



November 2014

# **Athletics Council Annual Report for the 2013-2014 Academic Year**

## **Background**

The NMSU Athletics Council serves in an advisory capacity to:

- The President of the University (Garrey Carruthers);
- The Faculty Athletic Representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (Jim Peach); and
- The Director of Athletics (McKinley Boston).

The purpose of the NMSU Athletics Council is to:

- advise these persons relative to the rules, regulations and administration of intercollegiate athletics
- formulate and present to the Faculty Senate recommendations for its consideration regarding policies and programs, keeping in mind that the primary purpose of the athletic program is to further the educational goals of the University and to serve the students both as participants and spectators and,
- submit an annual report of its activities to the Faculty Senate

The Athletics Council maintains a website to archive records, improve communication among members, promote council activities, and reduce paper consumption. The site can currently be accessed at [http://www.nmsu.edu/athletics\\_council/](http://www.nmsu.edu/athletics_council/). Currently at this site, a visitor can view the agendas and minutes of previous meetings, bylaws etc. A copy of the by-laws can be found in Attachment I.

## **2013-14 Membership**

The membership of the council is defined in Article III of the by-laws.

Voting Members for the 2010-2011 academic year (term expiration)

- Chair, Keith Mandabach – Faculty Senate (8/14)
- Vice Chair, Pricilla Bloomquist (8/15)
- Secretary, Gabe Garcia College of Engineering (8/13 first term)
- NCAA/WAC Faculty Representative - Jack Thomas - Ag (appointed)
- Bill Harty Employee Council Representative, (8/15)
- David Keeley–College of Education (08/15)
- Monica Torres-Arts & Sciences (8/15)
- David Maestas- ASNMSU Senator (8/13)
- Terriana Shaw - ASNMSU Representative (8/13)
- Phillip Davies - ASNMSU Representative (8/14 Alternate)

## Non-Voting Members

- McKinley Boston - Director of Athletics
- James Hall – Associate AD, Sports Administrator and Student Development
- Braun Cartwright - Compliance & Eligibility
- Dr. Carmen Rogers, Director Academic Support Center and Services Center
- Maria Rocha Hall – AD Secretary

## Summary of Council Activities and Actions for the 2013-14 Academic Year

### Review of Gender Equity Plan Progress

Keith Mandabach who co-chaired last year's sub-committee, worked with Maria Roth to complete a limited review for the 2012-2013 year. The Athletics Council examined the progress made toward achieving the goals set out in The Gender Equity Plan (GEP) submitted to the NCAA. The GEP was originally presented to the Athletics Council by Maria Roth, NMSU Assistant Director of Athletics/Senior Woman Administrator during 2007-2008. The GEP contains a number of detailed goals and objectives and a timetable for accomplishing these goals over a three year period. James Hall presented a report to the council on the progress of the plan:

- 1) Summary on gender equity breakdown, how many athletes in how many sports?
  - a. 442 total student-athletes (not including medical hardships and those who have exhausted their eligibility but are still in school to finish degree) beginning Fall 2013
    - i. 17 sports (6 men and 11 women sports)
      1. women's indoor track & field, outdoor track & field and cross country count as three (3) women sports.
    - ii. 191 male student-athletes
    - iii. 251 female student-athletes

<u>Team</u>	<u>Student-athletes</u>
1. Baseball	35
2. Men's Basketball	18
3. Men's Cross Country	10
4. Football	108
5. Men's Golf	10
6. Men's Tennis	10
7. Women's Basketball	14
8. Equestrian	24
9. Women's Golf	8
10. Softball	23
11. Women's Soccer	26
12. Swimming & Diving	26
13. Women's Tennis	10
14. Women's Cross Country	10
15. Women's Indoor Track	44
16. Women's Outdoor Track	46
17. Volleyball	20

Discussion with student athletes, coaches, athletic and compliance staff anecdotally indicated that NMSU Athletics continues to strive for improved gender equity and the Athletic Council received only positive comments on the gender equity program.

### **Report for the Spring 2014.**

All 17 NMSU *Men's and Women's Athletic Sport Teams* cumulative grade point averages combined for the past 9 years, last 18 consecutive semesters, have achieved the accomplishment of being at or above a 3.00 GPA:

- All 17 Men's & Women's Sport Teams Spring 2014 Cumulative GPA combined was a 3.1825.

In addition 17 of the last 18 semesters all 17 *Men's and Women's Sport Teams* semester grade point averages combined have achieved the success of being at or above a 3.00 GPA.

- All 17 Men's & Women's Sport Teams Spring 2014 Semester GPA combined was a 3.0857

27 student-athletes posted a 4.00 GPA in Spring 2014.

### Spring 2014 Scholar Athlete Representation

For the past 9 years, 18th consecutive semester, Scholar-Athlete representation (3.00 semester and cumulative grade point average or higher) was higher than 50% of the student-athlete population.

- 60%, 240 student-athletes achieved a 3.00+ term GPA or higher
- 60% 241 student-athletes maintain a 3.00+ cumulative GPA or higher

### GRADUATION

73% of total student-athlete population graduates from NMSU (cohort 2002-2005)

50 student-athletes took part in Spring 2014 commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 10th and are now proud Alumni of NMSU. The 25 graduates exemplify the outstanding academic accomplishments by the student-athletes as their cumulative grade point averages together were slightly above a 3.00. Their discipline of study ranged from Criminal Justice, Chemical Engineering, Marketing, Community Health, Management, Hotel Restaurant Management, Education, History to Biology.

### Credits Earned: Spring 2014

Student-athletes earned 5,388 credits Spring 2014 for an average of 14 per student-athlete.

## **Academic Support Programs & Services Center Review**

The ASPSC offers a full range of support and referral services to assist student athletes in their holistic growth and development. James Hall, Associate Athletic Director, Sport Administrator & Academic Services Director provides the overall leadership to the unit. Dr. Carmen Rogers, Director of the ASPSC, supervises the day to day operational aspects of the center with a highly qualified staff including: 2 full time Academic Coordinators, Lead Student development Specialist, 8 Student Development Specialist, who are all dedicated to helping student-athletes develop the skills necessary to become independent and successful learners.

Further discussion centered on providing information on the holistic approach to improving student-athlete academic success. Some of these included a revised New Student Orientation, a revised Student-Athlete Handbook, Internal Tutoring Program / Campus Tutoring Programs, as well as an Academic Mentoring Program coupled with a Writing & Reading Comprehension Program. One of the most successful programs has been Pre-Advising within the colleges. Specific advisors working to insure that Degree Progress (mandated by NCAA, WAC, NMSU), is being monitored more effectively to insure athletic eligibility as well as evaluated the ASPSC through exit interviews.

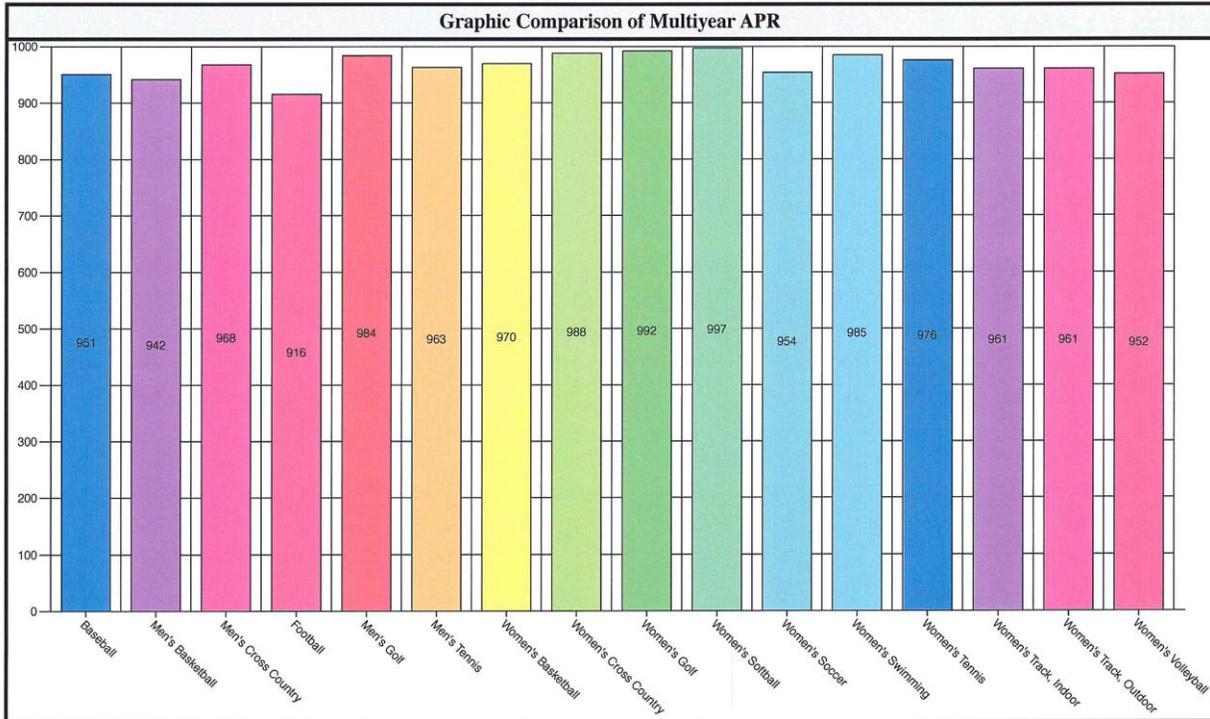
The A+ Aggie Program, with its primary focus on student-athletes who need additional support programs for academic, personal and career development gives priority to student-athletes tested into developmental courses, have a documented learning disability or who have been identified as having a marginal academic profile. It is hoped that the program will be able to add an educational specialist who will be able to focus on students with disabilities. ASPSC continues to strive for excellence and the programs outlined above appear successful. Two issues were raised in the review and have been discussed by the council. The highlights of the most recent Academic Progress Rate appears below in graphic form.

# NCAA Division I 2011 - 2012 Academic Progress Rate Institutional Report

Institution: New Mexico State University

Date of Report: 06/10/2013

## Sport-by-Sport APR Comparison:



## **Review of student-athlete handbook**

The Council is required to review the student athlete handbook on an annual basis. Member of the council were provided a copy of the Student Athlete Handbook by James Hall handbook. Only minor changes were made to the handbook. No action by the council was required.

A link the most recent handbook can be found at

[http://www.nmstatesports.com/ViewArticle.dbml?DB\\_OEM\\_ID=1900&ATCLID=204894176](http://www.nmstatesports.com/ViewArticle.dbml?DB_OEM_ID=1900&ATCLID=204894176)

## **Scholar Student Athletes**

The council selected the following individuals as NMSU Faculty Athletic Council Scholar Student Athletes for the 2013/14 Academic Year:

### FALL 2013 Scholar Athletes

Alex Newman (Softball) was selected as NMSU's Female Scholar Athlete for Fall 2013 Commencement.

Ryan Beck (Baseball) was selected as NMSU's Male Scholar Athlete for Fall 2013 Commencement.

### SPRING 2014 Scholar Athletes

Ciara Brown (Volleyball) was selected as NMSU's Female Scholar Athlete for Spring 2014 Commencement.

Tanner Rust (Baseball) was selected as NMSU's Male Scholar Athlete for Spring 2014 Commencement.

## **Acknowledgments**

The council would like to recognize the efforts of Maria Rocha-Hall attended each meeting to serve as scribe, prepared and edited the minutes from those notes, and provided communications between Athletics Department personnel and council members.

# Bylaws of the NMSU Athletics Council

## **ARTICLE I – Name**

The name of this committee shall be The Athletics Council.

## **ARTICLE II - Purpose**

The object of this council shall be to serve in an advisory capacity to:

1. The President of the University
2. The Faculty Athletics Representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)
3. The Director of Athletics

The Athletic Council shall

- formulate and present to the Faculty Senate for its consideration recommendations regarding policies and programs, keeping in mind that the primary purpose of the athletic program is to further the educational goals of the University and to serve the students both as participants and spectators;
- regularly review the student-athlete handbook to assure policies appropriately address student athlete welfare issues;
- have a representative serve on the selection committee for employment of head coaches and senior administration (Director of Athletics and Associate Directors) within the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics;
- participate in exit interviews with graduating student-athletes and student-athletes who leave the university prior to graduation;
- annually review the academic progress of NMSU student-athletes, and submit a written report of findings to the university president;
- serve (when appropriate) on panels deciding student-athlete appeals. As deemed necessary, The Athletics Council may request meetings with coaches and other Athletic Department personnel;
- review written report on athletics academic program of services provided to student athletes a minimum of every three years;
- review annually the gender equity and minority opportunity plan for progress towards identified goals set forth in the ten-year certification study, and report findings to the president of the university;
- participate in the NCAA certification process; and
- submit an annual report of its activities to the Faculty Senate.

## **ARTICLE III - Members**

### **Section 1**

The Athletics Council shall be constituted as follows:

Voting Members: (Eleven Voting Members)

1. Six faculty members; one from each undergraduate college on the Las Cruces campus
2. Two students from ASNMSU governing body
3. One staff member from the Employee Council
4. One Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA and WAC
5. One Faculty Senate Representative

Non-Voting Members:

1. Director of Athletics
2. Senior Woman Administrator

### **Section 2**

During April of the appropriate year, each college shall either elect faculty members, or the college's dean shall appoint a faculty member, to serve a three (3) year term beginning in September of that year. Faculty members may serve no more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms. Two students will be elected from and by ASNMSU senators and officers at the first ASNMSU meeting in September of each year for one (1) year term. Students may serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms. The member from the Employee Council shall be elected each April, from its staff members only, for a two (2) year term. Employee Council member shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive two (2) year terms.

A faculty athletics representative (FAR) to the NCAA and the WAC shall be appointed by the President of the University. The appointment to the Western Athletic Conference shall be from a separate list of three names of University representatives nominated by the Committee on Committees of the Faculty Senate as a whole. The Faculty Senate representative will be elected from and by the Faculty Senate in May to serve a three (3) year term. The Faculty Senate member may serve no more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms. This person shall be responsible for liaison between the Athletics Council and the Faculty Senate and for the introduction in the Faculty Senate of proposed legislation arising in the Athletics Council.

### **Section 3**

At the regular September meeting, voting members of the Athletics Council shall elect from the voting members a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary. The officers shall hold office from the regular September meeting through August 31st. The primary responsibilities of the Athletics Council officers are as follows:

- Chairperson shall work with the Secretary to the Athletics Director to prepare an agenda for each meeting. Agenda should be constructed to assure that all council responsibilities are met during the academic year. Chairperson will also chair the meetings according to the method of Parliamentary Authority in Article VII of these by-laws.
- Vice-chairperson shall run the meetings in the absence of the chair. Vice-chair will assume the position of chair should the chair become unable to perform said functions. The Vice-chair will hold an interim election if others on the Council aspire to the position.
- Secretary will strive to operate the Council in a paperless manner by the maintenance of a website. The content of this site should include agendas, meetings, membership roster data, an up-to-date version of the bylaws, a link to the online exit interview site, and other published policies and protocol of the Council.

**Section 4**

All vacancies occurring on the Athletics Council during the year should be addressed to the proper power and it shall be the responsibility of that power to fill the resulting vacancy.

**Section 5**

The Chairperson of the Athletics Council shall notify in writing, by March 15 of each year, the various groups which should elect (or appoint) a representative from that body for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE IV - Meetings**

**Section 1**

An Athletics Council year shall be from September 1 through August 31 of the following year.

**Section 2**

Meetings will be held monthly at regular times during the academic year and as needed during the summer. If there are no agenda items for a scheduled meeting during the academic year, the meeting may be cancelled at the discretion of the chair.

**Section 3**

These regular meetings shall be open to faculty, staff, and students. The Chairperson of the Athletics Council shall have the right to convene the Council in executive session at appropriate times for closed sessions.

**Section 4**

Six voting members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business; provided, however that not more than two proxies are used to establish a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, a majority of the board members present at that meeting may adjourn to a later date.

**Section 5**

Voting members of the Athletics Council shall be entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting in person or by written proxy.

**ARTICLE V - Committees**

Standing Committees and *ad hoc* Committees of Athletic Council may be formed as needed by the Chair.

**ARTICLE VI - Voting**

**Section 1**

The eleven voting members shall have the right to vote on all business items.

**Section 2**

The Chairperson has a right to make and debate motions and vote on all issues.

**ARTICLE VII - Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Parliamentary Authority, shall govern The Athletic Council.

## **ARTICLE VIII - Amendments of By-Laws**

### **Section 1**

These by-laws can be amended at any regular meeting of the Athletics Council by a majority vote provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous meeting; or provided the membership is advised by email of proposed changes to the by-laws, and these changes be posted on the Athletic Council website for review one week prior to that meeting.

### **Section 2**

Any amendment proposed shall not be in conflict with the Faculty Senate policies and procedures as published in NMSU Policy Manual.