's core values. The Department will do this by evaluating the structure and practices of the Department while promoting DEI in each of the University's core values. As part of this plan, the Department invited representatives from the Center for Africana Studies, the LGBTQ Center, the Office of Diversity and Equity, as well as other key campus constituents and external guests to meet with students and/or staff.

## **Student Athlete Welfare**

### *Mental Health*

The Department continues to discuss the mental health and overall well-being of our student-athletes. Coaches who have concerns about a student athlete's mental health would take one of two routes. The first is for the Coach to call campus counseling and to walk their students to campus counseling services. The other route the coach may take is to reach out to Molly McCarthy (Assistant AD for Compliance and Student Services) to let her know their concerns. Ms. McCarthy will then reach out that day to the student or meet with them immediately if they are in the building. When Ms. McCarthy meets with the student-athlete, she asks them discuss what's going on, find out the concerns and to listen. She then asks the student-athlete if they are interested in counseling and if they'd like her to make the call to connect them. She lets the student know the process for intake, the questions they will be asked right away and lets them know about the many counselors on campus. Most times she will call over and introduce the student who then takes over and schedules the appointment. In more time sensitive cases Ms. McCarthy will call counseling first, walk the student over and then wait for them while they are in their session. She then checks in with the student after their appointment to see how they are and discuss their next steps moving forward for counseling, care etc.

### **UAB Outreach**

The UAB continues to do outreach around campus and the community to show support for student-athletes, connect with alumni, and answer any questions posed. Some of the events that were attended include a variety of sport contests/competitions, athletic fundraising events, alumni events, and community engagement activities such as National Girls and Women in Sports Day. Members also met with the SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Committee) in both the fall and spring.

### **Community Service**

On top of the commitment student-athletes make toward their academic pursuits and their sport, they give back to the campus and greater New Britain community by engaging in both campus & community service. One can observe athletes participating annually in events such as open house, student accepted students' day, and graduation. In addition, student-athletes participate in a variety of community engagement activities. Below are some examples of the community service/outreach student-athletes have participated in this year.

*Beautiful Lives Project:* Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball and Football

*Holmes School- athletics night:* Football and M/W Track

*Be the Match-Bone Marrow Drive:* organized by Football (one athlete was matched and has gone through the bone marrow donation process)

*Empty Bowls-fundraiser to fight food insecurity In New Britain:* Football

*Food Drive for Maria's Place:* organized by Football —outside of Stop & Shop, raised hundreds of items in donations for Maria's Place

*Food Drive for Maria's Place (2<sup>nd</sup>):* most teams participated in—raised 2000 food items for Maria's Place

*Clothing Drive:* organized by Football

*Operation Christmas Child/Good Samaritan project:* all student athletes  
*New Britain Public Library help with their book fair:* Football Read Across America Day- multiple teams- visited elementary schools in the area to read to children  
*National Girls and Women in Sport Day:* all women teams—welcomed girls in the community to participate in athletic activities, have lunch on campus and see a Women’s Basketball game.  
*Community Clean up:* Men and Women’s Track programs—Stanley Park and surrounding neighborhoods  
*Backyard 5k:* organized by SAAC – fundraiser for Save the Sound

## **Athletics Advisory Committee**

The Athletics Advisory Committee was asked to assist in the development and implementation of the Department’s 5 year strategic plan. This plan was presented to the Faculty Senate last year. The plan contains three objectives that the Department put forward to fulfill the educational mission of Athletics as an integral part of the University. These are:

- 1) Add sports and enlarge rosters to increase the number of students attending the university (no new sports were added in AY23-24; four teams increased their roster sizes);
- 2) Increase external revenue generation for scholarships through expanded and reimagined branding, marketing, and fund-raising efforts (these efforts are ongoing);
- 3) All members of CCSU Athletics will recommit themselves and their programs to continuing and exceeding the academic achievements outlined in the Plan (these efforts are ongoing).

## **CCSU ATHLETICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Tom Pincince, *Director of Athletics*  
 Amy Strickland, *Associate AD/SWA/Former CCSU student-athlete*  
 Kathy Bantley, *Professor of Criminology/Former student-athlete/FAR*  
 Stephanie Blozy, *CEO Fleet Feet (West Hartford)*  
 Julie DeFalco, *Controller*  
 CJ Jones, *Director of Athletics Emeritus/ CCSU Sports Committee/Former CCSU student-athlete*  
 Matt Riley, *Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations/Institutional Advancement*  
 Tina Rivera, *Alum/IT Staff CCSU*  
 Juan Roman, *Alum/Former CCSU student-athlete*  
 Dan Salerno, *New Britain City Treasurer/Alderman/New Britain Common Counsel*  
 Charlene Shepard, *Alum/Former CCSU student-athlete/ CCSU Sports Committee*  
 Dan Siracusa, *Alum/Former CCSU student-athlete/Owner Siracusa Moving and Storage*  
 John Tully, *Interim Vice President for Student Affairs*  
 Matt Warshauer, *Professor of History/Alum*

## **Budget**

Once again the budget will be balanced based on a combination of Fund Raising and Foundation Account Resources. The athletics budget can be found at:

<https://www.ccsu.edu/fiscalaffairs/historicalexpeditureinformation.html>

## **Bylaws Amended**

During the last meeting of the AY, the UAB voted to amend the Bylaws to reflect its meeting dates. The meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of every month. The Bylaws now reflect this.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Bantley & Eric Dlugloenski

Co- Chairs of the University Athletics Board (UAB) 2023-24