



Southern Wesleyan University

F.A.N.

Fall 2013



Why NCAA?

Hello SWU Faculty!

Welcome to the first edition of the Southern Wesleyan University Faculty-Athletics Newsletter (F.A.N.). The SWU-F.A.N. is designed to keep you, our faculty, informed about what is going on in Warrior athletics. We want to provide you with information about our teams and coaches. In this first SWU-FAN we want to take the opportunity to answer some questions we have been hearing about our recent move to the NCAA II and give you some general information about athletics that you may not already know.

Why DID SWU make the move to the NCAA II and Conference Carolinas?

While there were many reasons, the most compelling was quality of life for our student-athletes. In our current conference (NAIA/SSAC) we are required to play teams that are spread out over a large geographical area resulting in an average travel distance of 600 miles! As you have noticed this takes a toll on our student-athletes both in and out of the classroom. In the new Conference Carolinas, our average travel will be cut in half!! This means more time in the classroom and less time on the road. This will give the student-athlete a better quality of life and we also believe you will see this impact your classes in a direct and positive way.

Where are we in the NCAA transition process?

Currently we are finishing up this year in the NAIA as well as making transition into the NCAA II in Candidacy Year 1. We are eligible for post season play in our NAIA conference as well as NCCAA (National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association). Next year (14-15) SWU will be in Candidacy Year 2 of the NCAA II process, which means that we will be playing teams in Conference Carolinas, and in every way operating like a NCAA II member. We will NOT be eligible for post-season tournament play in the NCAA, but will play in NCCAA post-season. After our second year in the conference we will then move to *provisional* membership and will be eligible for post-season competition. At this point, another advantage of the move to the NCAA is that we will not be responsible for the expenses associated with post-season as these are covered by the NCAA II.

Why is the NCAA good for academics?

Aside from the travel reason listed above, which will have tremendous impact on the classroom, the NCAA requires a tremendous level of academic accountability. In order to ensure that schools are doing all they can to meet these standards they have numerous programs and grants available. We are working to develop some academic success programs (with funding from NCAA) that will help student-athletes with tutoring, access to books and computers, study space, and grade monitoring. We are confident that these additional resources will further improve our student-athlete academic performance. Currently our overall GPA in athletics is 3.1 and our graduation rate for athletes is 53%. While this is strong when compared to the university wide numbers (3.03, 27%), we would still like to see both of these numbers increase and we believe moving to the NCAA will help us reach our goals.

*So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
Romans 12:5*

We really do believe in the "One Body" philosophy and know we will accomplish very little without a strong relationship between each member. We are excited about the strong connection with you-faculty, because we believe that with academics and athletics on the same team, there is no limit to where Southern Wesleyan University can go.

Blessings,

Todd Voss, President
Chris Williams, Director of Athletics
Emily Germain- Faculty Athletics Representative

Fall Faces



Camilo Rodriguez—Men's Soccer (6th season)

- Players represent 6 different countries
- 2012 team posted program best 15-3-2 record
- 2012 and 2013 teams were ranked in NAIA Top 25 and NCCAA Top 10
- Team GPA over the last three years:
 - 2012—3.05
 - 2011—3.06
 - 2010—2.94



Corey Morrell—Women's Soccer (1st season)

- Seven of 12 returning players from 2012 posted a 3.00 GPA or better
- Team GPA was 3.05
- Team conducts clinics for youth programs in the spring
- Every other Sunday team meets for Bible study



Julia Reininga—Volleyball (2nd season)

- Team recently took missions trip to Costa Rica in August
- 2013 team finished T-2nd in SSAC
- Team has won 20+ matches in each of the last four seasons
- 2012 team finished 5th at NCCAA National Tournament
- Team GPA is 3.39
- Team volunteers with South Carolina Special Olympics



Chip Rouse—Men's and Women's Cross Country (8th season)

- Women placed 2nd at 2012 SSAC Meet and became first team in program history to run at NAIA Nationals
- Erica Seagers won SSAC Meet in 2012, first time in school history
- Men placed 3rd in 2012 SSAC Meet
- John Fredrickson qualified for NAIA Nationals in 2012
- Hosted 3 meets this year; Warrior Invitational as well as OCA home meet and SCACS State Championship, bringing over 500 visitors to campus



John Davis—Women's Basketball (4th season)

- Team posted a 3.03 GPA last year
- Six student-athletes had a GPA over 3.00 last year
- Davis will take the team on a missions trip to Kentucky in August 2014
- Team has had success on the court, averaging 15 wins over the last three seasons



Charles Wimphrie—Men's Basketball (21st season)

- Wimphrie ranks 15th in the NAIA among active coaches with 353 career victories
- The 2012-13 team finished 17-15 overall, losing to eventual SSAC tournament champion Faulkner in the 1st round
- Warriors fell in NCCAA regional finals to eventual NCCAA National Champion, Shorter University
- Last year Nikola Lambic graduated No. 1 in his class with a 3.98 GPA and is currently studying for a Masters in Chemistry at North Carolina State University



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NCAA Timeline

July 2013: Initially denied NCAA membership

September 2013: Appeal granted by NCAA, begin Year One Candidacy immediately

December 2013: NCAA site visit

January 2014: Attend NCAA Convention

Spring 2014: Site visit to Queens University (Charlotte)

May 2014: Finish competition as member of NAIA and SSAC

June 2014: Submit Annual Report to NCAA

July 2014: NCAA decision about moving SWU from Year One Candidacy to Year Two Candidacy

September 2014: Begin play in Conference Carolinas, remain ineligible for NCAA Championships

June 2015: Submit Annual Report to NCAA

July 2015: NCAA decision about moving SWU from Year Two Candidacy to Provisional Member

July 2016: NCAA decision to grant SWU full membership as a Division II institution and begin eligibility for NCAA Championships

Student-Athlete Awards

2013-14 Season (through Fall season)

- 23 SSAC All-Academic Team selections (NAIA and NCCAA Academic awards to be announced soon!)
- 2 1st Team All-SSAC selections

2012-13 Season

- 32 SSAC All-Academic Team selections
- 16 NAIA Scholar Athletes
- 12 NCCAA Scholar Athletes
- 10 1st Team All-SSAC selections
- 1 SSAC Player of the Year (Erica Seagers)
- 1 SSAC Coach of the Year (Camilo Rodriguez)
- 6 NCCAA All-Americans (1st, 2nd, 3rd or Honorable Mention)

Upcoming Home Schedule

December

Saturday, 14 - Men's Basketball vs. Limestone 7 p.m.

Monday, 16 - Women's Basketball vs. Columbia 2 p.m.

Tuesday, 17 - Women's Basketball vs. Limestone 6 p.m.

January

Thursday, 2 - Women's Basketball vs. Erskine 6 p.m.

Friday, 10 - Women's Basketball vs. Belhaven 5:30 p.m.

Friday, 10 - Men's Basketball vs. Belhaven 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 11 - Women's Basketball vs. Loyola 3 p.m.

Saturday, 11 - Men's Basketball vs. Loyola 5 p.m.

NCAA Compliance

It Takes All of Us

Monitoring and following NCAA legislation is a campus-wide effort. Southern Wesleyan University, as a whole, is expected to follow NCAA and conference rules. The consequences of not following the rules have a lasting impact on the entire University and the University is held responsible for any violations committed by any institution employees.

Here at Southern Wesleyan University, we all have a shared responsibility to maintain compliance of all NCAA, Conference Carolinas and institutional policies.

NCAA Legislation encompasses several areas including:

- Ethical conduct of all University employees and student-athletes
- Academic progress and eligibility of student-athletes
- Maintaining best practices in recruiting prospective student-athletes
- Monitoring practice and participation hours in our athletic programs for all of our student-athletes (20 hours maximum per week for in-season sports, 8 hours maximum per week for sports outside of their playing season.)

Those are just a handful of the areas that we will begin to monitor. I ask for your continued cooperation and patience during this transition. There is legislation that does effect what we, as a University, can and can't do for our student-athletes.

If you are unsure about legislation or want to clarify what actions you can take, please don't hesitate to contact me. In the coming weeks and months, I will continue to provide rules education materials and resources for our entire campus community.

Thank you for all that you do for our University. I look forward to working with all of you as we make the transition into the NCAA Division II and Conference Carolinas. Thank you for being a part of Southern Wesleyan University Compliance!

Ask Before You Act!

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