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**Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of Division I NCAA Women's  
and Men's Basketball Tournament Teams:**

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

**Orlando, FL...March 16, 2010** – The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES) at the University of Central Florida released its annual study, “Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of Division I NCAA Women’s and Men’s Basketball Tournament Teams,” which compare graduation rates for Division I teams that have been selected for the men’s and women’s brackets of the 2010 NCAA Basketball Tournaments. The author of the study is Dr. Richard Lapchick, who is director of The Institute and of the DeVos Sport Business Management Graduate Program at UCF. The study was co-authored this year by Jamile M. Kitnurse and David Benoit.

The study examines the Graduation Success Rates (GSR) and the Academic Progress Rates (APR) for the tournament teams. The study compares the academic performance of male and female basketball student-athletes and of African-American and white basketball student-athletes. The study on the men’s tournament teams was released on March 15.

Lapchick emphasized that, “There is so much good news for the women’s tournament teams when we examine the Graduation Success Rates and the Academic Progress Rates in particular. Nineteen women’s tournament teams had a 100 percent graduation rate for their teams. Women do much better academically than men. Furthermore, the academic success gap between African-American and white women’s basketball student-athletes is smaller, although still significant, than between African-American and white men’s basketball student-athletes.”

Lapchick noted, “The women in the tournament are the epitome of what it means to be a student-athlete. Their academic success is a great story. The GSR, developed in late 2005, provides a more accurate picture of the success student-athletes have in the classroom at NCAA member institutions. Based on the GSR, 94 percent (58 teams) of the women’s teams graduated at least 50 percent of their basketball student-athletes. That compared to 69 percent (44 teams) of the men’s teams.”

In addition:

- 92 percent (57) of the women’s teams compared to 58 percent (37) of the men’s teams graduated at least 60 percent.
- 82 percent (51) of the women’s teams compared to 45 percent (29) of the men’s teams graduated at least 70 percent.

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- 5 percent (3) of the women's teams compared to 19 percent (12) of the men's teams graduated less than 40 percent.

In spite of all the general progress with GSR data, Lapchick "remains alarmed at the persistent gap between African-American and white basketball student-athletes although it is far less severe among the women. The results for women once again stand in stark contrast to the men's teams."

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

**70 percent graduation rates**

- **83 percent** (50 schools) of the women's tournament teams graduated 70 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **while 69 percent** (40 schools) graduated 70 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes **resulting in a 14 percentage point gap vs. a 48 percentage point gap for the men's teams.** Among the men's teams **79 percent** (45 schools) of the men's tournament teams graduated 70 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **while only 31 percent** (20 schools) graduated 70 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes.

**60 percent graduation rates**

- **95 percent** (57 schools) of the women's tournament teams graduated at least 60 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **while 83 percent** of schools (48 schools) graduated 60 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes **yielding only a 12 percentage point gap compared to the 41 percentage point gap for men.** Among the men's teams **86 percent** (49 schools) of the men's tournament teams graduated 60 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **while only 45 percent** of schools (29 schools) graduated 60 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes.

**50 percent graduation rates**

- **97 percent** (58 schools) of the women's teams graduated at least 50 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **and 90 percent** (52 schools) graduated 50 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes. **That left only a seven percentage point gap for women and a 35 percentage point gap for men.** Among the men's teams **91 percent** (52 schools) graduated 50 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **but only 56 percent** (36 schools) graduated 50 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes.

**40 percent graduation rates**

- **97 percent** (58 schools) of the women's teams graduated at least 40 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **compared to the 91 percent** (53 schools) which graduated 40 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes, **only a six percentage point gap for women compared to a 16 percentage point gap for men.** Among the men's teams **91 percent** (52 schools) graduated 40 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, **compared to the 75 percent** (48 schools) which graduated 40 percent or more of their African-American basketball student-athletes.

Lapchick noted, "The late NCAA President Myles Brand led the academic reform movement and the overall GSR shows that. In the past three years we have released two studies showing the substantial progress over 20 years in the graduation rates for African-American student-athletes."

Nonetheless, race remains an ongoing academic issue because of the continued gap between graduation rates for white and African-American student-athletes. A significant disparity remains between graduation rates for white and African-American basketball student-athletes.

White male basketball student-athletes on tournament bound teams graduate at a rate of 84 percent versus only 56 percent of African-American male basketball student-athletes. White female basketball student-athletes on tournament bound teams graduate at 90 percent compared to 78 percent of African-American female basketball student-athletes who graduate. These 28 and 12 percent disparities are alarming. The gap for men increased by seven percentage points while the gap for women narrowed, from 16 to 12 percent from a year ago.

Lapchick emphasized that, "African-American male and female basketball players graduate at a higher rate than African-American males and females who are not student-athletes. The graduation rate for African-American male students as a whole is only 38 percent, versus the overall rate of 62 percent for male white students, which is a huge 24 percentage point gap. The graduation rate for African-American female students as a whole is 50 percent, versus the overall rate of 67 percent for white female students, which is 17 percentage point gap. Our predominantly white campuses too often are not welcoming places for students of color, whether or not they are athletes."

In addition, schools are recruiting many of our African-American basketball players from urban areas. Too many urban schools are underfunded, have less technology, and often, less effective teachers and cannot level the academic playing field. This makes it far more difficult for student-athletes and students in general to be successful. In the meantime, admissions officers need to admit only students who can succeed academically.

More distressing results are:

- The GSR data shows **eight women's tournament teams** or 14 percent have a 30 percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes.<sup>1</sup>
- The GSR data shows **28 men's tournament teams** (49 percent) have a 30 percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes.<sup>2</sup>
- **14 women's teams** (25 percent) have a 20 percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes.
- **37 men's teams** (65 percent) have a 20 percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and African-American basketball student-athletes.
- Looking at all Division I women's teams including those not in the tournament, the disparity for GSR between whites and African-Americans is almost as troubling as there are 51 teams (17 percent) with at least a 30 percent difference; and 82 teams (27 percent) with at least a 20 percent difference.<sup>3</sup>
- Looking at all Division I men's teams, the disparity for GSR between whites and African-Americans is more troubling as there are 109 teams (40 percent) with at least a 30 percent difference; and 146 teams (53 percent) with at least a 20 percent difference.<sup>4</sup>

Only Oklahoma State in the 2010 Women's Basketball Tournament will be subject to contemporaneous penalties under the APR 925 "cut" score. Five women's teams (seven percent) did not receive a score of 925 or more on the NCAA's APR. Among the 65 men's teams, seven teams will be subject to contemporaneous penalties under the 925 "cut" score. Nineteen (19) teams or 29 percent did not receive a score of 925 or more on the NCAA's APR.

There is currently a margin of error used in the calculation that provides protection to certain institutions which have a small sample size of data or some teams who would have been subject to penalties by their APR scores, but did not have to take any actual penalties because they did not have any students leave ineligible in the last year or received a waiver from penalties. These margins of error will be eliminated when a four-year rolling average APR can be determined.

The NCAA created the APR in 2004 as part of an academic reform package designed to more accurately measure student-athletes' academic success as well as improve graduation rates at member institutions by providing sanctions in the form of lost scholarships when teams fail to meet the NCAA standard for academic performance. Teams that score below a 925, which is equivalent to an NCAA GSR rate of approximately 60 percent, can lose up to 10 percent of their scholarships. Teams can also be subject to historical penalties for poor academic performance over time. Starting next year, teams that receive three straight years of historical penalties (below 900 APR) 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 2008-09 academic performances of the teams in the study, but instead uses the four-year data from the 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08 academic years.

Of the five teams below the 925 score this year, only Oklahoma State will be subject to contemporaneous penalties by the NCAA.

All of the FBS conferences represented in the APR study did well this year. The Big East, SEC, ACC, Pac-10, and Big 10 had all of their tournament-bound member institutions receive an APR score greater than 925. The Big 12 was the only conference to have a team with an APR score below 925. The Big East Conference is represented by three teams in the top 15 APR scores (University of Connecticut, DePaul University, and Notre Dame).

Lapchick added, "Myles Brand made many breakthrough achievements as the head of the NCAA. Now it is up to the presidents to stay vigilant working for the academic welfare of all student-athletes. I hope they work across their campuses to make all students of color more welcome. And I hope all presidents work within their own communities to improve school systems which are often underfunded, under-equipped, and do not have the best teachers."

Lapchick concluded, "As always, there are schools that win big enough to be here in March *and* graduate their student-athletes. Six men's teams (Brigham Young, Marquette, Notre Dame, Utah State, Wake Forest, and Wofford) graduated 100 percent of their players. For the women, nineteen schools had a 100 percent graduation rate. They included: Bowling Green, Connecticut, Dayton, DePaul, Iowa, Lehigh, Liberty, Marist College, North Carolina, Northern Iowa, Notre Dame, Ohio State, St. John's, Stanford, Tennessee, Tulane, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Vanderbilt and Vermont. Notre Dame not only placed a men's and women's team in the tournament but they also had a 100 percent graduation success rate for both teams. That should earn them high rankings for the NCAA's incentives list."

NCAA statistics were used in the study. The Institute reviewed 2002-03 graduation (six-year) rates, with a four class average (freshman classes of 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03). That included the class that should have graduated within six years by 2008-09, the last period reported to the NCAA.

The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport serves as a comprehensive resource for issues related to gender and race in amateur, collegiate and professional sports. The Institute researches and publishes a variety of studies, including annual studies of student-athlete graduation rates and racial attitudes in sports, 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 for Diversity and Ethics in Sport 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 sports industry while also emphasizing diversity, community service and sport and social issues.

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

- *Overall rates were based on 62 teams for women and 64 for men (Princeton and Cornell, like other Ivy League Schools, do not report graduation rates, South Dakota State also did not report their rates).*
- *Rates for white student-athletes were based on 60 women's teams (Hampton University, and Southern University, Baton Rouge had no white basketball student-athletes in the period under review) and 57 men's teams (In addition to Cornell not reporting graduation rates, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Houston, Louisville, Temple, Villanova, Winthrop, and Xavier also had no white basketball student-athletes in the period under review).*
- *Rates for African-American student-athletes were based on 58 women's teams (Northern Iowa, Iowa State, Marist College, and Wisconsin-Green Bay had no African-American basketball student-athletes in the NCAA from which the study's data was gathered) and 65 men's teams .*

<b>Graduation Success Rates for 2010 Women's Teams in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament</b>						
<b>School</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>Overall Student-Athlete</b>	<b>African-American Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>White Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>Overall Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	
Arkansas, Little Rock	941	75	83	100	78	
Austin Peay	905	68	100	67	85	
Baylor	955	77	82	86	83	
Bowling Green	973	86	100	100	100	
Cleveland State	961	84	75	100	93	
Connecticut	991	82	100	100	100	
Dayton	991	94	100	100	100	
DePaul	991	88	100	100	100	
Duke	989	97	86	100	92	
East Tennessee State	947	69	50	100	67	
Florida State	956	79	75	50	67	
Fresno State	938	60	67	83	78	
Georgetown	975	95	83	100	92	
Georgia	986	75	70	100	79	
Georgia Tech	952	71	60	100	73	
Gonzaga	981	91	67	100	92	
Hampton	908	72	39	-	39	
Hartford	991	85	80	100	93	
Iowa	973	85	100	100	100	
Iowa State	980	78	-	90	90	
James Madison	971	84	63	67	62	
Kentucky	973	73	90	100	92	
Lamar	908	64	36	25	35	
Lehigh	995	90	100	100	100	
Liberty	991	76	100	100	100	
Louisiana State	967	71	71	100	78	
Louisiana Tech	931	66	44	0	42	
Marist College	982	90	-	100	100	
Michigan State	961	80	60	83	75	
Middle Tennessee State	926	77	83	100	92	
Mississippi State	977	78	83	100	86	
NC State	965	69	82	67	80	
Nebraska, Lincoln	991	75	100	100	100	
North Carolina	970	87	100	100	100	
Northern Iowa	971	76	-	100	100	
Notre Dame	983	99	100	100	100	

<b>Graduation Success Rates for 2010 Women's Teams in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament</b>					
<b>School</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>Overall Student-Athlete</b>	<b>African-American Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>White Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>Overall Basketball Student-Athlete</b>
Ohio State	993	78	100	100	100
Oklahoma	981	70	100	100	83
Oklahoma State	906	76	83	86	81
Portland State	944	42	0	67	50
Princeton	1000				
Rutgers, New Brunswick	968	84	90	100	83
San Diego State	965	68	100	67	75
South Dakota State	974				
Southern University, Baton Rouge	919	48	29	-	29
St. Francis (PA)	964	76	83	100	93
St. John's	969	87	100	100	100
Stanford	989	94	100	100	100
TCU	962	77	57	60	64
Temple	943	70	78	100	81
Tennessee	973	76	100	100	100
Tennessee, Chattanooga	972	50	71	80	76
Texas A&M	956	71	58	80	61
Texas, Austin	973	70	86	100	96
Tulane	975	84	100	100	100
UC Riverside	987	79	33	100	85
UCLA	963	80	100	100	92
Vanderbilt	979	94	100	100	100
Vermont	981	91	100	100	100
Virginia	940	85	67	67	73
West Virginia	930	69	60	75	60
Wisconsin, Green Bay	992	94	-	92	92
Wisconsin, Madison	977	80	50	100	87
Xavier	946	94	67	100	88

<b>Graduation Rates for 2010 Men's Teams in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament</b>					
<b>School</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>Overall Student-Athlete</b>	<b>African-American Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>White Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>Overall Basketball Student-Athlete</b>
Arkansas Pine Bluff	907	57	29	-	29
Baylor	989	77	29	100	36
Brigham Young	991	82	100	100	100
Butler	964	86	75	100	90
California	944	80	0	0	20
UC Santa Barbara	872	82	50	100	82
Clemson	929	82	31	100	37
Cornell	977				
Duke	989	97	89	100	92
East Tennessee State	941	69	58	67	61
Florida	950	85	50	100	60
Florida State	933	79	71	100	80
Georgetown	942	95	78	100	82
Georgia Tech	914	71	44	0	38
Gonzaga	975	91	50	100	78
Houston	900	71	42	-	42
Kansas	1000	74	67	75	73
Kansas State	900	77	38	100	62
Kentucky	949	73	18	100	31
Ohio	948	84	75	100	85
Lehigh	994	90	75	100	92
Louisville	965	77	40	-	38
Marquette	970	92	100	100	100
Maryland	912	76	0	33	8
Michigan State	985	80	44	100	58
Minnesota	930	76	43	100	44
Missouri	959	75	25	100	36
Montana	950	71	40	100	67
Morgan State	888	56	36	100	42
Murray State	919	71	60	100	73
UNLV	920	68	13	100	46
New Mexico	909	72	44	50	43
New Mexico State	835	68	25	100	36
North Texas	923	66	62	100	60
Northern Iowa	942	76	75	80	78
Notre Dame	982	99	100	100	100

<b>Graduation Rates for 2010 Men's Teams in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament</b>					
<b>School</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>Overall Student-Athlete</b>	<b>African-American Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>White Basketball Student-Athlete</b>	<b>Overall Basketball Student-Athlete</b>
Oakland	946	82	83	75	82
Ohio State	911	78	50	100	60
Oklahoma State	967	76	75	100	82
Old Dominion	952	71	44	50	53
Pittsburgh	965	83	67	100	75
Purdue	900	77	57	83	64
Richmond	936	93	60	100	85
Robert Morris	918	91	40	100	67
St. Mary's	931	87	40	63	57
Sam Houston State	933	66	33	100	50
San Diego State	916	68	67	100	58
Siena College	935	95	67	100	86
Syracuse	932	86	43	75	55
Temple	938	70	43	-	43
Tennessee	924	76	38	0	30
Texas	979	70	29	60	47
Texas A&M	953	71	56	50	56
UTEP	924	69	60	100	71
Utah State	913	85	100	100	100
Vanderbilt	975	94	100	80	85
Vermont	964	91	100	100	92
Villanova	985	96	91	-	92
Wake Forest	963	93	100	100	100
Washington	956	84	20	0	29
West Virginia	960	69	30	60	44
Winthrop	986	85	80	-	75
Wisconsin	933	80	60	100	78
Wofford	944	97	100	100	100
Xavier	976	94	88	-	89

<sup>1</sup> For the women's teams, Princeton and South Dakota State did not report a GSR and six teams did not have data for either white or African-American student-athletes so the number of schools eligible is 56.

<sup>2</sup> The statistical pool here was 57 schools, because seven schools did not have data for white male student-athletes and one team did not report a GSR so they were omitted from the category.

<sup>3</sup> There are 38 schools that either did not have an African-American or white student-athlete or did not report GSR rates on their team in this period leaving 307 schools in the statistical pool.

<sup>4</sup> There are 73 schools that either did not have an African-American or white student-athlete or did not report GSR rates on their team in this period leaving 274 schools in the statistical pool.

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