

# **Cox Communications Academic Center for Student Athletes**

**“It takes an entire village to raise a child”**

*“African Proverb”*

**Walt Holliday  
Director of Academic Affairs**



# Vision – Mission - Values

- **Vision**

- **To be the premier provider of transformative student-athlete support services.**

- **Mission**

- **Our team is committed to challenging student-athletes to achieve their highest level of intellectual and personal development.**

- **Values**

- **Accountability Commitment Success Integrity Diversity Teamwork Service Education**



# Goals

- **Graduate Our Student-Athletes**
- **Prepare Student-Athletes for Life After LSU**
- **Promote and Preserve Academic Integrity Through Education and Example**
- **Nurture the Personal Well-Being and Professional Aspirations of Our Team**



# Organizational Structure

- **Academic Affairs Team – Academic Advisors**
- **Educational Support Services - Learning Specialist & Tutorial**
- **Student Affairs Team– Academic Assessment – Life Skills**
- **Executive Team – Directors – IT / Facility Manager & Business Manager.**



# Recent Accomplishments

- **LSU's overall 2019 Graduation Success Rate (GSR)** score of 89% tied with Auburn and Missouri as the fourth-highest total among all Southeastern Conference institutions and third-best among public institutions in the league. Vanderbilt, a private university, led the way in the SEC with a score of 97. A total of six LSU teams team had a perfect graduation score of 100%.
- **Graduation All-Time High:** In 2018-19, LSU had a school-record 123 student-athletes graduate from the university, topping the previous mark of 114 set during the 2010-11 academic year. Most recently recognized 213 student-athletes for posting a 3.0 grade point average or better during the 2019 fall semester.
- **Nationally Certified Tutorial Program** through Level III –via College Reading & Learning Association. Certifications for Level I, II, & III by the International Tutor Training Program Certification Committee.
- **N4A 2019 Model Practices Award:** The Cox Center received the National Association of Student-Athlete Development Professionals (N4A) Model practices award for our Math Enrichment Program. The Math Enrichment program took shape in the summer of 2015 to serve as a bridge between recently graduated high school students and rising college freshmen.



# The Charge

- It is our responsibility as educators to ensure that the various needs of our students, staff, and faculty are met and, at minimal, heard for the purposes of enhancing the quality of services and adhering to the university's flagship agenda of Leading Louisiana and Impacting the World!



# The Problem

There can be a tenuous balance between academic affairs, student affairs and the athletics community.



# Bridge the Gap Between Athletics and Academics

- **Student-Athletes**
- **Academic Advisors**
  - **Athletic Admin**
    - **Coaches**
  - **Academic Affairs**
  - **Student Affairs**
  - **College Advisors**
  - **Campus Police**
- **Career Center**
- **Residence Life**
- **Learning Centers**
- **Deans & Faculty**
- **Registrar's Office**
- **Student Advocacy**
  - **Community**

**All Inclusive system of support**





# Power of Partnerships

- Academic Policy Review Committee
- University Council of Gender Equity
- Staff Senate and Faculty Senate
- Admissions Standards & Honors Committee
- Diversity Action Team
- Staff Handling Assorted Student-Athlete Matters
- Office of Student Advocacy & Accountability



# Partnerships

- It is important to develop, enhance and cultivate these relationships with **sincerity**, **honesty** and **integrity**



# Transparency

- **Must Be Transparent in How We Do Business**
- **Tell Our Story and Share Our Success**
- **Meet With Faculty and Staff Senate**
- **Guest Coach Program**



# Graduation & Retention

- Faculty Outreach
- Academic Behavior
- Mid-Term Grade Reports



# Thank You

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