April 22, 2015

Report of the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics

The University Council Bylaws require the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics to report to Council on the academic progress of student-athletes at least once a semester.

First, 33 student-athletes graduated in December.

Second, the overall graduation success rate for our student-athletes is now at a record 84.6%, up from 83% a year ago, and that this rate is almost identical to the rate for the general student body. Graduation rates of 100% were achieved in gymnastics, women's swimming, and women's tennis and that 9 teams had rates above 90%.

Third, in addition to finishing in the Top 10 in the final polls, UGA's football team also did very well in the college football retention rankings, according to Edventures. This entity looked at rankings based on retention and other metrics. UGA is one of six schools nationally that outperforms its competition both on and off the field. The other five are Florida State, Ohio State, Texas A & M, Southern Cal, and UCLA.

Fourth, in the fall semester UGA's student-athletes (286 women and 266 men) achieved the Athletic Association's overall 3.00 goal for the 2nd year in a row; this is across the board, all student-athletes, men and women, all teams, all sports. Of our student-athletes, 5% were at 4.00, 23% were between 3.5 and 3.99, and 52% were at or above 3.00. Among the teams, cross country was the best for men with a 3.19, and among the women's teams swimming & diving was best with a 3.36. Incidentally, this team won two consecutive NCAA titles in 2013 and 2014 and finished second to Cal this year. Excellence in the classroom and the pool!

Respectfully submitted,

David Shipley, Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA and ex officio member of the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics