

Duke Student-Athlete Development Fall 2018 Update

The start of the 2018 Fall Semester has been a very busy and productive time for the Student-Athlete Development Department. The below highlights the programming that has occurred over the first couple of months of the fall semester.

Leadership Enrichment & Development Program (L.E.A.D)

The Duke Athletics L.E.A.D. Retreat was held at Quaker Lake Camp in Climax, N.C. One hundred student-athletes from fourteen winter and spring sports attended the overnight session, in which leadership groups within each team explored their leadership potential. Duke Alumnus and ESPN Basketball Analyst, Jay Bilas, served as the keynote speaker. His talk focused on characteristics of a championship culture. [ARTICLE](#)



Captain's Program

The Captain's Program have met three times this semester. The meetings focused on leading with integrity and the difference between respect and dignity. John Danowski, head coach of Duke's three-time National Championship Lacrosse Team, spoke to the captains on the importance of building healthy relationships with teammates.

A.C.T.I.O.N. Mentoring Program

The Duke Athletics Leadership offers the A.C.T.I.O.N. Mentoring Program to first-year student-athletes. There have been two A.C.T.I.O.N. meetings this semester, with a third scheduled for November. September's meeting served as a meet and greet, in which student-athletes met their fellow group members and upperclassmen mentors led them through group activities. There was also a video created by the upperclassmen mentors that expressed what the acronym A.C.T.I.O.N. means to each of them. The Academic Staff partnered with the Director of Behavioral Health, Dr. Shawn Zeplin, to lead the October meeting, as mentors shared lessons on managing stress and preparing for the spring semester. [VIDEO](#)

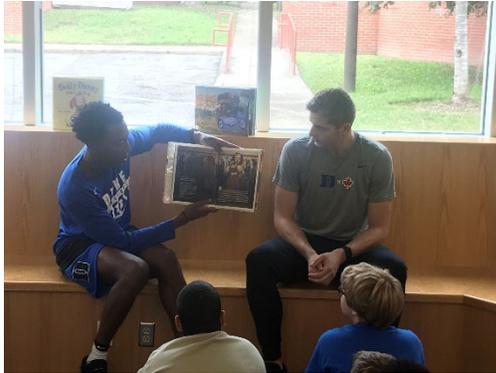


Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

The first Student-Athlete Advisory Committee meeting was held at Dr. White's house, where student-athletes gathered to share ACC goals and initiatives for the upcoming school year. The motto for this year's ACC SAAC is "SAAC Solves," which is meant to encourage SAAC programs across the ACC to create solutions to the various issues on their respective campuses. Duke's ACC SAAC representatives are Riley Hickman (S&D), Jaida Lemmons (T&F), Kincey Smith (VB), and Chris Taylor (FB).

Reading With The Blue Devils (RWBD)

The RWBD Program kicked off its 26th year partnering with the Durham Public School System and the Durham Police Department to educate 2nd and 3rd graders on the value of reading and good study habits. As with each year, the Duke Men's Basketball Team kicked off the program with the entire team visiting local schools.



Student-Athlete Career Networking Event

The career networking event provided an opportunity for student-athletes to interact with over 25 companies and organizations that have shown an interest in hiring them for internships or entry level positions. The event was held on the evening of September 26th in Scharf Hall and the Hall of Honor. Through speed networking and a traditional career fair setting the student-athletes were able to meet with the company reps to learn what each of them had to offer. Another part of the evening was the former Duke Student-Athlete panel that provided the students an opportunity to hear from individuals about how their experiences can relate to the current athletes. There were 10 former Duke student-athletes that were participating in the event as a representative for one of the companies or organizations.



Oxford Housing Authority

Student-athletes provided football game day tours to the Oxford Housing Authority. Student-athlete volunteers met Xavier Wortham and students from the Oxford Housing Community before kick-off during home football games. Prior to each game, the group met in Krzyzewskiville and received a tour a West Campus and the athletic facilities, before watching the pregame warm-ups at field level. These tours provided a special opportunity for local partners and Duke student-athletes to interact and enjoy the Duke Football Season.

