



**Southern Illinois University System**  
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January 29, 2021

Members of the Board Academic Matters Committee

Ed Hightower, Chair  
Steven Gear  
Subhash Sharma

Dear Committee Members:

The Academic Matters Committee will meet on Thursday, February 11, 2021, at 11 a.m. via Zoom or YouTube. The agenda, minutes from the December 3, 2020 meeting, and electronic copies of the Athletic Reports can be viewed through the Board's portal system.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gireesh V. Gupchup".

Gireesh V. Gupchup  
Vice President for Academic Innovation, Planning, and Partnerships

GVG/pm

Attachments

c: Ed Curtis  
Steven Gear  
J. Phil Gilbert  
Jacob Graham  
John Simmons  
Roger Tedrick

Dan Mahony  
Austin Lane  
Randall G. Pembrook  
Jerry Kruse  
Other Interested Parties

**Office of the President**

Stone Center - Mail Code 6801 • 1400 Douglas Drive • Carbondale, Illinois 62901  
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## AGENDA

### MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 11, 2021  
11 a.m.

Stone Center, Large Dining Room  
Southern Illinois University System Office  
Carbondale, Illinois  
live stream video at [siusystem.edu](http://siusystem.edu) via YouTube,  
and through Zoom

1. Announcements
2. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting December 3, 2020
3. Information Report: Athletic Report
4. Presentation: Cougar Connectors: A New Initiative

Presenters: Eric W. Ruckh, Associate Professor of History  
Director, University Honors Program

Ian Toberman, Assistant Director, University Honors Program

Colin Boysen, Undergraduate – Junior Year, Economics  
President, Honors Student Association

Alexia Burnett, Undergraduate – Sophomore Year, Nursing

Marcus Kwasa, Undergraduate – Sophomore Year, Nursing

5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

**Minutes of the Academic Matters Committee Meeting**

Thursday, December 3, 2020  
Immediately following the Executive Committee meeting

Stone Center, Large Dining Room  
Southern Illinois University System Office  
Carbondale, Illinois  
live stream video at [siusystem.edu](http://siusystem.edu) via YouTube and through Zoom

The Academic Matters Committee met at 11:03 a.m on Thursday, December 3, 2020, via Zoom. Present were: Ed Hightower (Chair), Steven Gear, and Subhash Sharma. Other Board members present were: Ed Curtis, J. Phil Gilbert, Jacob Graham, John Simmons, and Roger Tedrick. Executive Officers present were: President Dan Mahony; Senior Vice President Duane Stucky; Vice President Gireesh Gupchup; Chancellor Austin Lane, SIUC; Chancellor Randall Pembroke, SIUE; and Dean and Provost Jerry Kruse, SIU School of Medicine.

**Announcements**

Dr. Gupchup applauded the faculty from the campuses for the work they are doing to address the COVID-19 pandemic. He provided an overview of the successful collaboration across campuses with SIUE's Mass Communication and SIUC's Mass Communication and Media Arts Global Fusion Conference, and a Webinar (Election 2020: What's at Stake?) featuring SIUE and SIUC political science faculty who identified key issues and important takeaways in the November 3<sup>rd</sup> election from the local to the national and international levels.

He informed the Board that the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) is focused on developing their strategic plan where three top themes have emerged—cost, equity and enrollment. IBHE is also working on a “common application” for all public 4-year universities.

He concluded his announcements with a status update on the SIU System Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning Committee surveyed SIUC and SIUE stakeholder groups consisting of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members and the data collected was used to form a “working” vision, mission, and goals that was shared with the Board. He acknowledged SIUC's Applied Research Consultants for their analyses that have helped the Committee conceptualize the data received through the survey. The Committee continues to review data and will conduct “town halls” to get additional input from stakeholders on the vision, mission, and goals.

Dr. Hightower commented that the commitment of the stakeholders is very gratifying and he encouraged Dr. Gupchup to continue to move forward. Judge Gilbert echoed Dr. Hightower's comments, adding the specific plan that is being developed and to be approved by the Board at a later time will put the institution on the right track for future generations.

Trustee Sharma commented that since he has been on the Board, progress has been made exponentially, and he is pleased to see the system wide progress between the universities. He would like to see more of this and thanked Dr. Gupchup for his work.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the September 17, 2020, Meeting**

Motion was made by Trustee Sharma to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2020, meeting. The motion was duly seconded by Dr. Hightower. Madam Secretary called roll call with Hightower, Gear, and Sharma passing the motion.

### **Informational Report: *Performance Report***

Dr. Gupchup gave a brief overview of the Performance Report that documents the efforts of the university to achieve the four goals of the Illinois Public Agenda. The provosts from SIUC, SIUE, and SIU School of Medicine (Meera Komarraju, Denise Cobb, and Jerry Kruse) highlighted one success that were achieved under each of the four goals.

Dr. Hightower thanked Dr. Gupchup and the provosts for their reports. He went on to say that the Performance Report provides a quality blueprint to communicate with our constituents that we are good stewards, and we are conscious of making a positive change to put the System on an upward trajectory. He commended the provosts for their outstanding work. He finds it gratifying to see their work especially when looking at the trajectory of retention, engagement of students, the monitoring system at all three campuses, changes in GPA, and focus on academic scholarship. He asked if there were comments from the Academic Matters Committee or other trustees.

Judge Phil Gilbert echoed Dr. Hightower's remarks and said he was truly impressed with the reports. He added that we are in the midst of a most difficult time in our country since the Great Depression and WWII. It will be through education, particularly Higher Education, that we can come through the Pandemic as a society and be stronger going forward. SIU has been thinking outside of the box and providing an education opportunity for everyone. There are several people unemployed, struggling and SIU will be providing the backdrop to help them in the future. The people in the state of Illinois and the people in the areas served by the campuses can be proud of our faculty and staff for moving forward during this difficult time.

Dr. Hightower asked each of the provosts to share how difficult it has been during this Pandemic to move forward, the results they are seeing, and how they made it happen.

Provost Komarraju said Carbondale's approach to the situation has been a team effort and everyone has come forward with focus on the goals to keep the university moving

forward despite the constraints. It has been a dedication and a feeling of a common cause—in it all together. Being resourceful, thinking outside-of-the-box, and making the experience for the students as meaningful as possible has been a team effort.

Provost Cobb said as an organizational sociologist at heart, she thinks we often hear how challenging organization change is and how slow large bureaucracies are to change. They are seeing examples of extraordinarily large bureaucratic organizations turning in ways they never imagined possible. It is a testament to what their faculty and staff did and the resiliency of their students. SIUE approached it as a cultural priority for shared governance. They used their Academic Continuity Task Force to plan. They created another iteration of that group to imagine fall semester and will continue to plan for the future. SIUE is committed to continuous improvement regardless of the environment. Their ethos—what can we do better, how can we continue to serve our students, what changes do we need to better support faculty and staff in doing all we imagined for the students regardless of modality. It has been incredibly hard but they hope to mitigate challenges along the way.

Provost Kruse said Clinical Care is a lot of what they do so providing for the needs of patients with COVID-19, and all care to other patients and partner patients was their main focus. The big concern was getting supplies. Partnerships have been great, and they have worked hard to build those throughout the area. They have had to develop and use new technology through telehealth and virtual learning. The partnerships and SIU School of Medicine motto “If it ain’t broke, make it better” has allowed them to navigate through the Pandemic.

Dr. Hightower asked Dr. Gupchup to put together a media package to communicate with legislators and the public on what SIU has done to address the Pandemic challenges and to share positive results to show the public SIU has not stopped working. SIU is not making excuses but finding new ways to continue to move the institution forward. This is what he would like to convey to constituents and legislators to show SIU is getting the job done.

Dr. Hightower asked if there were any other comments to which Dr. Sharma commented that he commends Dr. Gupchup and the provosts for their work during these difficult circumstances.

### **Information Report: Awards and Contracts**

Dr. Gupchup asked the chief research officers with Dr. Jerry Weinberg (SIUE), Dr. Gary Kinsel (SIUC), and Dr. Donald Torry (SIU School of Medicine) to provide noteworthy grants and key grants from their FY20 respective reports.

Dr. Weinberg reported on the following grant awards for SIUE

1. National Science Foundation grant titled *ADVANCE Adaptation: Toward an Inclusive Model of Excellence in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)* that will be used to increase recruitment and hiring of diverse female STEM/SBS faculty.

2. National Endowment for the Humanities grant titled *Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW) Recovery Hub* that will be a collaboration with 20 scholars across the country to create a network of scholars to surface works by women writers through digital methods and also provide support, mentorship and peer-review services for women in the digital humanities.
3. National Science Foundation grant titled *Evidence-based Transformation of Undergraduate Field Schools to Promote Safety and Inclusivity* that will be used to research the prevention of sexual harassment occurring during undergraduate field-based courses.
4. National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the NIH titled *Environmental Health Investigators: Building STEM Interest to Promote Careers in the Health Sciences* that will develop a community-based environmental health program and provide minority students opportunities to learn about and prepare for a career in health sciences.

He also highlighted two awards for emerging centers—1) United States Department of Agriculture award titled *MEG Models: A Holistic Systems-Based Modeling Technique for Improved Agricultural Production System Performance and reduced Postharvest Loss* that will research the creation of a new modeling technique to improve agricultural production systems and reduce postharvest loss, and 2) Contracts from Applied Analysis Solutions LLC that will aid in the following:

- a. 25 year assessment of grassland quality via remote sensing to determine the effect of management practices on observed insect decline
- b. analysis of water quality at river / ocean confluence related a global company's personal care products
- c. optimization of an EPA-based geospatial computer algorithm for assessing agricultural chemical effects on endangered species within the US

He ended with the collaborative grants/contracts between campuses which include:

#### SIU School of Medicine/SIUE

1. ThinkFirst - Goal: SIU SOM ThinkFirst Injury Prevention program, in conjunction with SIUE and the We Care clinic, to expand teen driving educational program services in to the Metro-East Illinois area.
2. Trauma Recovery Centers - Goal: provide trauma informed psychotherapy to victims of crime and violence and streamline legal, medical, and social service systems.
3. IDPH Asthma Grant - Goal: determine areas with highest levels of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in Sangamon County.

#### SIUC/SIUE

1. Relieve World Hunger with Corn Protein from Midwest - Goals: To expedite the usage of distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS) as a common aquafeed ingredient in the U.S. and to maximize the usage of the high quality DDGS produced from various new de-fiber technology

2. Illinois Science Assessment Partnership – Item Development and Scoring - Goal: To develop cluster items aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards in Science (ILS-S) and the state approved expanded blueprint to be piloted and used on the Illinois Science Assessment

Dr. Kinsel reported the faculty and staff at SIU Carbondale were highly successful in obtaining external grants and contracts during FY20. Research and service-based grants and contracts received and processed during FY20 totaled \$47.1M. This figure excludes \$4.4M of one-time funding received from the federal CARES Act as well as \$17.6M of external awards received by the SIU SOM in Springfield. He went on to highlight the following notables:

1. National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Awards were given to two junior faculty Pravas Deria and Arash Komae. In the past 20 years 16 SIUC faculty have been awarded NSF CAREER awards.
2. Three undergraduate students were awarded NSF Graduate Research Fellowships-Allison McMinn, Amanda Gomes, and Haley Hostetter.
3. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency award allowing for the installation of an array of solar panels on the Engineering building roof and serves as a research station for student training and optimization of the energy production system.
4. External awards to provide for a wide variety of services to the children, families and working adults of southern Illinois. Funding was provided provide to Head Start, Autism, Talent Pipeline Management program and the Rehabilitation Institute. All together the funding behind these services totals to more than \$21 million.
5. Awards for research in Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory (CWRL) and the Center for Fisheries Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences (CFAAS).
6. Funding for SIU Research Park and the Office of Innovation and Economic Development to provide free, confidential business consulting to emerging and expanding businesses, as well as training and development opportunities.
7. Various state and private funding to Agricultural research.

He concluded with System wide collaboration awards for the exploration of the use of corn protein derived from distiller's waste as a food source for aquatic species and a partnership amongst various institutions in the state of Illinois in the development of new testing modules. He also mentioned future considerations for research that will focus on food production/agriculture, energy production, sustainability science, and economic development. Much of the focus is encompassed in the mission of emergent Illinois Fermentation Entrepreneurship, Research, and Manufacturing (iFERM) Center. Furthermore, the iFERM Center, as a campus resource and hub in the Illinois Innovation Network, will spur scientific discovery, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and lead to economic development in the southern Illinois region and across the state of Illinois.

Dr. Torry reported that SIU School of Medicine (SOM) has enjoyed a long and productive history in many areas of biomedical research and healthcare implementation. New and continuation awards to several faculty in FY20 perpetuate this tradition and will

impact research for years to come. He highlighted the following notable awards impacting the future direction for SOM:

### **Auditory Research**

1. National Institute of Health support to determine mechanisms and genes involved in the survival and regeneration of hair cells of the inner ear.
2. National Institute of Health support support to determine potential role of an oral nutraceutical for treatment of chemotherapy-induced ototoxicity leading to hearing loss.
3. Department of Defense (new award) to study tinnitus, the perception of ringing in the ears often associated with hearing loss.

The rich history of auditory research at SOM is best highlighted by a renewed NIH award to Dr. Caspary, which marks the 40th consecutive year of NIH funding for this project.

### **Alzheimer's and Neurology Research.**

1. National Institute of Health (two NIH RO1 awards) to understand mechanisms of abnormal neurotransmission in Alzheimer's disease progression, plus two separate NIH research supplements to promote workforce diversity in her lab and secure new experimental equipment for studies.
2. Two separate clinical trials investigating immunotherapeutic approaches to treat subjects with early Alzheimer's disease and, separately, to treat moderate Alzheimer's patients.
3. Phase III trial to evaluate an immunomodulating approach to decrease the presence of autoantibodies in Myasthenia Gravis patients.
4. Phase III clinical trial investigating a small drug approach as adjuvant therapy for adults with seizures in drug-resist epilepsy.
5. Kiwanis International grant to determine the genetics and electrophysiologic characteristics in patients with essential tremor.

### **Public Health/Population Health Research.**

1. National Institute of Health award in collaboration with University of Chicago to end transmission of HIV, HCV, and STDs and overdose in rural communities of people who inject drugs; plus a grant from Illinois State Board of Education to evaluate Title V State sexual risk avoidance education.
2. Memorial Medical Center Foundation grant to evaluate the adaptation of robotic colon and rectal surgery by assessing clinical and financial outcomes.
3. Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois focused on generational health by addressing and sustaining food, nutrition, and fitness.

The SOM saw a sharp increase in extramural funding for the fourth quarter of FY20 which acutely impacted the region and State. Major contributors to this increase include four contracts from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to the Department of Family and Community Medicine. The funded projects enable expansion of COVID-19 testing capacities, augment abilities to care for COVID-19 patients and, via a continuation award (years 10-12), extends our Federally Qualified Health Center status



to provide primary care services in underserved areas and under-resourced patients throughout central and southern Illinois.

As Dr. Weinberg mentioned in his summary, SOM is collaborating with SIUE on extramural grants such as ThinkFirst, Trauma Recovery Centers Grant, and Asthma Grant (see SIUE summary above).

Five external grant applications have been submitted since October 2019 involving collaborations between SOM faculty and faculty from SIUE or SIUC. At least one submission resulted from seed funding by an SIU System Collaborative Grant, an internal research funding mechanism co-sponsored by the Research Offices at each campus to specifically foster research collaborations within the SIU System.

### **Future considerations.**

The SOM is formulating its Strategic Plan for the next 5-7 years and one specific goal is #3.0 Advance Research and Scholarship. The SOM recognizes that new knowledge, methods, and strategies are required to advance earlier detection, better treatment, improved resilience, and ultimately prevention or cure of medical conditions that afflict our patient population. The SOM acknowledges that robust scholarly activity attracts and retains the best and brightest faculty, researchers and trainees, and ultimately will make the SOM attractive to those who might seek our care. The SOM is looking to strategically invest in technologies and infrastructure to advance biomedical research capabilities and augment scholarly pursuits across the continuum of research: from the seeds of discovery

Dr. Hightower did not have any questions but he complimented everyone who presented. It is uplifting, motivational, encouraging and is what we should be about. We need to tell the story. He asked President Mahony and Dr. Gupchup to tie together the Performance Report, Provost's summaries of how they are handling the pandemic, the progress of the System Strategic Planning, and the Awards and Contracts and share through social and other media channels. If done right, we are "blowing our horn" to say take a second look at what the SIU System is doing. Even during these most difficult times this country has faced, we are still moving forward as a System. He would like to have a 2020 System Report sent not only to legislators but to stakeholders.

Dr. Sharma agreed with Dr. Hightower that a report to stakeholders to show what we are doing is important. He is very pleased.

Judge Gilbert echoed Dr. Hightower and agrees that people need to know the performance of our campuses. He expressed his appreciation to the campuses' and System's employees for their outstanding work.

### **Recommendation for Distinguished Service and Honorary Degree Awards**

Chancellor Austin Lane commented on the accomplishments of recipients Dr. Harold Bardo, Dr. Terrence J. Roberts, Mr. Edward Sing Wong, Mr. Harry L. Crist II, Dr. Ngozi Ezike, and Mrs. Pam Pfeffer. He recommended that the Distinguished Service be awarded to Dr. Bardo, Dr. Roberts, Mr. Wong, and the Honorary Degree be awarded to Mr. Crisp II, Dr. Ezike, and Mrs. Pfeffer.

Dr. Hightower asked if there was a motion to approve items 5-10. Motion was made by Trustee Sharma to approve recommendations. The motion was duly seconded by Dr. Hightower. Madam Secretary called roll call with Hightower, Gear, and Sharma passing the motion.

Madam Secretary called roll call with Hightower, Gear, and Sharma passing the motion

**Presentation: *The Classroom of the Future: VR, Gamification, & “Serious Play”***

Dr. Gupchup introduced Pinckney Benedict a Professor and Senior Fiction Writer in the Department of English and Creative Writing Program at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC).

Professor Benedict spent the last year moving from conventional fiction to digital forms. He has worked over the past year with many students, administrators, forming partnerships with tech companies, and with alumni to create and put together the Digital Humanities Lab of the College of Liberal Arts.

The lab supports podcasting, virtual reality, augmented reality, mixed reality, extended reality—which is the “catch all” term XR, 360 video, and game development. The lab has enjoyed tremendous support from Provost Komarraju, Dean of College of Liberal Arts, and SIU Foundation to find space and technology to make it operational. The ambition is to have the lab to become a robust resource for the whole campus not just the College of Liberal Arts but for the whole System. As good as Zoom is in the current exigency, he said we need to get beyond Zoom and two-dimensional meetings. The lab is how we can become ubiquitous and be in everyone’s presence again.

He shared the “linkedin” profile for Toby Eduardo Redshaw, Senior Vice President for Innovation and 5G Rollout at Verizon who has worked with Arizona State on a 5G laboratory which would be what Professor Benedict aspires for his program. Mr. Redshaw visited Professor Benedict’s futurism honors class that uses resources of the digital humanities lab. According to Redshaw, information imparted via virtual classrooms and virtual experience is 4x stickier than conventional or Zoom teaching and 3x cheaper than bricks and mortar to establish and maintain.

Their VR preparations were put to the test in March in ways they could not have anticipated but proved their value. Professor Benedict believes this is a profound move forward in our teaching and how business is conducted. They are at the forefront of this as liberal artists, and he and the students are learning together. He has enjoyed the 2D teaching because he can be more creative and gain students’ attention.

In the 2D environment there is no way to convey the power of immersive narrative and experience. He extended an invitation for anyone in the region to take a 15-minute tour of the lab which is located at the McLafferty Annex to see and experience what the lab can do.

The last year has been humbling with the resiliency of students and their ability to come into the classroom with no digital storytelling or digital creation experience but at the end of the semester be accomplished digital artists. He shared a hype video to give a sense of what the students are like in the classes.

Despite the COVID Pandemic, this has been Professor Benedict's best teaching year of his life. He is enthusiastic about the future of the lab. He introduced Lauren Stingle, a senior double majoring in Literature and Classics.

Lauren came to SIUC from community college with a vague idea of what storytelling was capable of or what she was capable of doing with it. She was surprised to learn that researchers are using digital narrative mediums such as VR to conduct research. She is creating digital narratives, learning the basics of logic and how to build video games. She believes that digital narrative, especially in experimental VR, is bridging the gap between sciences and humanities. She ended her presentation by sharing one of her videos.

Anuj Pawar, a junior studying Zoology, a member of the Marching Saluki, with University Honors Program, and a research assistant at the Fresh Water Ecology Lab in the Zoology Department spoke next. He became acquainted with Professor Benedict while taking his Honors Course titled "Earth to the Stars" which takes the unique approach of virtual classrooms, virtual environments, and the use of virtual technology. He demonstrated a VR headsets that they use. The Students in the class come from various academic and virtual technology backgrounds. They played with games and simulations that provided skill sets for problem solving, 3D puzzles, working in teams, working under pressure, and dissimulations of plight scenarios that can be tested and manipulated. The objective is to succeed and dissimulations can provide creativity, storytelling and unique narratives. When you play a session of a game, not one session of the game is the same bringing creativity and storytelling to a whole new level. He closed by stressing needed support for the lab so it can provide resources to the College of Liberal Arts and other colleges in the future.

He also shared a VR simulation called "cat explorer" which was a cat dissection to demonstrate the utility of virtual reality for the classroom.

Audrey Holmes, a graduate student and MFA candidate in Creative Writing (Fiction) came into the program with an English degree and no technical or technological background with the mediums they work with. She became very interested in digital storytelling using the 360° degree camera and making 360 degree videos because of its diversity. She showed a headset that allows you to be somewhere else which is indispensable for storytellers. For example, while in quarantine she could see other countries and how they are quarantining.

She likes the 360° because it offers a brand new way to tell stories. She has taken some of the most creative and interesting mediums that she has seen so far. The language board is still being created and as a program they are in the forefront in creating that language. The story line and other skillsets that are being cultivated through the

program will provide students with an advantage for internships and jobs. She ended her presentation with a 360° non-fiction story.

Professor Benedict summarized that VR is essentially an empathy machine and they are exploring all aspects of it. He has a sabbatical in the spring and his primary research goals is to get the VR lab to be the best in the state.

Dr. Hightower thanked Professor Benedict and the students for the preview of the future classroom. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Before he closed the meeting he again thanked President Mahony, Dr. Gupchup, and presenters for the outstanding 2020 overview of the work being performed by the SIU System.

### **Other Business**

Having no further business before it, the Academic Matters Committee adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

GVG/pm

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# STUDENT-ATHLETE ACADEMIC PROFILE

2019-20



## Summary

### Some highlights from the Athletic Department for 2019-20:

- The very first Saluki Soccer game was held on August 17, 2019 at Lew Hartzog Field in front of almost 2150 fans.
- SIU had two student-athletes named as Academic All-Americans in 2019-2020 bringing SIU's total number of CoSIDA All-Americans to 101 (the highest number of any current MVC school):
  - Jacob Marnin (Football; 4.000 graduate student in Criminology & Criminal Justice) was named a 1st Team Academic All-American; and
  - Tyjuana Eason (Women's Track & Field; 4.000 graduate student in Social Work) was named a 2nd Team Academic All-American
- Lani Cieszynski (Women's Swimming – Fall), Caitlyn Claussen (Women's Basketball – Winter), and Erica Kerr (Women's Golf – Spring) won the State Farm Good Neighbor Award from the Missouri Valley Conference. One athlete from each member school is identified in Fall, Winter, and Spring to receive the award. Recipients must be in good academic standing, must demonstrate good citizenship through good sportsmanship and significant community service, and participate in a sport during the season of recognition.
- The 2019-20 GPA calculations show that student-athletes have equivalent or slightly higher GPAs than the overall student body. For Fall 2019, the student-athlete GPA was 3.284 (comparable to Fall 2018 average of 3.224); for Spring 2020, the student-athlete GPA was 3.634, which was significantly higher than the Spring 2019 average of 3.243 (this was likely impacted by the pass-no pass grading option that was available for students in Spring 2020 due to moving classes online in response to the COVID-19 pandemic). For the student body, the Fall 2019 GPA was 3.20 and for Spring 2020 GPA was 3.42.
- The single year Academic Progress Rate (APR) for all sports was 982, which was well above the NCAA minimum of 930 for 2019-2020.
- The student-athlete population continues to add to the diversity of the student body but in more recent years has become more consistent with the ethnic/racial demographics of the entire student population.
- The student-athlete population also continues to graduate at a significantly higher percentage than the regular student body (Federal Graduation Rate for 2020 +14.1% higher than their general student population cohort).
- SIU had one winner of the Elite 17 Award in 2019-20 (highest achievement in academics and athletics by a student-athlete in each MVC-sponsored sport):
  - Sierra Forbord (Women's Swimming; 4.000 GPA in University Studies)

### **Notable Highlights So Far This Academic Year**

\* Saluki Football finished the 2019 season nationally ranked, beat an FBS program for only the fourth time in school history, and started the 2020 season nationally ranked.

\* Saluki Men's Basketball opened the 2020-21 season with seven-straight wins, including a win at Big East Butler, for the program's best start in more than 70 years.



# Sport Specific Academic Accomplishments

Saluki Athletics  
2019-2020 Academic Achievements

## Baseball

- Three student-athletes earned the MVC President's Council Academic Award
  - Kyle Back
  - Addison Fuggitt
  - Austin Ulick
- Sixteen student-athletes earned the MVC Commissioners Academic Award and twenty-one earned MVC Honor Roll awards.
- Ian Walters earned First Team Academic All-District and First Team MVC Scholar-Athlete Team
- Bradley Harrison, Mason Hiser, and Austin Ulick earned MVC Scholar-Athlete Honorable Mention

## Men's Basketball

- Two student-athletes earned MVC Commissioners Academic Awards:
  - Barret Benson
  - William Keller
- All 14 team members earned MVC Honor Roll honors
- The team earned The National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Academic Excellence Award
- Barret Benson earned First Team MVC Scholar-Athlete and First Team Academic All-District awards

## Football

- Three student-athletes earned MVFC All-Academic Team honors:
  - Jeremy Chinn, Jacob Marnin- First Team
  - Jacob Garrett- Second Team
- Two student-athletes earned MVFC President's Council academic honors:
  - Jeremy Chinn
  - Sam Bonansinga
- Fifteen student-athletes earned MVFC Commissioner's academic honors and fifty football student-athletes earned MVFC Honor Roll honors
- The Saluki football team earned Most Improved Academic Progress Report (APR) by the FCS ADA for the 2019-2020 academic year
- Jacob Marnin earned a CoSIDA Academic All-American honor and Academic All-District honor

## Men's Golf

- Four student-athletes earned Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) All-American Scholar Awards:
  - Vikar Jonasson
  - Birgir Magnusson
  - Sean Mullan
  - Mathis Besard

## **Swimming & Diving**

- Sierra Forbord earned the MVC Elite 17 academic award
- Five Women's Swimming & Diving student-athletes earned MVC President's Council academic awards
- The team earned a spot on the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSDSAA) All-American list for the 33<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year
- 12 Men's Swimming & Diving student-athletes earned Academic All-MAC honors
- Madeleine Cieszynski earned the MVC Good Neighbor Award for fall sports

## **Cross Country**

- Fourteen men's and women's cross country student-athletes earned MVC Commissioner's academic awards

## **Women's Basketball**

- Makenzie Silvey earned the First Team MVC Scholar-Athlete honor
- Abby Brockmeyer and Nicole Martin earned MVC Honorable Mention honors
- Kristen Nelson earned the MVC President's Council academic award
- Seven student-athletes earned MVC Commissioner's academic awards and thirteen student-athletes earned MVC Honor Roll honors
- Caitlyn Claussen earned the MVC Good Neighbor Award for winter sports

## **Women's Golf**

- Three student-athletes earned Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA) All-American Scholar honors:
  - Erica Kerr
  - Emily McGiles
  - Rose Bundy
- Erica Kerr and Emily McGiles earned MVC Scholar-Athlete Team awards
- Three student-athletes earned MVC Commissioners academic awards:
  - Rose Bundy
  - Lili Klekner-Alt
  - Emily McGiles
- Ten student-athletes earned MVC Honor Roll honors

## **Women's Soccer**

- The team earned the United Soccer Coaches Team Academic Award for 2019-2020

## **Softball**

- Jennifer Jansen earned the MVC President's Council academic award
- Eleven student-athletes earned the MVC Commissioner's academic award and eighteen earned MVC Honor Roll honors
- Three student-athletes earned CoSIDA Academic All-District awards:
  - Claire Miller
  - Kyleigh Decker
  - Jennifer Jansen



## **Track & Field**

- Fourteen men's and women's track & field student-athletes earned MVC Commissioner's academic awards and thirty-two cross country and track & field student-athletes earned MVC Honor Roll honors
- Ty'Juana Eason earned the MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year, CoSIDA Academic All-District, and Academic All-American honors
- Four student-athletes earned US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) academic honors:
  - Emily Kern
  - Madison Meyer
  - Alexis Roberson
  - Kira Williams

## **Volleyball**

- Laura Rojas earned the MVC President's Council academic award
- Seven student-athletes earned MVC Commissioner's academic awards and twelve student-athletes earned MVC Honor Roll honors
- The team earned the 2019-2020 American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award
- Three student-athletes earned First Team MVC Scholar-Athlete awards:
  - Hannah Becker
  - Rachel Maguire
  - Laura Rojas

## Academic Reports

### Grade Reports

Table of Teams, by Fall 2019 and by Spring 2020:

Team	Fall 2019	Spring 2020	2019-2020	Cumulative
Baseball (BB)	3.352	3.428	3.397	3.461
Basketball, Men's (BB-M)	3.158	3.706	3.384	3.185
Basketball, Women's (BB-W)	3.441	3.824	3.622	3.669
Cross Country, Men's (XC-M)	3.421	3.747	3.584	3.610
Cross Country, Women's (XC-W)	3.572	3.909	3.741	3.570
Football (FB)	2.871	3.540	3.114	3.106
Golf, Men's (MGO)	3.051	3.625	3.381	3.345
Golf, Women's (WGO)	3.638	3.797	3.722	3.345
Softball (SB)	3.675	3.786	3.725	3.709
Swimming, Men's (MSW)	3.511	3.569	3.540	3.515
Swimming, Women's (WSW)	3.500	3.736	3.618	3.680
Track, Men's (MTR)	3.247	3.518	3.382	3.379
Track, Women's (WTR)	3.264	3.687	3.476	3.402
Volleyball (VB)	3.374	3.628	3.518	3.655
All Athletics Program	3.284	3.634	3.397	3.433
All SIU Students	3.200	3.420	N/A	3.350
Male Athletes (Total)	3.022	3.547	3.036	3.288
Male SIU Students	3.111	3.320	N/A	3.260
Female Athletes (Total)	3.481	3.747	3.480	3.600
Female SIU Students	3.290	3.520	N/A	3.440

\*Spring 2020 included a pass/no pass option due to COVID-19

- For Fall 2019, the men's swimming team had the highest men's team GPA (3.511), and the women's softball team earned the highest women's team GPA (3.675).
- For Spring 2020, the women's cross country team finished with the highest GPA (3.909) and the men's cross country team finished at 3.747.
- Men's Basketball, Men's Swimming & Diving, Men's Track & Field, and Women's Soccer earned the highest fall team GPA on record.
- The Spring 2020 GPA, before pass/no pass grades were applied, was 3.307, the highest departmental GPA on record.

## Academic Progress Rate

“The Academic Progress Rate (APR) is a term-by-term measure of eligibility and retention for Division I student-athletes that was developed as an early indicator of eventual graduation rates.” Quoted directly from the NCAA’s website:

A team’s APR is calculated each year for those student-athletes receiving athletic financial aid (walk-ons are not included). APR is a one-year snapshot of the team’s retention and eligibility. Each student-athlete in a cohort is eligible for two points each semester, so most students are eligible for four points each year. A student-athlete earns one point each semester if he/she is eligible to participate for the following semester and another point each semester if he/she returns to the team the following semester. (There are exceptions for student-athletes who turn pro in their sports, transfer to another school with a GPA of 2.60 or higher, etc.)

Because each team may have a different number of student-athletes on its roster, the denominator of the ratio (2 points x each student-athlete for each semester) is different across teams and potentially across semesters. Thus, the APR is the ratio of points earned divided by the total points possible. The NCAA expresses the ratio by essentially dropping the decimal point, so a perfect score is expressed as an APR of 1000.

The NCAA reports the current year (with a one-year lag) and a rolling average of the most recent four years. SIU’s APRs by team are reported in the table below.

### APR by team for the past four cycles

Team	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Multiyear
Baseball (MBA)	991	991	991	989	990
Basketball, Men’s (MBB)	961	981	961	1000	975
Basketball, Women’s (WBB)	1000	929	1000	1000	982
Cross Country, Men’s (MXC)	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cross Country, Women (WXC)	1000	969	1000	1000	1000
Football (FB)	971	947	977	961	965
Golf, Men’s (MGO)	929	871	1000	972	947
Golf, Women’s (WGO)	1000	1000	971	1000	992
Softball (SB)	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Swimming, Men’s (MSW)	983	960	1000	1000	984
Swimming, Women’s (WSW)	1000	1000	1000	973	994
Tennis, Men’s (MTN)	1000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tennis, Women’s (WTN)	1000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Track, Men’s (MTR)	990	979	961	964	973
Track, Women’s (WTR)	992	962	1000	1000	989
Volleyball (VB)	1000	981	1000	979	989
All Teams	989	966	987	982	981

\*The multiyear average includes the following years: 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20.

The NCAA’s minimum APR for post-season participation increased to 930 beginning in 2013-14. The NCAA administers penalties for teams with low APRs and if an individual student athlete is neither eligible nor retained (an “0 for 2”). The individual penalty is usually the loss of an equivalent scholarship for the student who earned zero points in a given semester. All SIU teams exceeded the current minimum standard of 930.

Men’s Cross Country, Women’s Cross Country, Women’s Golf, Softball and Women’s Swimming & Diving received public recognition from the NCAA for multi-year APR scores in the top 10% of all Division I institutions in the 2018-19 academic

year. Data is not yet available, but minimally, SIU will have 4 teams receive NCAA public recognition (Men’s Cross Country, Women’s Cross Country, Softball and Women’s Soccer) for the 2019-20 academic year.

## Graduation Rates

Quoted directly from the NCAA’s website:

“Graduation rates are based on the IPEDS-GSR which is defined as a six-year proportion of those student-athletes who graduated versus those who entered an institution on institutional aid. In addition to the student-athlete data in the graduation rates data, the GSR accounts for student-athletes who transfer into an institution while discounting student-athletes who separate from the institution and would have been academically eligible to compete had they returned. All member institutions are required to report graduation rates for their student body; those institutions offering athletics aid are required to report for their student-athletes Division I members, as well as those institutions having multi-divisional sports, must also provide their GSR.”

Similar to the APRs, the FGRs are also reported with a one-year lag. Each school submitted data by June 2019 that include the graduation rates for the freshman cohort class of 2011-2012. The most recent FGR allows those freshmen six years by which to graduate (through August 2018). Thus, the most recent FGR four-year rolling average includes the freshman classes of 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13. Like the APRs, FGRs include student-athletes who receive athletic financial aid (walk-ons are not included).

## Federal Graduation Rate (FGR) Comparisons and Demographics

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Four-Year Averages</b>					
Student-Athletes	70%	66.2%	70.6%	69.0%	67.0%
Student Body	44.8%	43.6%	43.0%	46.0%	47.0%
<b>Individual Years by Gender and Ethnicity</b>					
All Student-Athletes	70.0%	66.2%	70.6%	68.9%	61.8%
All Male Student-Athletes	69.7%	65.0%	59.0%	67.4%	46.7%
All Female Student-Athletes	70.4%	67.7%	85.0%	72.2%	80.0%
African-American SAs	50.0%	56.3%	72.7%	50.0%	27.3%
Other Ethnicity SAs	63.6%	53.3%	56.3%	66.7%	72.7%
White SAs	78.4%	75.0%	74.0%	87.5%	69.7%
All SIU Students	44.8%	43.6%	42.9%	50.7%	47.7%
All SIU Male Students	41.5%	42.2%	38.0%	50.7%	44.4%
All SIU Female Students	48.4%	45.2%	50.0%	50.7%	51.5%
All SIU African-American Students	28.9%	29.9%	42.5%	28.3%	28.9%
All SIU Other Ethnicity Students	34.4%	35.9%	38.7%	46.5%	42.4%
All SIU White Students	54.7%	54.7%	44.0%	62.0%	60.0%

\*Data come from the NCAA’s Institutional Performance Program

## Federal Graduation Rate Difference

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Southern Illinois University	+25.2%	+22.6%	+27.7%	+18.2%	+14.1%
All Division I schools	+3.3%	+3.0%	+3.3%	+2.5%	+2.5%
Football Champ Div. (FCS) schools	+9.4%	+10.1%	+6.4%	+9.1%	+5.8%
Missouri Valley Conference schools	+4.3%	+4.5%	+4.9%	+7.2%	+4.6%
Missouri Valley FB conference	+9.8%	+19.2%	+12.1%	+13.7%	+13.5%

\*Data come from the NCAA’s Institutional Performance Program

This indicator displays the difference between the single-year federal graduation rates for student athletes and the student body. Positive numbers reflect a higher FGR for student-athletes, while negative numbers are to be interpreted as the student body having a higher FGR than student-athletes.

Note: 2019 reporting year represents 2012 cohort, 2018 represents 2011 cohort, etc.

Overall, these data suggest that SIU student-athletes graduate at much higher rates than the SIU general student body (including when data are separated out by gender and ethnicity). Furthermore, the differences in graduation rates at SIU are higher than those seen at the Division level in general, in other FCS schools, and when compared to MVC and MVCF schools.

### Single Year Graduation Success Rate (GSR)

Note: 2020 reporting year represents 2013 cohort, 2019 represents 2012 cohort, etc.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Southern Illinois University	90.2%	88.1%	93.2%	86.2%	86.5%
All Division I schools	86.5%	88.0%	88.7%	90.0%	90.6%
Football Champ Div. (FCS) schools	83.6%	86.5%	86.8%	87.6%	89.3%
Missouri Valley Conference schools	87.5%	87.8%	91.4%	93.8%	92.0%
Missouri Valley FB conference	82.4%	86.7%	82.6%	87.5%	88.0%

\*Data come from the NCAA's Institutional Performance Program

### Single Year Graduation Success Rate (GSR) by Sport

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Baseball	100%	100%	100%	100%	66.7%
Men's Basketball	60%	100%	100%	80%	100%
Women's Basketball	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%
Football	94.4%	76.5%	81.8%	64.7%	83.3%
Men's Golf	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Women's Golf	100%	100%	-	100%	100%
Softball	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Men's Swimming & Diving	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Women's Swimming & Diving	83.3%	72.7%	100%	100%	100%
Men's Track & Field	100%	100%	100%	100%	66.7%
Women's Track & Field	80%	100%	100%	75%	83.3%
Volleyball	100%	100%	80%	100%	100%

\*Data come from the NCAA's Institutional Performance Program

### 4-Year Class Average Graduation Success Rate (GSR)

Note: The 2020 GSR four-year rolling average includes the freshmen classes of 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, etc.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019
Southern Illinois University	78%	81%	83%	86%	90%	89%

## Demographic Characteristics of Student-Athletes

### Gender Composition

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Male Student-Athletes as a Percentage of Student-Athletes	52.2%	57.7%	56.8%	57.7%	59.7%	58.5%	56.4%
Female Student-Athletes as a Percentage of Student-Athletes	41.8%	42.3%	43.2%	42.3%	40.3%	41.5%	43.6
Males as a Percentage of All UG Students	55.4%	54.7%	54.3%	54.4%	54.6%	53.4%	52.9
Females as a Percentage of All UG Students	44.6%	45.3%	45.7%	45.6%	45.4%	46.4%	47.1

### Racial/Ethnic Composition

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Minority Student-Athletes as a Percentage of Student-Athletes*	38.5%	43.0%	44.0%	41.4%	43.6%	36.5%	33.7%
All Minority Students as a Percentage of All Students	36.1%	35.9%	37.8	36.8	36.4	36.2	35.8

\*Includes all student-athletes



**COUGARS**  
ATHLETICS

# 2019-2020 STUDENT-ATHLETE ACADEMIC REPORT





## SIUE Athletics Academic Points of Pride 2019-2020

1. Spring 2020 marked the 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive semester (14 years) that SIUE student-athletes have achieved a cumulative semester grade point average of 3.0 or higher. The departmental grade point average was 3.33 for fall 2019 and 3.49 for spring 2020.
2. During fall 19 and spring 20, an average of 50.1% of our student-athletes were on the Dean's List and 74.43% of our student-athletes had a semester grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
3. In 2019-2020, SIUE's Graduation Success Rate (GSR) of 91% was #34 in all Division I public institutions and #2 in Division I public institutions in the state of Illinois. Since 2014, SIUE's GSR has been in the top 35 of all Division I public universities and #1 or #2 in Illinois public universities.
4. For the 2019-2020 academic year, five SIUE teams earned a perfect score of 100 percent on the GSR report (Women's Basketball, Men's Golf, Women's Soccer, Women's Tennis and Volleyball).
5. In 2019, seven SIUE teams received top 10% recognition for their multi-year Academic Progress Rate (Men's Golf, Men's Track and Field, Softball, Women's Track and Field, Women's Cross Country, Women's Volleyball, and Women's Tennis). This is the most earned by any university in the Ohio Valley Conference.

### 2019-2020 Individual Sport Academic Accolades:

Baseball	Fifteen baseball student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll. Nic Roes received the OVC Medal of Honor. The OVC Medal of Honor is awarded annually to student-athletes who obtain the highest grade point averages in a conference-sponsored sport.
Men's Basketball	Eight men's basketball student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and Jackson Best earned the OVC Medal of Honor.
Women's Basketball	Zaria Whitlock, Mikia Keith, Christen King, and Allie Troeckler received the OVC Medal of Honor. Eight women's basketball student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.
Men's CC/Track	In Spring 2020, the Men's Track and Field team was honored as an U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-American team. Eleven men's cross country/track student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and Austin Woodard earned the OVC Medal of Honor award.
Women CC/Track	In Spring 2020, the Women's Track and Field Team was named an USTFCCCA All-American Team. Olivia Beckwith, Keri Burmester, and Jamirah Meeks were honored with the OVC Medal of Honor. Twelve women's cross country/track student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.



Men's Golf	In 2020, the team received the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) All-Academic Team Award for the 10 <sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Six men's golf student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and three were named GCAA All-American Scholars. Luke Ludwig was honored with the OVC Medal of Honor.
Men's Soccer	In 2020, the men's soccer team was honored with the United Soccer Coaches (USC) Team Academic Award. 2020 marked the 8 <sup>th</sup> consecutive year the team has received this award. Ten men's soccer student-athletes were named to the Mid-American Conference (MAC) All-Academic team.
Women's Soccer	In 2020, the team received the USC Team Academic Award. This was the 12 <sup>th</sup> consecutive year the SIUE Women's Soccer team has been honored with this award. Emma Dutko, Jessica Hieb, Kayla Klipsch, Sarah Magnoni, Courtney Volmer, Allison Wendt and Ashlin West received the OVC Medal of Honor and twenty-four women's soccer student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.
Softball	Jill Niehaus, Sydney Bina, Jade Kranawater, Amber Storer, and Bianca Vozenilek received the OVC Medal of Honor and 20 softball student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.
Women's Tennis	Five women's tennis student-athletes were named ITA Scholar Athletes and the team was honored as an ITA All-American Team. Lara Tupper, Melissa Vizcardo and Jill Lambrechts received the OVC Medal of Honor and a total of five women's tennis student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.
Volleyball	The SIUE volleyball team was awarded the Team Academic Award by the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA). Jordyn Klein and Gabby Wimes received the OVC Medal of Honor. Twelve volleyball student-athletes were on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.
Wrestling	Justin Ruffin was named to the All-MAC Academic Wrestling Team. In addition, Justin also received the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) Division I Scholar All-American Award.

**Table 1 – Term GPA by Gender (Institutional and Athletic)**

Compares the term GPA of the general student body to the term GPA of the student-athlete population for the past two years.

<b>SIUE</b>		<b>2018-2019</b>		<b>2019-2020</b>	
<b>General Student Body</b>		<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Male		2.81	2.86	2.82	2.96
Female		3.09	3.12	3.09	3.20
Total		2.96	3.00	2.97	3.09
<b>Student-Athletes</b>		<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Male		3.15	3.12	3.23	3.29
Female		3.56	3.41	3.43	3.70
Total		3.35	3.27	3.33	3.49

**Table 2 – Term GPA by Ethnicity (Institutional and Athletic)**

Compares the term GPA by ethnicity (and international status) for the student-athlete population with the general student body for the past two years.

<b>SIUE General Student Body</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>		<b>2019-2020</b>	
	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Asian	3.01	3.06	3.07	3.19
Black/African American	2.58	2.62	2.57	2.73
Hispanic/Latino	2.88	2.94	2.92	3.01
White	3.03	3.07	3.04	3.16
International	3.11	3.10	3.23	3.31

  

<b>SIUE Student-Athletes</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>		<b>2019-2020</b>	
	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Asian	3.34	3.31	2.98	3.24
Black/African American	3.03	2.97	3.18	3.27
Hispanic/Latino	3.10	3.24	3.28	3.81
White	3.32	3.26	3.35	3.48
International	3.41	3.22	3.45	3.54

**Table 3 – SIUE term GPA by sport**

Term specific team grade point averages by sport for the last two years (includes scholarship and non-scholarship student-athletes).

Sport	2018-2019		2019-2020	
	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Baseball	2.964	2.930	3.094	3.212
Basket-M	2.786	2.892	3.207	3.051
Basket-W	3.448	3.442	3.364	3.684
Soccer-M	3.375	3.433	3.550	3.666
Soccer-W	3.448	3.259	3.580	3.577
Golf-M	3.410	3.288	3.295	3.580
Softball	3.590	3.703	3.578	3.686
Cross-M	3.160	3.149	3.360	2.895
Cross-W	3.594	3.323	3.320	3.782
Tennis-W	3.583	3.389	3.440	3.689
Track-M	3.281	3.190	3.144	3.273
Track-W	3.534	3.291	3.270	3.578
Volleyball	3.732	3.528	3.465	3.533
Wrestling	3.104	2.984	2.927	2.983

**Table 4 – Percentage of athletes with a term GPA of 3.0 or higher**

Term specific account of the percentage of student-athletes who earned a GPA of 3.0 or above. On average over the last two years, 70.62% of our student-athletes have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

SIUE	2018-2019		2019-2020	
Student-Athletes	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Male	55.32	49.61	56.75	63.69
Female	88.24	82.35	87.27	94.44
Total	69.54	64.07	70.97	77.88

**Table 5 – Number of athletes on academic probation**

Term specific account of the number of student-athletes on academic probation. During both years, SIUE Athletics did not have any student-athletes on academic suspension.

SIUE	2018-2019		2019-2020	
Student-Athletes	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Male	1	0	2	0
Female	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	2	0

**Table 6 – Federal Graduation Rate (FGR)**

Compares the Federal Graduation Rate (FGR) of SIUE student-athletes vs. Division I Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) peers. The FGR is the percentage of first-time, full-time freshman who graduate within six years.

<b>SIUE</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
Student-Athletes	67%	67%	64%
General Student Body	47%	48%	48%
<b>Division I OVC Universities (student-athletes)</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
Austin Peay	61%	59%	60%
Belmont	84%	80%	82%
Eastern Illinois	67%	70%	68%
Eastern Kentucky	60%	65%	66%
Jacksonville State	60%	61%	62%
Morehead State	62%	63%	60%
Murray State	62%	62%	62%
Southeast Missouri State	67%	68%	68%
Tennessee State	47%	49%	46%
Tennessee Tech	68%	70%	65%
University of Tennessee - Martin	59%	53%	53%

**Table 7 – Academic Progress Rate (APR)**

The Academic Progress Rate is an NCAA-created rate that holds institutions accountable for the academic progress of their student-athletes through a team-based metric that accounts for the eligibility and retention of each scholarship student-athlete for each academic term.

<b>Team</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>2017- 2018</b>	<b>2018- 2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>Current multi-year rate</b>
Baseball	1000	1000	962	980	968
Basket-M	960	979	941	980	965
Basket-W	979	1000	968	1000	986
Soccer-M	967	967	981	990	977
Soccer-W	1000	973	1000	1000	993
Golf-M	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Softball	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cross-M	1000	967	1000	1000	991
Cross-W	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Tennis-W	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Track-M	1000	989	1000	1000	997
Track-W	1000	1000	1000	986	1000
Volleyball	1000	978	1000	1000	1000
Wrestling	953	972	965	986	968

**Table 8 – Graduation Success Rate (GSR)**

Compares Graduation Success Rate of SIUE student-athletes, OVC universities and state of Illinois public universities. The GSR is similar to the FGR, but excludes those athletes who leave the institution in good academic standing and includes those who transfer into the institution and graduate. Since 2014, SIUE’s GSR has been in the Top 35 of Division I public universities and either #1 or #2 in the state of Illinois public universities. SIUE’s current 2019-2020 GSR is #34 in Division I public universities and #2 in Division I State of Illinois public universities.

<b>SIUE</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
Student-Athletes	92%	92%	91%
<b>Division I OVC Universities</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
Austin Peay	83%	81%	81%
Belmont	97%	98%	98%
Eastern Illinois	83%	84%	83%
Eastern Kentucky	86%	88%	87%
Jacksonville State	78%	80%	80%
Morehead State	76%	78%	79%
Murray State	86%	89%	86%
Southeast Missouri State	80%	81%	84%
Tennessee State	68%	69%	72%
Tennessee Tech	85%	87%	84%
University of Tennessee - Martin	85%	81%	82%
<b>Division I Illinois Public Universities</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
Chicago State	79%	80%	80%
Eastern Illinois	83%	84%	83%
Illinois State	88%	90%	91%
Northern Illinois	86%	88%	87%
Southern Illinois – Carbondale	86%	90%	89%
University of Illinois – Chicago	84%	88%	89%
University of Illinois – Champaign	91%	92%	94%
Western Illinois	86%	86%	86%