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Keeping Score When It Counts: Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of 2014 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament Teams

Study Reveals Women Are Doing Better Than Men But The Gap Between African-American and White Females Gets Smaller

Orlando, FL... March 18, 2014– The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES) at the University of Central Florida (UCF) released its annual study, **“Keeping Score When It Counts: Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of 2014 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament Teams,”** which compares graduation rates and academic progress rates for Division I teams that have been selected for the men's and women's brackets of the 2014 NCAA Basketball Tournaments.

Dr. Richard Lapchick, the primary author of the study, is the director of TIDES and Chair of the DeVos Sport Business Management Graduate Program at UCF. The study was co-authored by Erika Loomer, Stephens Rogers, and Andrea Yacaman.

This study is a follow-up report to the men's tournament study that was released on March 17, 2014. The study compares the academic performance of male and female basketball student-athletes and of African-American and white basketball student-athletes by examining the Graduation Success Rates (GSR) and the Academic Progress Rates (APR) for the tournament teams. The women graduated at a rate of 87 percent vs. 72 percent for the men. The women also did not have any teams in the tournament with an APR below a 925 compared to the men who had seven teams.

Lapchick stated, “Once again, the women's teams bring good news to the report this year with 21 women's teams that have a 100 percent graduation rate in the 2014 field and three teams that scored a perfect APR score of 1000. Student-athletes on women's basketball teams graduate at a higher rate than student-athletes on men's basketball teams. The gap between white and African-American student-athletes has always been significantly smaller on women's teams than on men's teams. There was a one percentage point decrease in the disparity between graduation rates of white and African-American women student-athletes resulting in a five percentage point gap compared to a 24 percentage point gap for the men's teams.”

All of the women's teams graduated more than 60 percent of their student-athletes except Florida Gulf Coast University.

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MAKING WAVES OF CHANGE

This year, both Duke and Dayton had a team in the men's and women's tournament each of which had a 100 percent graduation rate on both teams.

There are many categories where the women outperform the men academically. White female basketball student-athletes on tournament teams graduate at a rate of 92 percent compared to 87 percent for African-American female basketball student-athletes. White male basketball student-athletes on tournament teams graduate at the rate of 89 percent versus only 65 percent of African-American male basketball student-athletes. The five percentage point women's gap is clearly far less alarming than the 24 percent men's gap. The gap for men decreased by one percentage points from a 25 percent gap in 2013, while the gap for women decreased from six percent in 2013.

Lapchick noted, "For the last two years, 98 percent of the women's tournament teams graduated at least 50 percent of their basketball student-athletes. In comparison, 87 percent of the men's teams in this year's tournament graduated at least 50 percent of their basketball student-athletes. Thus there is an 11 percentage point gap between women's and men's basketball graduation rates at the 50 percent mark in the 2014 tournament."

In addition:

- 89 percent of the women's teams compared to 53 percent of the men's teams graduated at least 70 percent creating a huge 36 percent gap.
- 98 percent of the women's teams compared to 78 percent of the men's teams graduated at least 60 percent resulting in a 20 percent gap.
- No women's teams graduated less than 40 percent while two men's teams were below this mark.

Based on Graduation Success Rate data, additional highlights from the study include the following:

70 percent graduation rates

- **90 percent** of the women's tournament teams graduated 70 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while **81 percent** graduated 70 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes, resulting in a **nine percentage point** gap. This gap remained the same as **in 2013**.
- Among the men's teams, **84 percent** of the men's tournament teams graduated 70 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while only **44 percent** graduated 70 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes, **resulting in a 40 percent gap** among the men, which was the same **as in 2013**.

60 percent graduation rates

- **95 percent** of the women's tournament teams graduated at least 60 percent or more of their white and African-American basketball student-athletes resulting in no percentage point gap which was a decrease from the **two point disparity in 2013**.
- Among the men's teams, **93 percent** graduated 60 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while only **60 percent** graduate 60 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes. This resulted in a **33 percent percentage point gap**, which was a **three point** decrease from **36 percent in 2013**.

50 percent graduation rates

- **97 percent** of the women's teams graduated at least 50 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, and **98 percent** graduated 50 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes resulting in a **one percentage point** difference favoring African-American women

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basketball student-athletes. Last year's study showed a **three percentage point disparity** favoring white student-athletes.

- **98 percent** of the men's tournament teams graduated 50 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while only **76 percent** graduated 50 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes. This resulted in a **22 percent gap** among the men, which **was a five percentage point decrease from the 27 percent gap reported in 2013.**

40 percent graduation rates

- **97 percent** of the women's teams graduated at least 40 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, compared to the **98 percent**, which graduated 40 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes at this level resulting in a **one percentage point gap** favoring African-American women basketball student-athletes.
- Among the men's teams, **98 percent** of the men's tournament teams graduated 40 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while **85 percent** graduated 40 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes resulting in a **13 percentage point gap** among the men in favor of white male student-athletes, which was a **one percentage point increase** from 2013.

There are **21** women's teams that had a 100 percent graduation rate: Army, DePaul University, Duke University, Iowa State University, Louisiana State University, Penn State University, Saint Joseph's University, St. John's University, University of Dayton, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of Idaho, University of Kentucky, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, University of Notre Dame, University of Oklahoma, University of Pennsylvania, University of South Carolina, Columbia, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Vanderbilt University, and Wichita State University.

Hampton University and Prairie View A&M, two of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's), did not have white student-athlete graduation rates to report. Gonzaga's women's team did not have African-American graduation rates to report.

Some other distressing results are:

- The GSR data shows **nine women's tournament teams** (15 percent) have a 30-percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes. Six of the teams (10 percent) with a 30-percentage point or greater gap experience higher graduation rates for white student-athletes while three teams (five percent) have a similar disparity in favor of African-American student-athletes.
- **17 women's teams** (28 percent) have a 20-percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes. Thirteen of the teams (21 percent) with a 20 percentage point or greater gap experience higher graduation rates for white student-athletes, while four teams (Seven percent) experience higher graduation rates for African-American student-athletes.

Lapchick noted, "All of the women's teams received a score of 925 or more on the NCAA's previous APR measure. In comparison, seven men's teams did not receive a score of 925 or more on the NCAA's APR. There are three teams within the women's basketball tournament field and one in the men's field that scored a perfect APR score of 1000."

The NCAA has raised its standards to a 930 or greater APR. Northwestern State University was the lone team in the women's field to fall below 930. On the men's side, eight teams (California Polytechnic State University,

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Coastal Carolina University, North Carolina Central University, Oklahoma State University, Providence College, Texas Southern University, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Oregon) are under the 930 score.

The APR, developed in 2004, is a four-year average of academic performance that rewards student-athletes for remaining eligible as well as continuing education at the same school. The NCAA recently voted to institute stricter policies with regards to APR performance and postseason athletic participation. The new legislation will require teams to have a four-year APR above 930, equivalent to a 50 percent graduation rate, to qualify for postseason participation the following year. The current system provides that teams scoring below a 925 APR can lose up to 10 percent of their scholarships. Teams can also be subject to historical penalties for poor academic performance over time. Beginning three years ago, teams that receive three straight years of historical penalties (below 900 APR or approximately a 45 percent GSR) face the potential of restrictions on postseason competition for the team, in addition to scholarship and practice restrictions.

The APR data does not include data from the 2012-13 academic performances of the teams in the study, but instead uses the four-year data from the 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 academic years.

All of the women's basketball tournament-bound teams in the Football Bowl Subdivision conferences represented in the APR study did well this year. The AAC, ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12, and SEC, had their entire tournament-bound member institutions receive an APR score greater than 930. The ACC, Pac-12, and SEC, are each represented by at least two teams in the top 15 APR scores.

Lapchick stated that, "For the women's basketball tournament field, 21 schools had a 100 percent graduation rate compared to ten schools in the men's tournament. This year, Duke and Dayton's men's and women's basketball teams had a 100 percent graduation rate on both teams in both tournaments. Women's basketball student-athletes epitomize the balance that is needed to be a successful contemporary student-athlete. We hope that women's basketball student-athletes will continue to succeed, the men will do better, and we will see a further decrease in the disparity between white and African-American student-athletes."

Note: The percentages for the women's report were calculated as follows:

1. Overall rates were based on 64 women's teams.
2. Rates for African-American student-athletes were based on 63 teams due to Gonzaga University having no reported African-American basketball student-athlete data in the period recorded.
3. Rates for white student-athletes were based on 62 teams due to Hampton University and Prairie View A&M University having no reported white basketball student-athlete data in the period recorded.
4. The disparity figures are based on 61 teams due to a lack of reporting for white or African-American student-athletes or not having a certain race represented on a team.

Note: The percentages for the men's report were calculated as follows:

1. Overall rates were based on 68 men's teams.
2. Rates for African-American student-athletes were based on all 68 teams due to zero teams having no African-American basketball student-athletes in the period recorded.
3. Rates for white student-athletes were based on 57 teams due to George Washington University, Manhattan University, North Carolina Central University, Texas Southern University, University of Cincinnati, University of Connecticut, University of Memphis, University of Michigan, University of Nebraska, University of Oklahoma, and Virginia Commonwealth University, having no white basketball student-athletes in the period recorded.

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4. *The disparity figures are based on 57 teams due to the fact that the 11 teams listed above either had no white basketball student-athletes or African-American basketball student-athletes in the period being reported.*

The GSR was developed in 2005 in response to the demand for a more accurate measure of graduation performance of NCAA athletics programs. In order to calculate the GSR, the NCAA tracks student-athletes for six years following their entrance to an NCAA member institution to monitor the graduation rates of member institutions and their athletic programs. The GSR is used by the NCAA as a measuring device to signal performance of NCAA athletic programs while the APR is used to determine penalties for academically underperforming athletic programs.

The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport ("TIDES" or the "Institute") serves as a comprehensive resource for issues related to gender and race in amateur, collegiate and professional sport. The Institute researches and publishes a variety of studies, including annual studies of student-athlete graduation rates and racial attitudes in sport, as well as the internationally recognized Racial and Gender Report Card, an assessment of hiring practices in coaching and sport management in professional and college sport. Additionally, the Institute conducts diversity management training in conjunction with the National Consortium for Academics and Sports. The Institute also monitors some of the critical ethical issues in college and professional sport, including the potential for exploitation of student-athletes, gambling, performance-enhancing drugs and violence in sport.

The Institute is part of the DeVos Sport Business Management Graduate Program in the University of Central Florida's College of Business Administration. This landmark program focuses on business skills necessary for graduates to conduct successful careers in the rapidly changing and dynamic sport business and entertainment management industry while also emphasizing diversity, community service, and social issues in sport.

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Graduation Rates for 2014 Women's Teams in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament					
School	APR	Overall WBB Student-Athlete	African-American WBB Student-Athlete	White WBB Student-Athlete	Overall Student-Athlete
Arizona State University	965	92	100	100	82
Army	966	100	100	100	90
Baylor University	982	88	83	100	86
Brigham Young University	980	75	0	80	73
California State University, Fresno	983	87	83	100	72
California State University, Northridge	978	64	50	100	68
DePaul University	1000	100	100	100	91
Duke University	978	100	100	100	98
Florida Gulf Coast University	960	40	100	29	65
Florida State University	990	85	78	100	81
Fordham University	973	91	50	100	90
Georgia Institute of Technology	979	77	90	0	79
Gonzaga University	991	93	-	100	95
Hampton University	969	67	67	-	64
Iowa State University	985	100	100	100	79
James Madison University	967	93	91	100	82
Louisiana State University	964	100	100	100	81
Marist College	995	92	100	100	88
Michigan State University	987	91	83	100	87
Middle Tennessee State University	977	92	91	100	82
North Carolina State University	976	86	83	100	82
Northwestern State University	926	80	77	100	69
Oklahoma State University	944	61	71	67	74
Oregon State University	938	88	100	75	79
Penn State University	985	100	100	100	88
Prairie View A&M University	957	63	61	-	61
Purdue University	977	75	67	80	80
Robert Morris University	965	68	63	100	75
Saint Joseph's University	972	100	100	100	93
St. John's University	976	100	100	100	91
Stanford University	1000	92	67	100	97
Syracuse University	995	81	80	75	87
Texas A&M University, College Station	965	80	73	100	77
University at Albany	967	87	86	86	80
University of Akron	995	73	60	89	72
University of California, Berkeley	941	75	80	100	78
University of Connecticut	984	92	89	100	80
University of Dayton	1000	100	100	100	96
University of Florida	995	100	100	100	83
University of Georgia	979	100	100	100	83
University of Idaho	951	100	100	100	78
University of Iowa	971	91	100	100	88
University of Kentucky	976	100	100	100	79
University of Louisville	953	92	89	100	81
University of Maryland, College Park	950	92	89	100	86
University of Nebraska, Lincoln	991	100	100	100	80
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	963	79	75	100	86
University of North Dakota	978	93	100	92	80
University of Notre Dame	968	100	100	100	99
University of Oklahoma	984	100	100	100	76
University of Pennsylvania	990	100	100	100	96
University of South Carolina, Columbia	980	100	100	100	82
University of South Dakota	978	94	100	93	73
University of Southern California	991	82	89	71	77
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	982	85	60	100	56
University of Tennessee at Martin	941	82	100	60	71
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	990	100	100	100	75
University of Texas at Austin	979	75	75	67	80
Vanderbilt University	981	100	100	100	91
West Virginia University	985	82	80	100	84
Western Kentucky University	966	67	63	50	79
Wichita State University	979	100	100	100	81
Winthrop University	972	73	67	83	86
Wright State	959	75	78	80	75
Average:		87	87	92	81

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Graduation Rates for 2014 Men's Teams in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament					
School	APR	Overall Mens Basketball Student Athlete	African-American Basketball Student-Athlete	White Basketball Student-Athlete	Overall Student-Athlete
American University	980	93	80	100	95
Arizona State University	973	75	67	100	82
Baylor University	965	91	89	100	86
Brigham Young University	981	92	100	83	73
California Polytechnic State University	925	62	50	71	75
Coastal Carolina University	921	79	71	75	78
Creighton University	971	91	80	100	95
Duke University	995	100	100	100	98
Eastern Kentucky University	979	91	75	100	81
George Washington University	975	60	57	--	93
Gonzaga University	979	82	100	83	95
Harvard University	956	100	100	100	98
Iowa State University	949	54	14	100	79
Kansas State University	964	64	63	50	77
Manhattan University	945	69	75	--	92
Mercer University	960	79	57	100	89
Michigan State University	971	89	67	100	87
Mount St. Mary's University	950	91	100	67	85
New Mexico State University	942	29	27	100	73
North Carolina Central University	903	45	42	--	60
North Carolina State University	984	89	100	67	82
North Dakota State University	957	79	67	90	82
Ohio State University	972	46	33	100	89
Oklahoma State University	928	44	38	100	74
Providence College	915	67	67	50	89
St. Josephs University	953	90	86	100	93
Saint Louis University	950	63	25	100	92
San Diego State University	935	75	63	100	75
Stanford University	984	83	100	75	97
Stephen F. Austin State University	950	56	43	100	60
Syracuse University	933	45	43	50	87
Texas Southern University	900	45	37	--	45
University of Albany	965	80	75	86	80
University of Arizona	969	64	40	100	73
University of California, Los Angeles	951	60	50	100	87
University of Cincinnati	955	58	60	--	79
University of Colorado	984	67	60	100	81
University of Connecticut	897	8	9	--	80
University of Dayton	985	100	100	100	96
University of Delaware	959	64	43	100	80
University of Florida	989	60	50	100	83
University of Iowa	953	88	80	100	88
University of Kansas	1000	100	100	100	84
University of Kentucky	963	82	75	100	79
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	951	64	64	67	74
University of Louisville	995	70	57	100	81
University of Massachusetts	944	60	50	100	79
University of Memphis	995	55	60	--	84
University of Michigan	995	75	67	--	88
University of Nebraska	935	56	57	--	80
University of New Mexico	985	45	33	67	74
University of North Carolina	959	90	86	100	86
University of Oklahoma	960	69	73	--	76
University of Oregon	918	77	71	100	81
University of Pittsburgh	975	54	55	0	77
University of Tennessee	973	60	43	100	75
University of Texas	973	83	50	100	80
University of Tulsa	949	77	71	67	86
University of Virginia	946	64	57	100	88
University of Wisconsin	980	44	0	100	85
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	941	67	33	75	77
Villanova University	978	100	100	100	93
Virginia Commonwealth University	960	85	80	--	75
Weber State University	975	75	75	83	63
Western Michigan University	976	100	100	100	83
Wichita State University	955	75	83	75	81
Wofford College	973	90	86	100	92
Xavier University	965	100	100	100	97
Average		72	65	89	82

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