

Brief Report to the Academic Senate, May 25, 2016

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Academic Issues

Grade Point Averages

We monitor student athlete GPA quarterly. As a group, they have consistently had a higher GPA than the student-body at large. For example, after the Fall 2015 quarter, the mean Cal Poly Pomona GPA calculated across all student-athletes was 3.05. By comparison, this same value when compared across all students at Cal Poly Pomona during the same quarter was 2.93 (IRAR). The table below shows, by team, the mean cumulative CPP GPA after each of the last two quarters (F15 GPA and W16 GPA). The same data are shown for all students (F15 GPA-all and W16 GPA-all). Finally, the plus or minus signs indicate that the team's mean GPA falls above or below the all-student GPA.

Team	F15 GPA	F15 GPA -all	+/-	W16 GPA	W16 GPA -all	+/-
Women's Volleyball	3.17	2.93	+	3.12	2.93	+
Women's Basketball	2.85	2.93	-	3.06	2.93	+
Women's Track	3.15	2.93	+	3.15	2.93	+
Women's Cross Country	3.26	2.93	+	3.24	2.93	+
Women's Soccer	3.12	2.93	+	3.12	2.93	+
Men's Soccer	2.96	2.93	+	2.98	2.93	+
Men's Track	2.95	2.93	+	3.03	2.93	+
Men's Cross Country	3.07	2.93	+	3.00	2.93	+
Men's Baseball	3.07	2.93	+	3.06	2.93	+
Men's Basketball	2.73	2.93	-	2.76	2.93	-

Progress Toward Degree

The NCAA requires student-athletes to achieve *both* a yearly average of 12 units per quarter (the 12-unit rule) and a minimum of 8 units each quarter (the 8-unit rule) toward their chosen degree. The vast majority (95%-100%) achieve these benchmarks each term.

NCAA Bylaw Violations

The NCAA divides violations into two major categories. Secondary violations (relatively common) are inadvertent, providing only minimal advantage, with no significant extra benefit to student-athletes. Everything else is considered a major violation (relatively rare).

Year	Major violations	Secondary violations
2015-2016	0	1
2014-2015	0	2
2013-2014	0	3
2012-2013	0	3
2011-2012	0	6
2010-2011	0	5

Miscellaneous Issues

Classroom Absences

Student-athletes are expected to be absent from classes *only* during officially-sanctioned travel days and times that allow them to compete, and are told to talk to their professors ahead of time and make up any missed work. Most faculty are supportive of class absences for travel purposes. However, this support occasionally becomes strained at the point student-athletes need it the most – when they have achieved a winning season in their sport that moves them into championship playoffs. This is particularly problematic at the end of the winter quarter when it is common for our basketball teams to potentially miss the last two weeks of classes and possibly finals week. This year, the same issue is occurring for our Baseball team at the end of the current quarter, since they made it to the World Series.

Priority Registration

The athletic department continues to appreciate the help of the academic senate in considering the scheduling needs of student-athletes who are attempting to juggle course scheduling with times for practice and competition. Student-athletes are usually in a difficult position with regards to scheduling classes because they have at least two important needs that may conflict with one another: 1) the need to meet for team practices and competitions at specific times on specific days, and 2) the need to complete specific courses for eligibility purposes such that they meet both yearly and quarterly unit requirements (see Academic Issues above).