Department of Athletics

Assessment Report
2010-2011

Mission/Purpose
The Athletic Department seeks to help the University of West Alabama accomplish its purpose through a comprehensive program of male, female, and coed intercollegiate athletics, superior athletic training and sports medicine support, and academic support services. UWA's intercollegiate athletic programs operate under the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Gulf South Conference (GSC), and the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA). The University seeks to conduct all athletic competition in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the NCAA, the GSC, and the NIRA.

I. Goals and Student Learning Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Achievement Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

A. Goal: Address major educational issues
Address the major educational, social, cultural, and economic issues of the region and in doing so promote a positive self-image of the institution and the area.

1. Outcome: Support student athletes' success in achieving academic goals
The Athletic Department and programs will support student athletes' success in achieving academic goals.

   a. Measure: Student athletes will maintain the minimum GPA required by GSC and NCAA
   All student athletes will maintain the minimum GPA required by GSC and NCAA rules and regulations. End-of-term GPA reports will provide evidence for this measure.

   Source of Evidence: Existing data

   1. Achievement Target:
   A Student-athlete shall meet the "satisfactory completion" provision of this requirement by maintaining a grade-point average that places the individual in good academic standing, as established by the institution for all students who are at an equivalent stage of progress towards a degree. To fulfill the "satisfactory completion" provision of this requirement, a student-athlete who first enters a Division II institution after the 1988-89 academic year must achieve the following cumulative minimum grade-point average (based on a maximum of 4.000) at the beginning of the fall term or at the beginning of any regular term of that academic year, based on the student-athlete earning: (a) 24-semester or 36-quarter hours: 1.800; (b) 48-semester or 72-quarter hours: 1.900; (c) 72-semester or 108 quarter hours: 2.000 and (d) 96-semester or 144-quarter hours: 2.000.

   2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
   Baseball ended the year with a team GPA of 2.51, Football ended the year with a team GPA of 2.00, Men's Basketball ended the year with a team GPA of 1.68, Men's Cross Country ended the year with a team GPA of 2.53, Men's Tennis ended the year with a team GPA of 2.76, Rodeo ended the year with a team GPA of 2.44, Softball ended the year with a team GPA of 3.25,
Volleyball ended the year with a team GPA of 3.15, Women’s Basketball ended the year with a team GPA of 2.37, Women’s Cross Country ended the year with a team GPA of 3.08, and Women’s Tennis ended the year with a team GPA of 3.27.

b. Measure: Student athletes will attend scheduled classes
Student athletes will attend scheduled classes. Coaches survey and attendance reports will verify attendance.

Source of Evidence: Existing data

1. Achievement Target:
Student athletes will attend 90% of scheduled classes and utilize athletic tutors as needed.

2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
Students class attendance was monitored through progress reports sent to teachers, tutors were set up for any students needing additional help for classes through the Athletic Academic Advisors office. Students were encouraged to utilize campus computer labs, writing labs, math labs, etc. to help them achieve their academic goals.

c. Measure: Student athletes will attend scheduled Study Halls
Student athletes will attend scheduled Study Halls and utilize athletic tutors as needed to help maintain an acceptable GPA. Attendance records will be analyzed.

Source of Evidence: Document Analysis

1. Achievement Target:
100% student athletes will attend scheduled Study Halls.

2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
Coaches monitored scheduled study halls to make sure that all students attended. Any student athletes that need additional help with classes were set up with a tutor.

d. Measure: Tutoring program will have a standard success rate in increasing GPA’s of athletes enrolled
Tutoring programs will have a standard success rate in increasing GPA’s of athletes enrolled. Comparative Analysis of mid-season progress reports and end-of-term grade reports will provide evidence for this measure.

Source of Evidence: Document Analysis

1. Achievement Target:
Tutoring programs will have a 50% success rate in increasing and helping to maintain GPA's of athletes enrolled.

2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
End of the semester grades show that student athletes that had utilized tutors provided by athletics maintained acceptable GPA's.

B. Goal: Improve academic performance of student athletes
Continue to improve academic performance of student athletes and improve the institution’s ranking within the Gulf South Conference
1. **Objective: Support student athletes' success in achieving academic goals**
   The Athletic Department and programs will support student athletes' success in achieving academic goals.

   a. **Measure: Student athletes will maintain the minimum GPA required by GSC and NCAA**
   All student athletes will maintain the minimum GPA required by GSC and NCAA rules and regulations. End-of-term GPA reports will provide evidence for this measure.

   Source of Evidence: Existing data

   1. **Achievement Target:**
   A student-athlete shall meet the "satisfactory completion" provision of this requirement by maintaining a grade-point average that places the individual in good academic standing, as established by the institution for all students who are at an equivalent stage of progress towards a degree. To fulfill the "satisfactory completion" provision of this requirement, a student-athlete who first enters a Division II institution after the 1988-89 academic year must achieve the following cumulative minimum grade-point average (based on a maximum of 4.000) at the beginning of the fall term or at the beginning of any regular term of that academic year, based on the student-athlete earning: (a) 24-semester or 36-quarter hours: 1.800; (b) 48-semester or 72-quarter hours: 1.900; (c) 72-semester or 108 quarter hours: 2.000 and (d) 96-semester or 144-quarter hours: 2.000.

   2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   Baseball ended the year with a team GPA of 2.51, Football ended the year with a team GPA of 2.00, Men's Basketball ended the year with a team GPA of 1.68, Men's Cross Country ended the year with a team GPA of 2.53, Men's Tennis ended the year with a team GPA of 2.76, Rodeo ended the year with a team GPA of 2.44, Softball ended the year with a team GPA of 3.25, Volleyball ended the year with a team GPA of 3.15, Women's Basketball ended the year with a team GPA of 2.37, Women's Cross Country ended the year with a team GPA of 3.08, and Women's Tennis ended the year with a team GPA of 3.27.

   b. **Measure: Student athletes will attend scheduled classes**
   Student athletes will attend scheduled classes. Coaches survey and attendance reports will verify attendance.

   Source of Evidence: Existing data

   1. **Achievement Target:**
   Student athletes will attend 90% of scheduled classes and utilize athletic tutors as needed.

   2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   Students class attendance was monitored through progress reports sent to teachers, tutors were set up for any students needing additional help for classes through the Athletic Academic Advisors office. Students were encouraged to utilize campus computer labs, writing labs, math labs, etc. to help them achieve their academic goals.
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Source of Evidence: Document Analysis

1. Achievement Target:
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2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
Coaches monitored scheduled study halls to make sure that all students attended. Any student athletes that need additional help with classes were set up with a tutor.

d. Measure: Tutoring program will have a standard success rate in increasing GPA’s of athletes enrolled
Tutoring programs will have a standard success rate in increasing GPA’s of athletes enrolled. Comparative Analysis of mid-season progress reports and end-of-term grade reports will provide evidence for this measure.

Source of Evidence: Document Analysis

1. Achievement Target:
Tutoring programs will have a 50% success rate in increasing and helping to maintain GPA's of athletes enrolled.

2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
End of the semester grades show that student athletes that had utilized tutors provided by athletics maintained acceptable GPA's.

C. Goal: Improve overall graduation rate of student athletes
Improve overall graduation rate of student-athletes incrementally by 2% each academic year

1. Outcome: Support student athletes' success in achieving academic goals
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Source of Evidence: Existing data

1. Achievement Target:
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2. Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met
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Source of Evidence: Existing data

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Source of Evidence: Document Analysis
1. **Achievement Target:**
   Tutoring programs will have a 50% success rate in increasing and helping to maintain GPA's of athletes enrolled.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   End of the semester grades show that student athletes that had utilized tutors provided by athletics maintained acceptable GPA's.

II. **Goals and Other Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Achievement Targets, Findings, and Action Plans**

A. **Goal: Address major educational issues**
   Address the major educational, social, cultural, and economic issues of the region and in doing so promote a positive self-image of the institution and the area.

1. **Objective: Student athletes will demonstrate the ability to work within diverse groups to accomplish a single goal**
   Student athletes will demonstrate the ability to work within diverse groups to accomplish a single goal.

   a. **Measure: Teams will have a winning season and have an invitation for post-season play**
      All teams will defeat 50% of their opponents in and out of conference and/or region and have an invitation extended for post-season play.

      Source of Evidence: Existing data

1. **Achievement Target:**
   All teams will defeat at least 50% of their opponents (conference and non-conference) and have an invitation extended for post-season play. This will be accomplished through conditioning and practice so that each team will have a winning season.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Partially Met**
   Football finished the season 7-4 and did not continue on for post season play. Volleyball finished the season 10-21 and continued on to the Quarter Finals Conference Tournament, Men's Basketball finished the season 11-15 and did not continue on for post season play, Women's Basketball finished the season 18-9 and continued on to the 1st round of the Conference Tournament, Baseball finished the season 19-22 and did not continue on for post season play, Softball finished the season 38-19 and continued on to Conference Semi-Finals then continued on to NCAA South Regional 2 and were named Champions and then continued on to NCAA Super Regional where they ended up as 2nd Runner-up, Men’ Tennis finished the season 14-9 and did not receive a bid to continue on for post season play, Women's Tennis finished the season 17-9 and did not receive a bid to continue on for post season play, Men's Cross Country finished the season 4th in Conference and 5th in the NCAA South Regional, Women's Cross Country finished the season 6th in Conference and 9th in the NCAA South Regional, Rodeo finished the season with the Women's team 6th and the Men's team 4th in the Ozark Region—the Men's team had 3 athletes that continued on to compete in the Collegiate National Finals Rodeo.
3. **Action Plan:**
   **Continue to try and recruit top quality athletes**
   Each sport will continue to try and recruit top quality athletes and improve coaching strategies
   
   **Established in Cycle:** 2010-2011  
   **Implementation Status:** Planned  
   **Priority:** High  
   **Implementation Description:** Each sport will continue to try and recruit top quality athletes and improve coaching strategies so that each team can perform to their peak ability and have the opportunity to continue on to post season play.

2. **Objective: Student athletes and athletic staff will demonstrate commitment to excellence**
   Student athletes and athletic staff will demonstrate commitment to excellence.
   
   a. **Measure:** NCAA and/or GSC rules will be adhered to by athletic programs, athletic staff, and athletes
      NCAA and/or GSC rules will be adhered to by athletic programs, athletic staff, and athletes. NCAA and GSC reports will provide evidence for this measure.
      **Source of Evidence:** Existing data

1. **Achievement Target:**
   Each sport will have zero (0) violations reported. This will be measured by end of the year NCAA and GSC reports and through senior athlete exit interviews.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   No violations (major or minor) were reported by either NCAA or GSC for any UWA sport. There were no violations reported by the NIRA for UWA Rodeo.

3. **Action Plan:**
   **Continue to try and recruit top quality athletes**
   Each sport will continue to try and recruit top quality athletes and improve coaching strategies
   
   **Established in Cycle:** 2010-2011  
   **Implementation Status:** Planned  
   **Priority:** High  
   **Implementation Description:** Each sport will continue to try and recruit top quality athletes and improve coaching strategies so that each team can perform to their peak ability and have the opportunity to continue on to post season play.

b. **Measure:** Student athletes and coaches will comply with practice limitations
   Student athletes and coaches will comply with practice limitations of 20 hours/week.
   **Source of Evidence:** Existing data

1. **Achievement Target:**
   Teams will be required to turn in weekly athletic accountable hours logs (practice, weights, conditioning and competition) which will be signed by a student athlete verifying adherence to hours limitations.
2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   All UWA athletic teams turned in weekly log sheets which showed that they complied with the weekly athletic limitations for practice, weights, conditioning and competition as set forth by the NCAA and GSC.

3. **Action Plan:**

   **Continue to try and recruit top quality athletes**
   Each sport will continue to try and recruit top quality athletes and improve coaching strategies.

   - **Established in Cycle:** 2010-2011
   - **Implementation Status:** Planned
   - **Priority:** High
   - **Implementation Description:** Each sport will continue to try and recruit top quality athletes and improve coaching strategies so that each team can perform to their peak ability and have the opportunity to continue on to post season play.

   c. **Measure: Student athletes will report fair treatment by athletic staff**
   Student athletes will report fair treatment by athletic staff. Individual meetings conducted by coaches with players will provide evidence for this measure.

   **Source of Evidence:** Discussions / Coffee Talk

   1. **Achievement Target:**
      80% of student athletes will report fair treatment by athletic staff.

   2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
      End of semester individual athlete meetings held by each sport-athletes indicated that they were treated fairly by all athletic staff.

   d. **Measure: Student athletes and athletic staff will report satisfaction with athletic training support**
   Student athletes and athletic staff will report satisfaction with athletic training support provided. Senior Exit Interviews will provide evidence for this measure.

   **Source of Evidence:** Exit interviews with grads/program completers

   1. **Achievement Target:**
      80% of student athletes and athletic staff will report satisfaction with athletic training support provided.

   2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
      Student athletes indicated satisfaction with the athletic training support they received as indicated from individual meetings held at the end of the semester by each sport. Coaches indicated that they were satisfied with the treatment and coverage that their sport and student athletes received from the athletic training staff as indicated from athletic staff meetings.

3. **Objective: Student athletes will demonstrate effective leadership skills**
   Student athletes will demonstrate effective leadership skills

   a. **Measure: Student athletes will report involvement in on-campus or community/civic organizations**
   Student athletes will report involvement in on-campus or community/civic organizations such as SGA, FCA, fraternities, sororities, etc as indicated in end of
semester individual athlete meetings.

Source of Evidence: Discussions / Coffee Talk

1. **Achievement Target:**
   50% of student athletes will report involvement in on-campus or community/civic organizations such as SGA, FCA, fraternities, sororities, etc.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   Student athletes indicated involvement in various on-campus organizations as indicated through their individual athlete meetings held at the end of the semester by each sport

   b. **Measure: Student body will report that athletes play an important role on campus**
   Student body will report that athletes play an important role on campus in the Student Satisfaction Survey administered by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

   Source of Evidence: Client satisfaction survey (student, faculty)

1. **Achievement Target:**
   75% of overall student body will report that athletes play an important role on campus.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   Review Student Satisfaction Survey administered by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

   c. **Measure: Student body will report that athletic programs enriched their college experience**
   Student body will report that athletic programs enriched their college experience as indicated by the Student Satisfaction Survey administered by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

   Source of Evidence: Client satisfaction survey (student, faculty)

1. **Achievement Target:**
   70% of student body will report that athletic programs enriched their college experience.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   Review Student Satisfaction Survey administered by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

4. **Objective: The Athletic Department will help improve the image and support of UWA**
   The Athletic Department will help improve the image and support of UWA.

   a. **Measure: Increase general attendance at athletic events**
   Increase general attendance at athletic events

   Source of Evidence: Existing data
1. **Achievement Target:**
   50% increase in general attendance at athletic events will be accomplished by increasing the number of games won.

2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
   General attendance increased 50% or better for all UWA athletic events as indicated from the attendance record taken by Sports Information at all home sporting events.

5. **Objective: Investigate adding new sports**
   Investigate adding new sports to the Department of Athletics as needed.
   
a. **Measure: Investigate and add new sports as appropriate**
   Investigate and add new sports as appropriate.
   
   Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

   1. **Achievement Target:**
      Add women's soccer in 2010 - 2011, and look at adding men's soccer in 2012-2013 if funding is available.

   2. **Findings (2010-2011) - Achievement Target: Met**
      Added Women's Soccer and will continue to investigate adding additional sports if funding is available. [Preview Formatting] Last Updated by Penny Dew on 5/27/2011 Established by Penny Dew on 5/27/2011

III. **Analysis Answers**
   A. **What specific strengths did your assessments show? (Strengths)**
      UWA Athletics has a very energetic support and coaching staff which worked together to create a positive atmosphere for recruits visiting campus and considering attending school here and also for current UWA athletes. UWA Athletics is committed to helping student athletes achieve success in the classroom as well as on the field.

   B. **What specific weaknesses or challenges did your assessments show? (Weaknesses)**
      Even though the athletic budgets are underfunded and the facilities are very outdated, coaches and support staff were able to show recruits that UWA is a wonderful school where athletes can receive a quality education as well as be a part of an athletic family.

   C. **What plans were implemented?**
      New turf was put on the Football field which now is able to host soccer games. The band and other sports are also able to utilize the field by holding practices on the turf. The Head Cross Country Coaches office was moved to the Cross Country Field House. Baseball added another assistant coach. Athletics added a full time Academic Advisor. Football purchased two new sets of uniforms Pruitt Hall Lobby and Hall were updated by Tiger Club. Attendance increased at all UWA Sporting Events Athletics added Women’s Soccer which will start up the Fall of 2011.

   D. **What plans were not implemented?**
      Athletic Scholarships did not increase to cover tuition increases. Did not receive salary increases Did not receive graduate assistant position for Sports Information or for sports that do not have them. Did not get new facilities Did not get budget increase Did not get scholarship increases
E. How will assessment results be used for continuous improvement?
Continue to ask for scholarship increase Continue to ask for budget increases Continue to ask for facility update Continue to ask for additional Graduate Assistant positions Sports Information and for sports who do not have them.

IV. Annual Reports
A. Key Achievements
Tiger Athletics had a banner campaign in 2010-11 in which several sports participated in the postseason and many projects were completed. A few highlights of the year included: · West Alabama football finished the 2010 campaign with a 7-4 record marking back-to-back seven-plus win seasons. Will Hall was named as the new head coach for the Tigers replacing Division II Hall of Famer Bobby Wallace. · Volleyball returned to the GSC Tournament for the fourth straight season. · Women's basketball made a sixth straight GSC Tournament appearance. The team featured the GSC East Division Player of the Year and the program's first All-American. · Mike Newell begins his first season at the helm of the men's basketball team. · Baseball had five named to the All-Gulf South Conference Team. · Tiger softball won the NCAA Division II South 2 Regional. The berth is the second all-time in program history and the first since 1997. · The women's tennis team capped a program-best 17 win season and advanced to the GSC tournament for the fourth straight year. · Men's and women's cross country registered the best collective conference finish in UWA history. The men posted a team-best fifth place finish in the NCAA Regional. · UWA prepares for its first season of women's soccer as Graeme Orr leads his Tigers onto the field on Sept. 2 for the first UWA women's soccer match in school history. · Men's soccer will begin play in the fall of 2013 with Matthew Thorne leading the team. · National Finals invitations were extended to members of men's rodeo team. · 23 UWA student-athletes named to the GSC Fall/Winter Academic Honor Roll, 27 to the GSC Spring Academic Honor Roll, twelve to the All-Academic teams, and 36 awards given to Tiger student-athletes at UWA Honors Day, with 20 former Tigers receiving their respective degrees at Spring Commencement. · The University of West Alabama now holds a charter in Chi Alpha Sigma - the National College Athlete Honor Society - as 10 were inducted in the initial class. · Added an Academic Advisor for athletics to help with the almost 300 athletes in the program. · Lobby of Pruitt Hall was renovated

B. Public/Community Service
Coaches and Athletes participated in Read Across America at local schools.