



What does the Faculty Athletics Rep (FAR) Do?

APRIL 9, 2019



NCAA Definition (per FAR handbook)

The NCAA requires each of its member institutions to appoint an FAR who must be on the faculty or administrative staff and may not hold a position in the athletics department.

- Provide oversight of academic integrity of athletics
- Serve as an advocate for student-athlete well-being
- Play a part in maintaining institutional control of athletics

Missouri case

Background:

- Former tutor alleged in November 2016 that she improperly assisted 42 student-athletes over 18 months.
- **Missouri self-reported the violation.**

The NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions on January 31, 2019

- Postseason ban for football, baseball and softball this year
- **Three** years of probation
- 5 percent reduction in scholarships for 2019-20 for Football, baseball and softball.
- Reductions in unofficial visits, official visits, recruiting communications, and off-campus recruiting evaluations.
- Fined Missouri \$5,000, plus 1 percent of each of its budgets in football, baseball and softball.
- Vacation of victories in which the ineligible athletes competed.

UNC

Escaped NCAA sanctions in 2017, in one of the longest-running academic scandals in college sports.

Refused to identify as fraudulent 18 years of classes with no instruction graded by a secretary.

UNC officials contended did not constitute an athletics scandal **because nonathletes were enrolled.**

- 3100 students (with athletes making up nearly half)
- Classes ran from 1993 through summer 2011

Although UNC was not charged with *academic misconduct* the NCAA did accuse them of:

- Impermissible extra benefits to athletes (that did not stick – since available to entire student body)
 - Lack of institutional control
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- Critics blasted the committee's ruling, saying it cleared a path for schools to create classes for athletes with little or no rigor that the NCAA couldn't touch because they were open to all students.

Oversight of Academic Integrity


The NCAA Academic Misconduct Working Group noted that many campuses – but not all – regularly monitor academic matters involving student-athletes as part of ongoing compliance and good governance practices.

These often include

- Review of tutoring policies,
- Major/degree clustering for student-athletes, and the
- Use of independent study courses, among other factors.

Such efforts help an institution **identify outliers that may benefit from further inquiry and develop the necessary policies and protocols to minimize academic misconduct issues.**

NCAA intention appears to be they will not “overreach” when ongoing compliance and good governance practice are in place.



NCAA Response

"In the [committee's] past academic cases, [it] has consistently held both the institution and the institutional employee who engaged in the unethical conduct accountable for their actions," the infractions panel's report said.

But, according to the NCAA, institutions are also responsible for "self-detection" of violations, a responsibility the panel concluded Missouri did not fulfill.

The record did not demonstrate that Missouri failed to monitor, but it also did not demonstrate that Missouri had systems in place designed for prompt self-detection associated with this mitigating factor (e.g., spot checking metadata on submitted assignments).

"The offending conduct continued for one year. But for the tutor's decision to come forward with her conduct, Missouri would not have known that the tutor was completing student-athletes' academic work," its report stated.

Academic Monitoring as Auburn FAR

- Academic credentials of entering student-athletes.
- Academic attainment of continuing students and the rates at which student-athletes graduate.
- Availability of academic services to student-athletes.
- Review and sign all Certificates of Eligibility and Participation Lists (team rosters).
 - Periodically inspect such records for accuracy, performance of procedures, and ensure appropriate and complete documentation.
- Track grade changes of student-athletes and obtain faculty justifications as warranted.
- Course clustering of student-athletes in excess of 25% and enrollment in online courses.
 - This includes comparing grade distributions of student-athletes vs. non-athletes and traditional vs. online.
- Missed class percentages - determine if a waiver is needed and any conditions of the waiver.



What is FGR?

FGR=Federal Graduation Rate

- Essentially measures % of students who complete BA/BS from initial school within 6 years
- Counts all transfers as academic failures



What is GSR?

GSR=Graduation Success Rate

- Division 1 rate that accounts for transfers in/out
- Also tracks graduation over 6 years
- Counts transfers in/out **IF** the students are in good academic standing



AU FGR (all students, SAs) & GSR (male & female SAs, all SAs)

Year	FGR—All Students	FGR – Black Male Students	FGR—Student Athletes	FGR – Black Male Student Athletes	GSR—Female Student Athletes	GSR—Male Student Athletes	GSR—All Student Athletes
2011-12	77%	54%	63%	55%	92%	77%	84%
2010-11	75%	61%	69%	75%	91%	74%	82%
2009-10	73%	50%	69%	56%	91%	70%	80%
2008-09	71%	53%	63%	41%	90%	66%	77%
2007-08	68%	40%	67%	50%	91%	66%	78%
2006-07	68%	35%	65%	60%	84%	68%	75%
2005-06	66%	34%	56%	43%	84%	67%	74%



Auburn University GSR by Men's Sport

Sport	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Baseball	70%	69%	56%	51%
Basketball	64%	60%	56%	60%
Football	72%	70%	69%	68%
Men's Cross-Country	88%	83%		
Men's Other	87%	85%	83%	78%



Student Athlete GPAs

	SP 16	FA 16	SP 17	FA 17	SP 18	FA 18
Ave. Team GPA	3.22	3.15	3.16	3.15	3.16	3.02
Ave Team Cum GPA	3.2	3.17	3.17	3.2	3.19	3.14
Ave Individual SA GPA	3.1	3.06	3.05	3.05	3.06	2.97
Ave Individual SA Cum GPA	3.12	3.10	3.09	3.13	3.12	3.07
Total SA with 3.00+ GAP	316 (63%)	301 (61%)	258 (56%)	281 (58%)	317 (64%)	276 (55%)
Top Team GPA	MTN 3.56	WXC 3.64	WXC, MTN 3.57	VB 3.62	VB 3.59	EQ 3.39
Top Team Cum GPA	WXC 3.52	Soccer 3.50	MTN 3.53	MTN, VB 3.56	VB 3.55	VB 3.43



Scholarships and Awards

2018

- Wesley Curles--NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship (Fall 17)
- Wesley Curles – SEC Brad Davis Scholarship
- Peter Holoda – NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship (Winter 18)
- Coleman Churitch – NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship (Winter 18)
- Natasha Lloyd – NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship (Winter 18)
- Zoe Thatcher – NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship (Winter 18)

There are 21 male and 21 female scholarships per season (Fall, Winter, and Spring) among all NCAA schools. Auburn getting 5 of the possible 126 across the entire NCAA membership speaks highly of the success of our student-athletes.

Cerio named SEC Co-Scholar Athlete of the Year



Cerio, a Huntersville, N.C., product, owns a 3.48 grade-point average in aerospace engineering.

As an athlete, Cerio has been the team's top bars worker since she stepped on campus. On bars, Cerio has recorded three scores of 9.9 on bars with a career-best 9.925 at Kentucky in January. She is among the nation's best with a 9.890 NQS.

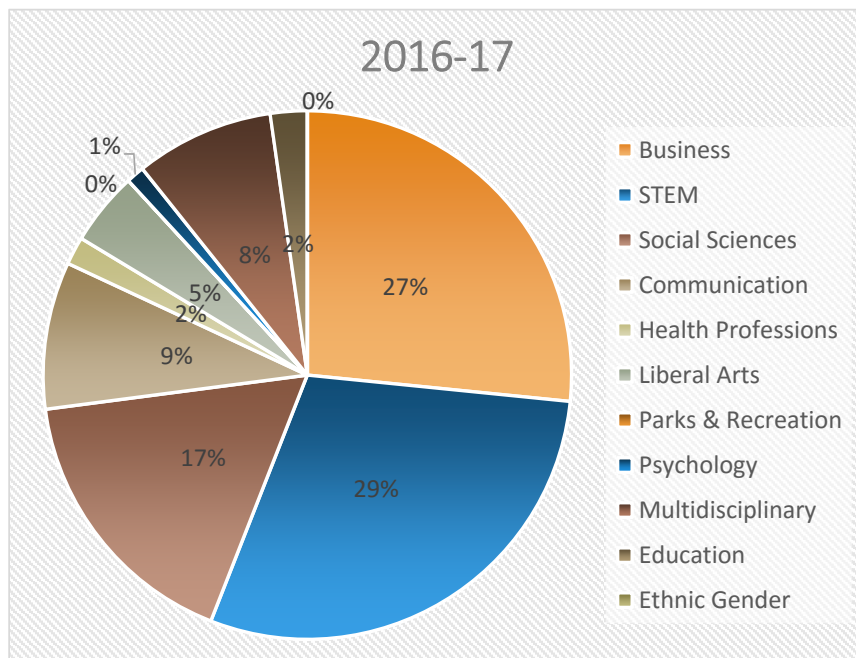
In addition, Cerio has had success on floor this season with five scores of 9.8 or higher. She recently captured the event title last week vs. Air Force with a season-best 9.875.

For her career, Cerio has garnered multiple accolades for her performances. She has earned a spot on the All-SEC or SEC All-Freshman Team on bars every season. She has also represented the Tigers at the NCAA Championship on bars in back-to-back years.

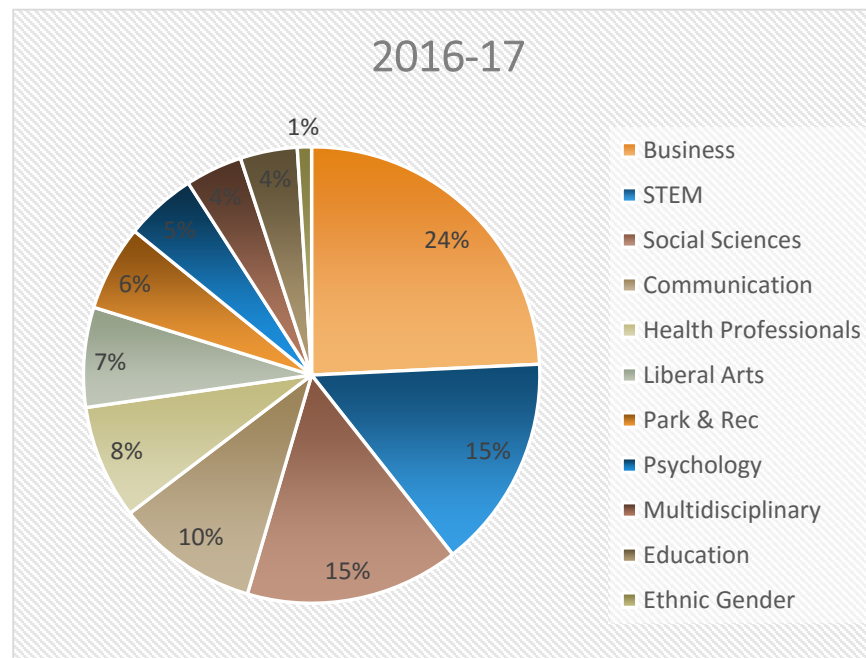


Auburn versus NCAA D1 SA degrees 2016-17 by NCAA categories

AUBURN STUDENT ATHLETES

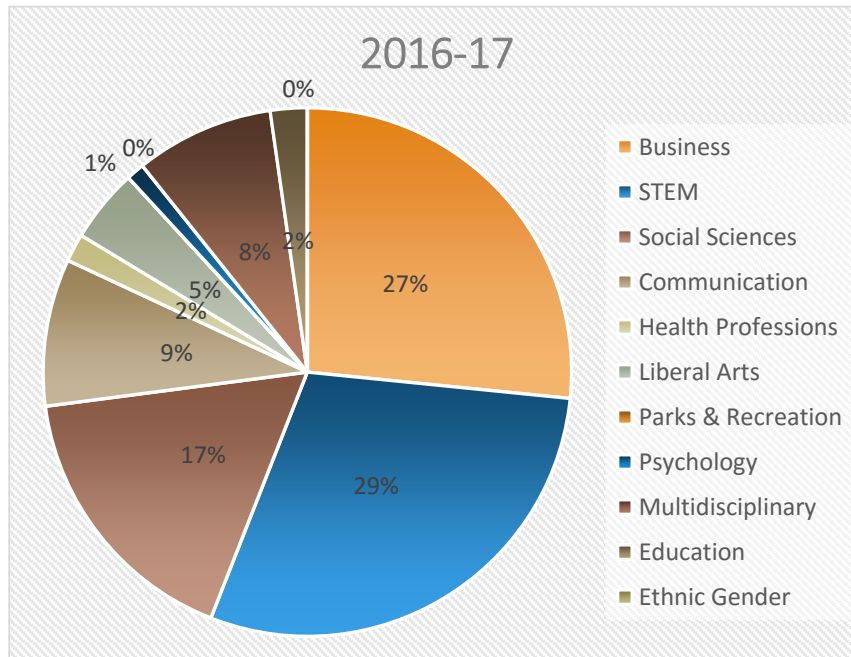


NCAA DIVISION 1 STUDENT ATHLETES

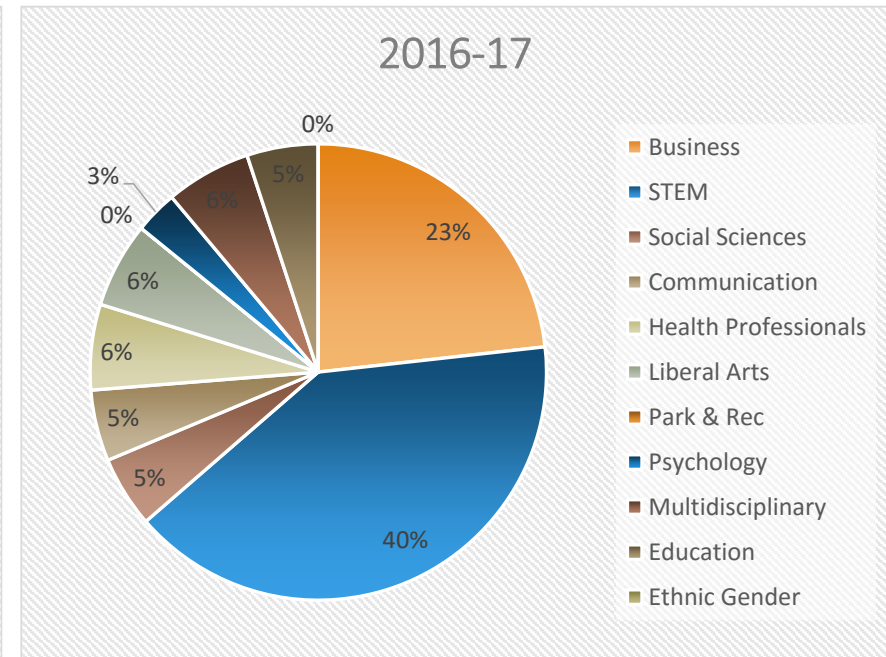


Auburn Student Athletes vs Student Body

AUBURN STUDENT ATHLETES



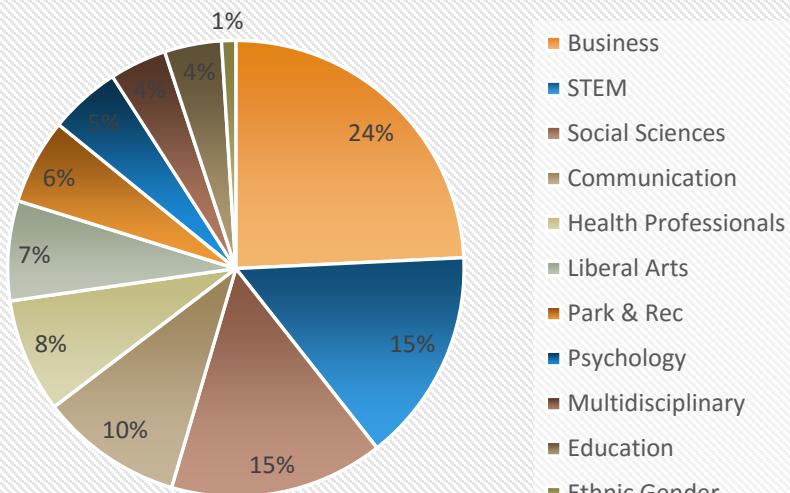
AUBURN STUDENT BODY



NCAA D1 Student Athletes vs. NCAA D1 Student Body

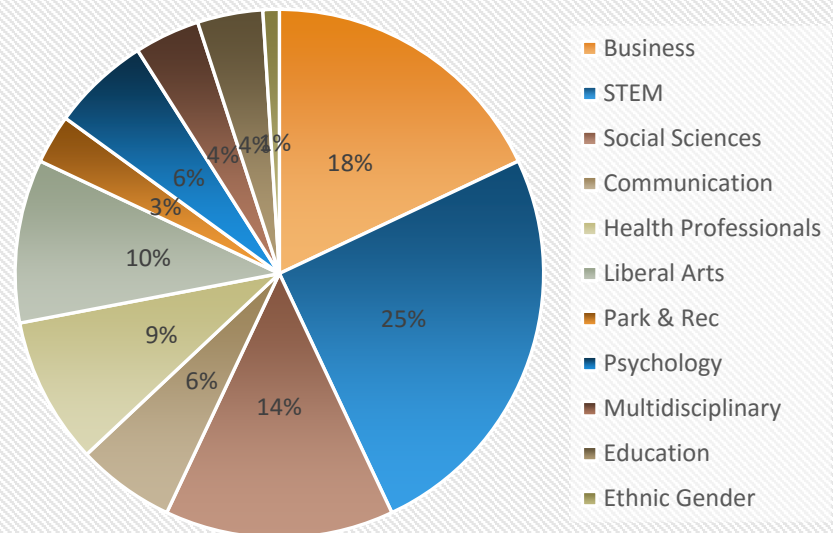
NCAA D1 STUDENT ATHLETES

2016-17



NCAA D1 STUDENT BODY

2016-17




Advocate for Student-Athlete Well-being

Why was the NCAA founded?

- It was founded for issues surrounding the safety and well-being of student-athletes.

According to the NCAA FAR Handbook, FARs should:

- Know that missed-class time policies are being honored
 - Determine that gradations or cancellations of financial aid are made for appropriate reasons
 - Assist student-athletes with waivers or appeal procedures when they encounter class scheduling difficulties
 - Be alert to conditions that affect the health of student-athletes – both physical and psychological problems
 - Attend SAAC meetings
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Advocate for Student-Athlete Well-being

As FAR, I sit in on exit interviews of student-athletes leaving Auburn or finishing their eligibility.

As FAR, I am a member of the Athletics Sexual Violence Prevention Collaboration Team

As FAR I sit in on all of the following meetings:

- Investigation (in the event an arrest or when there is police involvement)
- Notification
- Appeals
- Probationary

Annually the Drug Testing/Education Committee reports to the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics

- Number of tests, number of positive tests, substances breakdown, policy violations (after elimination of authorized drugs detected)
- Drug education and treatment efforts

Institutional Control over Athletics

From the NCAA Committee on Infractions:

- *Important that policies and procedures deter violations and not merely discover existence after they have taken place.*
- *When **proper procedures exist and are appropriately enforced**, especially when they result in the prompt **detection, investigation and reporting** of violations, there may be no lack of institutional control although the individual or individuals directly involved may be held responsible.*

Although the NCAA does not dictate them specifically (at least not yet) it is on us at Auburn to:

- Have policies and procedures that **deter violations**
- Follow them!
- **Detect and investigate**
- Report any violations detected

Lack of institutional control is a much more serious offense than failure to monitor.



It's not just my job

Compliance is **everyone's obligation**.

Don't let loyalty to one's co-worker, student-athletes, or athletics boosters take precedence over loyalty to Auburn and its commitment to comply with NCAA rules.

There is a lack of institutional control if individuals are afraid to report violations because they have a reason to fear negative consequences.

[ETHICSPPOINT](#)

