

**Provost's Athletic Oversight Council**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**September 14, 2023**  
**12:30-1:45PM, ALC4200**

In attendance: Lisa Bauer, Austin Brown, Stacy Delacruz, Matthew Iwanski, AJ Johnson, Tamica Jones, Randy Kennedy, Daniel Niederjohn, Milton Overton, Ivan Pulinkala, Megan Stoltzfus, Anete Vasquez, Patrick Vickers, Julia Weiss,

The meeting was opened at 12:34pm. Dan Niederjohn, Committee Chair, welcomed the team, made introductions, and explained the purpose/goal of PAOC.

Minutes from April 27, 2023 PAOC Meeting were approved.

Julia Weiss, Lacrosse athlete, shared the experience of her typical (hectic) day as a KSU athlete, including a 5:40 wake-up, lifting, training, classes, events for honors college, etc. As a senior, she has seen huge growth in athlete life; getting the ALC has been amazing. Resources have grown and Honors SA is a great opportunity to showcase the student athlete life. Her biggest challenge has been deciding at which point to say no to additional tasks/opportunities. She puts full energy into everything she does.

In response to the Provost's question about what KSU should work on, Julia suggested that leadership should be aware of the time management required by student athletes. Julia said, "Sometimes it gets to be a lot and we have a lot on our plate." She shared that she has personally had a great experience with faculty understanding the needs of student athletes. However, she has heard that some teammates on the Marietta campus have found professors not as understanding. She does suggest that student athletes take the initiative on the first day to explain to their instructors and it should go better. Discussion followed with other student athletes in attendance.

Milton Overton, Director of Athletics, presented the State of the Department and provided a handout of highlights. He began with why support for our athletes is so important and commended our athletes for their leadership efforts like SAAC and SGA. He reviewed the successes of our athletes and teams for 22-23.

Other highlights mentioned are reconstructing the baseball stadium, a new sports performance and training center, and a new Football Operations Center. Athletics has increased the budget by 5 million per year annually (25 million over 5 years) through game guarantees, sponsorship dollars, and philanthropy.

Ivan thanked Milton, the teams, and our student athletes for advancing the value of our KSU degrees. Due to the KSU experience, including the impact made by the success of the athletic department this past year, admissions continue to increase.

Meghan Stoltzfus, Director, Student-Athlete Development, shared the Student-Athlete Welfare and SAAC Update. She continues to focus on personal and professional development for our student athletes. Under her purview, SAAC is creating and

finding programming for our student athletes, continuing with a focus on mental health. Other highlights were the summer bridge program run by the Director of Learning Support and new dieticians now on staff with the student recreation.

The athletes continue to be encouraged to get involved in the over 280 student clubs and organizations. Next SAAC meeting is on Sept 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Bailey building and it is open to anyone.

Discussion followed on the increased pressures for our athletes. More travel (competing teams further away, more flights, etc.) is expected and that can affect academics and some anxiety has been created from going to Conference USA (bigger teams, etc.). We need to be sure that there will be accommodation made for this.

Matt Iwanski, Associate Athletic Director, Athletics Compliance and Risk Management, presented the Compliance Report and NCAA News. Due to recent changes, there are many things to work on to support our student athletes and their progress with NCAA. A common concern is time management and moving to Conference USA does require us to initiate some time management policies. We need to create a structure where athletes can get their studies done and have a voice in the way their schedules are created. This and other processes will be implemented over the next two years and will cover student health, student mental health, financial aid, improvements to the overall student athlete experience, etc.

It is important that our athletes have a good understanding of what is expected of them and Compliance is working to assure that everything is up to date and ready to go with the transition to Conference USA.

Randy Kennedy, Associate Athletic Director for Academic Services, shared a Student-Athlete Academic Update. Summer Bridge went well and there has been a successful start to fall. All our athletes are being contacted and Randy praised Meghan on this and other accomplishments. Learning Support is implementing Academic Competency that will cover five competencies including how to be a better skilled student, note taking and study skills.

Randy is collaborating with other colleges to provide career opportunities and experiences for the student athletes. He also shared about recent funding for more laptops for our athletes to use. Requests for early alerts of students having any difficulty have been sent. Registration is 1 month from yesterday and we want the athletes to register at the first available opportunity.

Randy is in the process of submitting APR data; numbers should be available at the next meeting. Regarding notifications/credentials for professors, a letter is provided to students to give to their instructors and instructors are reminded of travel before trips.

Many things have changed and there are needed updates to our policies. Randy suggested that 30 minutes should be changed to 1 hour "prior to scheduled time of departure" in policy 4.3 in Missed Classed Policy. This will be on the agenda for voting at the next meeting. (A vote today was deemed unofficial due to a point of order.) Discussion followed to consider the different campuses. Should there be more accommodation for students coming from Marietta?

Dan Niederjohn, Faculty Athletics Representative and Associate Professor of Psychology presented the FAR and Admission Advisory Committee Update. He will review the "End of Season" survey at the next meeting. The Missions Advisory Committee reviews exceptions to admissions requirements and there are no significant changes upcoming with this group.

Dan shared a membership update and that new faculty representatives should be official by the next meeting. Next meeting dates are Nov 2, Feb 8, and April 11.

Meeting adjourned at 1:48 pm

The minutes from the September 14, 2023 meeting were approved on November 2, 2023.

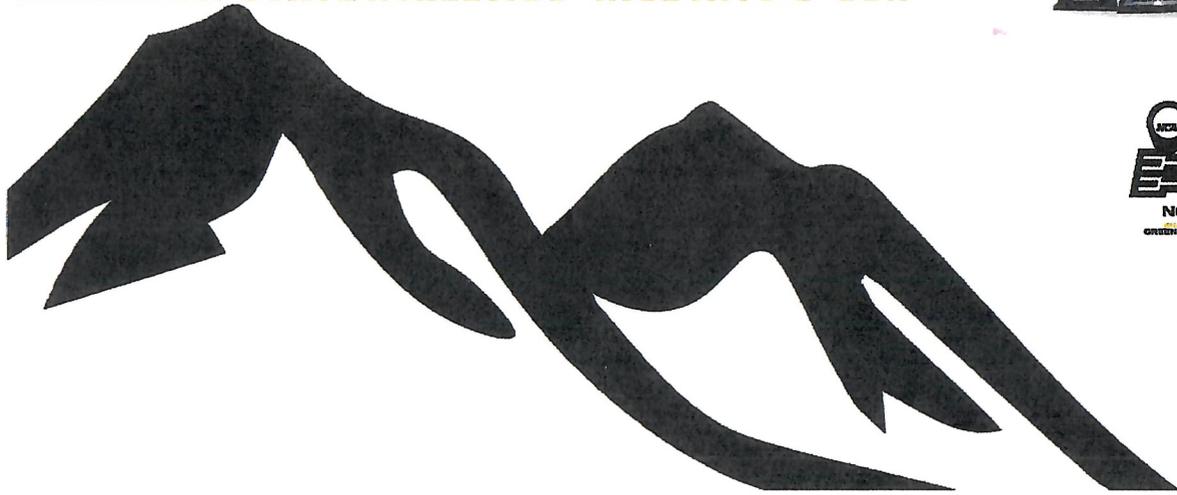
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# NEW PEAKS

## KENNESAW STATE ATHLETICS' RISE INTO C-USA



# 2022-23



**BASEBALL ASUN CHAMPIONS**

BOARD OF REGENT'S APPROVE MOVE TO **CUSA**



NCAA FIRST ROUND - GREENSBORO, NC - GREENSBORO COLISEUM



**CHEER NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**



**SARAH HENDRICK**  
ALL-AMERICAN  
ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN



**MEN'S BASKETBALL RECORDS**  
FIRST-EVER 15 WIN SEASON



**ISIAH ROGERS**  
NATIONAL CHAMPION



**ROUND 7 PICK 218**  
KSU'S FIRST DRAFT PICK

**BEST FUNDRAISING YEAR IN PROGRAM HISTORY**

**Three critical needs must be delivered for KSU Athletics to keep pace with its competition:**

**New Sports Performance and Training Center** – A new, 4,000-square-foot training/sports performance facility is needed to serve all of KSU's 450 student-athletes, including 50 men and women members of our National Championship Cheer Squad. These students currently receive training, sports performance services, and medical treatment in trailers that are inadequate for a top university.

**Reconstructed Baseball Stadium** – Kennesaw State baseball and the former Southerm Polytechnic State University baseball program are rich in history, earning multiple national championships between them. KSU baseball has produced 75 Major League Baseball draft picks, three in the first round, and nine who played in the Majors. However, the current facility is not conducive to recruiting the level of players needed to sustain championship-caliber performance. A comprehensive renovation of the current stadium is needed to create a modern, first-class venue with weatherproof artificial turf, expanded seating capacity, amenities, and much-needed structural and visual improvements. The upgrades will help demonstrate the University's commitment to building champions and provide a first-class venue for hosting youth/high school tournaments and concerts year-round.

**New Football Operations Center** – Kennesaw State football holds the NCAA Division I record for most wins in its first five years of existence. In its short history, Owl football has won three conference championships and made the playoffs four times. These achievements are even more extraordinary when considering how scattered our program's facilities are. Owl football players lose five hours a week – out of an NCAA-maximum of 20 practice hours per week – traveling between training and practice facilities. These issues place Kennesaw State coaches at a distinct recruiting disadvantage, and unfortunately contribute to transfers out of the program. KSU aspires to have a new 45,000-square-foot state-of-the-art championship caliber football operations building near the stadium to consolidate the football program and impact the entirety of KSU Athletics.



# 2022-2023

## ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

**2021-22 APR:** ALL TEAMS WERE ABOVE **950** MULTIYEAR RATE  
WITH **4** TEAMS AVERAGING A SCORE OF **1000**

  
NATIONAL FOOTBALL  
FOUNDATION  
*Hampshire Honor Society*

JECORY BURNS  
ISAAC FOSTER  
MARKETH  
MONTGOMERY  
MATT OLSON

  
**8 ATHLETES**

**291**  
**TOP**  
**FLIGHT**  
**CMS**

**CUM LAUDE**  
**HONORS** **8**

**DEAN'S LIST**  
**ATHLETES** **92**

**85** PRESIDENTIAL  
SCHOLARS

**3.06 GPA**

**26** GRADUATES

**10** ASUN ALL  
ACADEMIC HONORS

**HIGHEST TEAM GPAs**

-  **3.69** WOMEN'S TENNIS
-  **3.68** WOMEN'S GOLF
-  **3.68** VOLLEYBALL

**13 OF 16**  
TEAMS EARNED A  
**3.0 OR**  
**HIGHER**

**2X ASUN** WINNERS FOR LIFE  
MBB – ALEX PETERSON  
WSO – KENDALL HIGGS



**College Sports History Comparison**

*KSU Athletics 40 Year History Since 1983*

*UGA Athletics 122 Year History Since 1901*

*GT Athletics 122 Year History Since 1901*

*Georgia Southern 100 Year History Since 1923*

*Georgia State 70 Year History Since 1953*

**2015**

KSU Athletics Launched Football Program Competing in the Big South Conference

**1994**

KSU Athletics Transitioned to NCAA Division II Level Competing in Peach Belt Conference

**2023**

KSU Athletics Announced Transition to NCAA FBS Level Competing in the C-USA Conference, Lunched \$33M Capital Campaign, MBB NCAA Tournament Berth

**2009**

KSU Athletics Transitioned to NCAA Division I Level Competing in the ASUN Conference

**1983**

KSU Athletics Department Founded Competing at NAIA Level in the Georgia Intercollegiate Athletics Conference

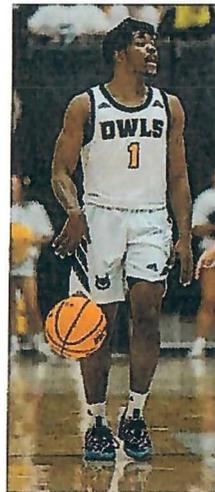
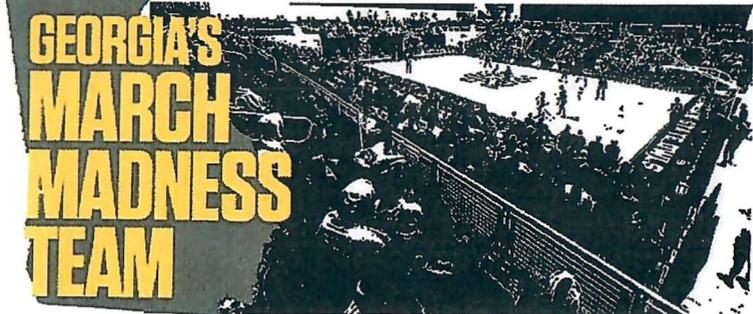


# IMPACTS

**32.52** **\$305,293,833**  
MEDIA VALUE  
**BILLION IMPRESSIONS**

**12,910**  
MEDIA MENTIONS

**300,000**  
ENGAGEMENTS  
**4500**  
NEW FOLLOWERS  
**2M+**  
DIRECT SOCIAL IMPRESSIONS



MEDIA OUTLET COVERAGE



**361,437**  
WEBSITE PAGEVIEWS



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Document Pages: 8	Signatures: 2
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AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
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Time Zone: (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)	lbauer3@kennesaw.edu
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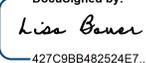
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Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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