

Pathway Goal: Student Achievement **Report:** Year-End: May 2018
Action Item # 1-4

Action Item Description:

Continued development of the APR plan for student athletes.

Submitted By:

Name	Department
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Working Group Members:

Name	Department
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Dan Gianoutsos	Academic Success Center
Desiree Reed-Francois	Intercollegiate Athletics
Rebecca Pugh	Athletics
David Wedley	Athletics

Process and Timeline: Provide a brief summary of the year-long process for your working group.

- Continuation of the plan that was developed and followed during the 2015 academic year.

Describe what has been accomplished so far this year.

The APR plan has developed further with the following initiatives:

- A new Student Athlete Engagement Specialist was added in Fall, 2017,
- A search is underway for an additional academic support specialist,
- Four new graduate assistants who assist in the academic support areas have been added,
- The Rebel Academy (formerly Life Skills) has been expanded to include more workshops and services, and
- Student Athlete Academic Services is working with a new student athlete career specialist added by Athletics in Fall, 2017.

Identify next steps.

The Rebel Academy, which fosters student athletes' life skills, will continue to expand, as will the career services initiatives launched by the student athlete career specialist. These new initiatives will foster APR by helping to retain student athletes and increase their grade point averages.

What will your final product be at the end of the year? Such as, what metrics which will be used to assess your progress/achievement, will a report be generated, etc?

Several metrics will be employed:

- Team grade point averages
- level of participation by student athletes in workshop and training opportunities
- level of participation by student athletes in academic support initiatives, such as Tutoring
- increased retention of student athletes

A report will be generated, in part through APR metrics reported to the NCAA.

You may have reference material to attach to this report. Select from the list.

No additional reference material

OR

Any material generated by this working group (if completed at this time)

End of Mid-Year Report
Remainder of the report will be completed in May.

Year-End

This portion is to be completed in May.

2017-18 Accomplishments.

The working group connected a number of times, in various iterations, but primarily in sub groups. Typically, monthly meetings were held with Academic Success Center (ASC) Student Athlete Academic Services (SAAS) and included Rebecca Pugh, David Wedley and Daniel Gianoutsos as Associate Dean of the ASC. Integrative meetings included the Athletic Director, Desiree Reid-Francois, in several unique meetings, as well as monthly meetings with the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee and members of the working group. Emerging goals included the ongoing extent as well as the need for academic support counselors and tutors for UNLV's student athletes, as well as ongoing expansion of SAAS retention specialists. Student-Athlete Academic Services (SAAS) representatives Rebecca Pugh and David Wedley have kept the Athletic Director informed on a regular basis. It was also identified that additional academic support counselors are needed (currently, there are only two). Further, there was an expanding need for additional tutors available in the Lied Library to provide not only group academic support, but also individual tutoring for student athletes. The area in the Lied Library that is assigned to student athletes is woefully small and often so crowded that student athletes leave. Thus, a much-expanded tutoring space for student athletes emerged as an important priority.

- all teams met APR requirements
- an athletic/academic record was set in a team gpa average of 3.0
- a new Athletic Director, Desiree Reid-Francois was hired. Ms. Reid-Francois has made significant strides in establishing a culture in Athletics that academics would be a high priority
- an additional SAAS retention specialist is being hired and two academic support counselors were retained
- thanks to the outstanding leadership of Athletic Director Desiree Reed-Francois, a student athlete career specialist was hired
- the SAAS tutoring program is continuing to hire more tutors at a higher hourly rate to help with retention of tutors
- the SAAS tutoring program hired a new space supervisor in the Library, which will help in scheduling high-need subjects at the most convenient times for student athletes
- expansion of the Rebel Academy to include greater breadth and depth of life skills for student athletes

SWOT Analysis: Determine the strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats presented in the data.

Strength(s)	(Please refer to the list of Accomplishments above)
Weakness(es)	Lack of adequate student athlete Tutoring space.
Opportunity(ies)	SAAS has identified the opportunity to raise funds for a new scholarship program that would fund student athletes who have dropped out and still need thirty or less credits to return to UNLV and complete course work.
Threat(s)	Diminished ASC budget, with no room for additional staff hires. Additionally, due to budget challenges, SAAS tutoring hours needed to be cut by approximately 20%.

2018-19 recommendations and next steps

- **What does the SWOT analysis reveal?**
The SWOT analysis reveals major strides made over the last three years in terms of meeting APR benchmarks and improving overall team gpa average. Additionally, the analysis indicates that staffing increases have played a major role in student athlete academic achievements.
- **What should the goals / activities be for the subcommittee?**
The subcommittee should explore further potential Tutoring spaces, as well as ways to compensate for the cut in Tutoring services to student athletes.
- **Who should be responsible?**
Dean of the ASC, Associate Dean of the ASC, Assistant Director of Compliance and Academics, and Director of Student Athlete Academic Services.

- An additional 1,000 square feet of tutoring/academic support space is needed
- A minimum of six additional tutors who can assist in the Social Sciences and Humanities
- Develop reward systems to inspire student athletes who are at-risk to utilize the academic support services that are available
- connect in a more in-depth fashion with coaches in order to encourage student athletes to utilize academic support

Next steps

- expansion of both tutoring and Academic Support Counselors for student athletes
- continue to monitor APR data quarterly and move the needle above the 3.0 all-team gpa average
- continue to communicate and make connections with the coaching staff for each team to increase academic support utilization

Responsible parties: Dean of ASC, Associate Dean of ASC, Athletic Director, Associate Athletics Director, Compliance & Student-Athlete Academic Services, Director of Student Athlete Academic Services

You may have reference material to attach to this report. Select from the list.

No additional reference material

OR

Any material generated by this working group

Additional information to include (optional).

It is important to continue to note that UNLV, Athletics, and SAAS are successfully on track to meeting all of our APR requirements and academic records have been set this year.

End of Report