

To: University Council

Date: April 24, 2019

From: Professor David Shipley, Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA

Re: Report to Council

I am making this report in my capacity as the University's Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA, and as member of the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA). Under the Bylaws COIA is to report to Council on the academic progress of our student-athletes, and to provide an annual written review of the Academic Support Group of the Athletic Association. The Committee met with several coaches, a group of student-athletes, and the Association's academic support personnel just yesterday so that written report is now in the works.

As for academic progress, UGA's student-athletes finished 2017-18 with an overall GPA of 3.10, and this tied the overall GPA recorded in 2016-17 as the best ever. All of the Women's teams were above 3.00, ranging from 3.04 to 3.45 for Women's Cross Country. They received the FAR Award last fall as the team with the best overall GPA. Cross Country also topped the Men's teams with a 3.32 GPA, and this was sixth time since 2010 that these long distance runners had come in ahead of the other Men's teams. Last year, all but two of the Men's teams were at or above 3.00. For the Spring semester 6.8% of Georgia's student-athletes were at 4.00, 26.7% were at 3.50 or above, and 60.8% were at 3.00 or above. Incidentally, 83 student-athletes graduated last May.

Some of academic awards presented to UGA's student-athletes in 2017-18 including 6 individuals being named SEC Scholar Athlete of the Year in their respective sports for the entire conference, 2 NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarships, and multiple honors for Olympian and 8 time NCAA Champion triple-jumper Keturah Orji including being named the NCAA Woman of the Year. She was also the National Outdoor Track & Field Scholar Athlete of the Year, and UGA's Liz Murphey Female Athlete of the Year. 8 teams received All-Academic Team Awards from their respective coaches' associations in 2017-18: Soccer, Women's Tennis, Men's and Women's Cross Country, Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving, and Men's and Women's Track & Field – both NCAA Champions too.

We had 21 student-athletes graduate in December, and the overall GPA for UGA's student-athletes, male and female, for the fall semester was 3.00 with 54.2% above 3.00; Men's Cross Country set the pace with a 3.49 GPA with Women's Swimming & Diving in second with a 3.37 GPA; all but two of the Women's teams had GPAs above 3.00 as did all but three of the Men's teams; 284 student-athletes were named to the J. Reid Parker Director of Athletics Honor Roll with a total of 21 achieving 4.00 GPAs; and, both the Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving teams were selected for the Scholar All America award by the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association. About 100 student-athletes will graduate in May and August.