

Pittsburg State University
Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (Fall 2003)

Mission Statement

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics provides an enriching experience which augments the academic education of the student-athlete. Our department provides opportunities for students to develop productive interdependent relationships with others through shared commitment to common goals relating to achievement of excellence. The coaches in the department promote the growth of character, leadership, service and self-confidence in those students who take part and help to prepare each team member to lead a productive and fulfilling life in society. The coaches and administrators also provide motivation and resources for student-athletes to excel academically.

Intercollegiate Athletics also provides a source of pride for the general student population, faculty, staff, alumni and community members. The athletic programs, and the students and coaches that comprise them, act as ambassadors and promoters of Pittsburg State University to the region, state and across the country.

Vision Statement

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics strives to achieve excellence at the highest levels in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) and the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) Division II. The pinnacle of this desired excellence is achieved by winning conference and national championships.

The department strives to motivate and help student-athletes to achieve the highest levels of academic success possible, to promote the development of meaningful values and principles in student-athletes, and to develop in the student-athletes a sense of responsibility for citizenship and service to the university and community. The department strives to provide equitable opportunities for men and women of all races and ethnic backgrounds and to instill in the student-athletes the importance of that principle.

The department strives to consistently represent Pittsburg State University in a positive manner and to accurately reflect the University's high standards of performance and character.

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Goals, Objectives & Strategies

I. Athletic

The goal of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is for all teams to be highly competitive at the national level and to contend for conference championships every year.

Objective I: To increase operating, recruiting and scholarship budgets for each sport.

Strategy I: Expand endowed scholarships for Athletics by initiating an annual letterman's campaign beginning in FY 04.

Strategy II: Increase monies raised in the annual Athletic Scholarship & Fund Drive to meet the increasing costs of tuition and housing.

Strategy III: Expand to the MIAA scholarship limit in each sport through increased funding.

Strategy IV: Increase lettermen's funds through: "guarantee" games, phonathons, social functions and fundraisers.

Strategy V: Continue to develop and promote existing fundraising activities.

Strategy VI: Provide additional monies through increased gate receipts, advertising and corporate sponsorships.

Strategy VII: Request additional monies through the Athletic Fee Committee via Student Government.

Strategy VIII: Once additional student fee monies are secured, direct any increases toward our women's sports to help insure our continued compliance with Title IX. This would be contingent upon the continued success of the annual scholarship drive.

Strategy IX: Identify financially successful former letterwinners and target those individuals for major giving (i.e. endowed scholarships, facility enhancement projects).

Objective II: To promote a departmental effort to expand our recruiting base by enrolling not only local student-athletes, but also student-athletes on a regional, national and international scope.

Strategy I: Take full advantage of all NCAA guidelines allowing the promotion of each individual sport through effective use of recruiting publications, press releases and dissemination of information on the world wide web.

Strategy II: Foster stronger relations with the University community with regard to the cooperative efforts of the recruitment and subsequent enrollment of prospective student-athletes.

Strategy III: Seek out additional corporate sponsorships to offset such recruiting expenses as vehicles, motel rooms and food trade outs.

Strategy IV: Encourage all head coaches to take full advantage in the recruitment of student-athletes who qualify for the "Gorilla Advantage" program.

Objective III: To seek additional position allocations for all sports.

Strategy I: Promote the need for additional positions to university administration with specific rationale and justification.

Objective IV: To upgrade, expand and/or complete existing athletic facilities; and to enhance the quality/quantity of existing athletics equipment.

Strategy I: Increase funding for renovation projects through the cultivation of major donors.

Strategy II: Provide new revenues from upgraded athletic facilities (i.e. football sky box lease fees) to assist with other unfunded projects, such as West Stadium Enhancement at Carnie Smith Stadium and stadium enhancements at the PSU Softball Complex and Al Ortolani Baseball Field (i.e. press box additions/permanent seating).

Strategy III: Seek out matching funds through grants for video editing & computer needs.

II. Academic

The pledge of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is to strive for academic excellence and achievement, and to support the student-athletes' academic progress toward their intellectual development and graduation.

Objective I: To increase the rate of retention and graduation for all Pittsburg State University student-athletes.

Strategy I: Increase staff positions, whether through an intern or graduate assistant, to assist with the daily needs and supervision of the student-athletes.

Strategy II: Improve and update existing academic support services offered by Athletics in order to better assist our student-athletes opportunities for academic success.

Strategy III: Create an academic study center that offers state of the art resources and an environment more conducive to learning than current facilities.

Objective II: To continue to be proactive in our nomination and promotion of deserving student-athletes for Verizon Academic All-America, MIAA All-Academic recognition, NCAA post-graduate scholarships as well as University honors.

Strategy I: Reaffirm our commitment to recruit quality student-athletes in all sports that meet qualified admission requirements.

Strategy II: Identify and promote outstanding student-athletes for academic honors.

III. Citizenship/Service

The commitment of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is to instill the ideals of citizenship as well as encourage our student-athletes in service to their campus and surrounding community.

Objective I: To maximize student-athlete participation in campus and community activities.

Strategy I: Sponsor workshops, lectures and guest speakers to help promote respect for diversity, to assist student-athletes in building positive self-esteem as well as manifesting social responsibilities.

Strategy II: Increase opportunities for student-athlete involvement in community service.

Strategy III: Continue to encourage international student-athletes to be guest speakers on their culture/heritage at area schools.

Strategy IV: Continue to encourage all student-athletes to be active participants in improving the quality of life on their campus and in their community through service and volunteerism.