DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Athletics Academic Services is to provide effective academic and life skills resources to assist student-athletes in reaching their academic goals. Athletics Academic Services works closely with faculty, coaches, and other student support offices to ensure that all Titan student-athletes have the opportunity to adjust to university life, succeed in the classroom, and make sound educational and career choices. Such support programs include: academic counseling, priority registration, tutoring, athletics study hall, academic progress reports, awards and scholarships, and University 115 classes.

PROGRAM/SERVICE OVERVIEW:

NCAA – Academic Progress Rate (2011-2012)

The NCAA holds Division I institutions accountable for the academic progress of their student-athlete through the Academic Progress Rate (APR), a team-based metric that accounts for continuing eligibility, retention and timely graduation.

Every semester, each student-athlete receiving athletically-related financial aid has the possibility of earning two points per regular academic term:

- one retention point for staying at the institution; and/or
- one eligibility point for meeting NCAA minimum benchmarks (see below):
  - Each semester – 6 degree applicable units
  - 18 degree applicable units between fall and spring
    - Freshmen: 24 degree applicable units, 1.80 cumulative GPA
    - Sophomores: 48 degree applicable units, 1.90 cumulative GPA
    - Juniors: 72 degree applicable units, 2.0 cumulative GPA
    - Seniors: 96 degree applicable units, 2.0 cumulative GPA

A team’s total points earned are divided by points possible and then multiplied by one thousand to equal the team’s Academic Progress Rate score for a given year.

- NCAA penalties are based on a four-year average or Multi-Year Score

Previous Penalty Structure (Prior to fall 2012):

- Failure to meet 925 multi-year benchmark with student-athlete(s) that left ineligible (0/2’s):
  - Up to 10% scholarship loss each year
  - Institutional academic improvement plan
- Failure to meet 900 Multi-Year Benchmark:
  - Institutional academic improvement plan submitted to the NCAA for approval
  - Year 1: a public warning letter for poor performance
Year 2: restrictions on scholarships and practice time
Year 3: loss of postseason competition for the team (such as a bowl game or the men's basketball tournament)
Year 4: restricted membership status for an institution. The school's entire athletics program is penalized and will not be considered a part of Division I

Current Penalty Structure

Immediate postseason ban for failure to meet the multi-year benchmarks below:
- 2012-2013 postseason: 900 four-year average or 930 average over most recent two years.
- 2013-2014 postseason: 900 four-year average or 930 average over most recent two years.
- 2014-2015 postseason: either 930 four-year average or 940 average over most recent two years.
- 2015-2016 postseason and beyond: 930 four-year average

Additional penalties for failure to meet above-mentioned benchmarks:
- Institutional academic improvement plan submitted to the NCAA for approval for teams with a multi-year APR below 930
- Level 1: Limits teams to 16 hours of practice a week over five days, with the lost four hours to be replaced with academic activities.
- Level 2: Competition reductions, either in the traditional or nontraditional season, to the first-level penalties.
- Level 3: Menu of penalty options: coaching suspensions, financial aid reductions and restricted NCAA membership

TYPE OF ASSESSMENT:
(To check mark any box below, please double click on the square and select “checked”.)
☑ External Reports
☐ Needs Assessment
☐ Program Evaluation
☐ Student Learning Outcomes
☐ Student Satisfaction Assessment
☐ Student Success
☐ Utilization Data

Number of students in your sample: 207

DATA COLLECTION TIMEFRAME:
Fall 2011 – Summer 2012

DATA COLLECTION METHODS:
NCAA mandated annual reporting (see above)

LIMITATIONS:
Only factors in the academic performance of student-athletes receiving an Athletics Grant.

PROJECT SAMPLE:
Number of students in your sample: 207

SUMMARY OF RESULTS:
Overall, 2011-2012 Multi-Year APR scores were strong, with only one team, Men’s Basketball, falling just below the new 930 multi-year benchmark, with a 929. As a result, an academic improvement plan team, including individuals in and outside of intercollegiate athletics was convened to assess possible factors hindering the academic success of the team. These key factors were included in the attached Academic Improvement Plan.

In addition, and worth noting, the Women’s Cross Country team received public recognition for earning a perfect multi-year score of 1000 for 2011-2012.

KEY FINDINGS:
Please see attached for 2011-2012 individual team Multi-Year APR Scores.
APPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS:

1. Athletics Academic Services works closely with coaches to recruit academically prepared student-athletes through early academic assessment of possible academic deficiencies in an effort to better prepare for successful transition as first time freshmen or transfer student-athletes.

2. Athletics Academic Services also works closely with coaches to reinforce academic expectations with prospective and current student-athletes and provide academic support and life skills programming to facilitate academic success and timely graduation.

3. Athletics Academic Services, Athletics Compliance, coaches, sports supervisors and the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics review current and projected APR scores and plans for improvement at least annually.