



Domenico Grasso
Provost & Professor

8 October 2014

Professor Lynn Snyder-Mackler,
Chair of the Faculty Board on Athletics

Re: Annual Report on Academic Integrity

Dear Lynn,

The charge and mission of the Faculty Board on Athletics includes a list of nine duties, among which are the two following:

- Maintaining and fostering a clear commitment to academic integrity and institutional control as it applies to UD Athletics within the University.
- Providing counsel to the President, Provost, Board of Trustees, Director of Athletics, and University Faculty Senate concerning matters of athletic policy formation, budgetary planning, educational programming, staff development, and athletic scheduling.

These two important duties would be served by having the Board produce a comprehensive annual report, submitted to the Provost and President of the University, on Academics and Athletics at UD. The report should cover a range of issues relating to the quality of the academic experience of our student athletes, including (but not limited to):

- Course-taking and grading patterns (traditional/independent study/online)
- Choice of majors and minors
- Retention and time-to-degree rates
- Academic support services

We take pride in making sure that our student athletes are just that—and in that order—*student* athletes. Athletic opportunities and achievement are important at UD, but they are extra-curricular. An annual report is one way to assure our community that we are vigilant about setting high expectations for academic achievement for all of our students.

It would be my hope that the Board could submit its first report by March 31, 2015, and subsequent reports by the corresponding date in each succeeding academic year. I plan to present the report to the Board of Trustees' Committee on Academic Affairs and Committee on Student Life and Athletics at each committee's April meeting and will ask you to be present when the report is discussed.

If you have questions, please let me know. I thank you and the other members of the Board for your hard work and diligence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Domenico Grasso", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Domenico Grasso
Provost

cc: President Harker
Eric Ziady