



Media Contact:

Jonathan Pelts – jpelts@knights.ucf.edu, 940-391-5873

Lizzie Haldane – Haldane@knights.ucf.edu, 914-522-3282

Keeping Score When It Counts: Analyzing the Academic Performance of the 2014 NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Sweet 16 Teams

Orlando, FL – March 27, 2014The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES) at the University of Central Florida (UCF) has released a new study on the Graduation Success Rates (GSR) and Academic Progress Rates (APR) of the teams in the NCAA Division I Women’s and Men’s Sweet 16. This study is a follow-up report to the annual study, “**Keeping Score When It Counts: Graduation Success and Academic Progress Rates for the 2014 NCAA Division I Women’s and Men’s Basketball Tournament Teams,**” <http://www.tidesport.org/Grad%20Rates/The%202014%20Division%20I%20Men%27s%20and%20Women%27s%20Basketball%20Study.pdf> which compares the GSR and APR for all the teams that were selected for the men’s and women’s 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 this year by Erika Loomer and Drew Donovan.

Lapchick commented that, “There is good news regarding academic success in general for both the men’s and women’s Sweet 16 teams. The GSR and the APR rates of the teams are overwhelmingly high. As in the past, the women still do better than the men. The most troubling statistics in the report come when we look at the historical gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American student-athletes which grew substantially for both the men’s and women’s teams in the 2014 Sweet 16 fields.”

Lapchick stated, “It is clear that elite women’s basketball teams are performing at higher levels in the classroom than the elite men’s teams. There are seven women’s and one men’s Sweet 16 teams that had 100 percent graduation success rates. There are 11 women’s and two men’s teams with GSRs above 90 percent. In addition, 100 percent of the women’s teams compared to 81 percent of the men’s teams graduated at least 60 percent of their basketball student-athletes. It is notable that this year for the first time the GSR for white male basketball student-athletes slightly exceeded that for women basketball student-athletes by 98 to 97 percent. Both were obviously outstanding.”

There was good news for both the women’s and men’s Sweet 16 teams when we examined the APR rates. There were 12 men’s teams (75 percent) and 15 women’s teams (94 percent) with an APR of 950 or above, 11 men’s teams (69 percent) and 13 women’s teams (81 percent) with an APR of 960 or above, and eight men’s teams (50 percent) and nine women’s teams (56 percent) with an APR of 970 or above.

Lapchick added, “The worst news to report is that at the 2014 Sweet 16 the achievement gap between white and African-American basketball student-athletes is even worse than when all the tournament teams

RICHARD E. LAPCHICK, DIRECTOR

C. KEITH HARRISON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR • SCOTT BUKSTEIN, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Tel: 407-823-1516 or 407-823-4887 • Fax: 407-823-3771 • Web: www.tidesport.org

~MAKING WAVES OF CHANGE~

were examined. The GSR of white male basketball student-athletes is 98 percent (up three percentage points from 2013) versus only 55 percent (down 13 percentage points) for African-American male basketball student-athletes resulting in a staggering 43 percent gap. In the 2013 Sweet 16, the gap was an already deplorable 27 percent.

White female basketball student-athletes graduated at 97 percent (down 1 percentage point) compared to 84 percent (down 8 percentage points) for African-American female basketball student-athletes. The 13 percent gap was nine percentage points higher than in 2013.”

Other positive findings include:

- With the new NCAA APR cut rate at 930, only one of the 32 teams in the men’s and women’s Sweet 16 was below that standard.
- 15 women’s teams (94 percent) and eight men’s teams (50 percent) graduated at least 70 percent of their basketball student-athletes.
- No women’s team graduated less than 40 percent, while only one men’s team was below that mark.

Six schools have teams in both the men and women’s 2014 Sweet 16 fields: Baylor University, Stanford University, University of Connecticut, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and University of Tennessee. Stanford University and Baylor University achieved the highest level of success on the court and in the classroom. Both of their men’s and women’s teams have an APR of 960 or above and a graduation rate above 80 percent.

If the Sweet 16 for men’s and women’s basketball teams were seeded based on Graduation Success Rates (GSR), then the complete seeding would be:

Men’s

#1 University of Dayton (100)
 #2 Baylor University (91)
 #3 Michigan State University (89)
 #4 Stanford University (83)
 #5 University of Kentucky (82)
 #6 (tie) San Diego State University (75)
 #6 (tie) University of Michigan (75)
 #8 University of Louisville (70)
 #9 (tie) University of Arizona (64)
 #9 (tie) University of Virginia (64)
 #11 (tie) University of Florida (60)
 #11 (tie) University of California, Los Angeles (60)
 #11 (tie) University of Tennessee (60)
 #14 Iowa State University (54)
 #15 University of Wisconsin (44)
 #16 University of Connecticut (8)

Women’s

#1 (tie) DePaul University (100)
 #1 (tie) University of Tennessee (100)
 #1 (tie) University of South Carolina (100)
 #1 (tie) University of Kentucky (100)
 #1 (tie) Louisiana State University (100)
 #1 (tie) University of Notre Dame (100)
 #1 (tie) Penn State University (100)
 #8 (tie) University of Louisville (92)
 #8 (tie) Stanford University (92)
 #8 (tie) University of Connecticut (92)
 #8 (tie) University of Maryland (92)
 #12 Baylor University (88)
 #13 Texas A & M (80)
 #14 University of North Carolina (79)
 #15 Brigham Young University (75)
 #16 Oklahoma State University (61)

In addition, based on Academic Progress Rates (APR), the Sweet 16 seeding for men's and women's basketball teams would be as follows:

Men's	Women's
#1 (tie) University of Louisville (995)	#1 (tie) DePaul University (1000)
#1 (tie) University of Michigan (995)	#1 (tie) Stanford University (1000)
#3 University of Florida (989)	#3 University of Tennessee (990)
#4 University of Dayton (985)	#4 (tie) Penn State University (985)
#5 Stanford University (984)	#5 University of Connecticut (984)
#6 University of Wisconsin (980)	#6 Baylor University (982)
#7 University of Tennessee (973)	#7 (tie) Brigham Young University (980)
#8 Michigan State University (971)	#7 (tie) University of South Carolina (980)
#9 University of Arizona (969)	#9 University of Kentucky (976)
#10 Baylor University (965)	#10 University of Notre Dame (968)
#11 University of Kentucky (963)	#11 Texas A & M (965)
#12 University of California, Los Angeles (951)	#12 Louisiana State University (964)
#13 Iowa State University (949)	#13 University of North Carolina (963)
#14 University of Virginia (946)	#14 University of Louisville (953)
#15 San Diego State University (935)	#15 University of Maryland (950)
#16 University of Connecticut (897)	#16 Oklahoma State University (944)

Lapchick emphasized, "While race has persisted as an ongoing academic issue, it is especially disheartening to see the large increases in the gap between the graduation rates for white and African-American student-athletes of women Sweet 16 teams. These are the most alarming statistics we have reported in our graduation rate studies in many years."

Other notable results on the topic of race and academics for the Sweet 16 teams' GSR data include:

- Two women's teams and ten men's teams have a GSR disparity between African-American and white basketball student-athletes greater than 30 percent. Last year's study showed one woman's team and seven men's teams with a 30 percent disparity.
- Four women's teams and 12 men's teams have a GSR disparity of over 20 percent. In comparison to last year's Sweet 16 teams, the women's field has one more team while the men's field has increased by four with the 20 percent gap.

Lapchick concluded that, "No matter how many teams we examine, overall women basketball student-athletes achieved greater academic success than their male counterparts. And no matter whether we look at women's or men's college basketball, there is a gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes. The fact that this year's numbers are so much worse is distressing and needs to be closely watched in the future. Both the women's 13 percentage point gap and the men's 43 percentage point gap are unacceptable."

Note: The men's and women's percentages were calculated as follows:

1. All men's and women's graduation rates were based on 16 teams.
2. GSR and APR scores are based on the most recent statistics provided by the NCAA.
3. Disparity figures are based on the difference of the average GSR for white basketball student-athletes and African-American basketball student-athletes.

RICHARD E. LAPCHICK, DIRECTOR

C. KEITH HARRISON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR • SCOTT BUKSTEIN, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Tel: 407-823-1516 or 407-823-4887 • Fax: 407-823-3771 • Web: www.tidesport.org

~MAKING WAVES OF CHANGE~

4. Two men's Sweet 16 teams (University of Connecticut and the University of Michigan) do not have any white basketball student-athletes in the period recorded.

THE INSTITUTE FOR DIVERSITY AND ETHICS IN SPORT (TIDES)

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. 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.

RICHARD E. LAPCHICK, DIRECTOR

C. KEITH HARRISON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR • SCOTT BUKSTEIN, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Tel: 407-823-1516 or 407-823-4887 • Fax: 407-823-3771 • Web: www.tidesport.org

~MAKING WAVES OF CHANGE~