

Duke Student-Athlete Development Spring 2019 Update

The Student-Athlete Development Department has been very busy since the start of the 2019 Spring Semester. The below highlights the programming that has occurred since the start of the New Year.

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

Over fifty student athletes from the Field Hockey, Football, Volleyball, Men's and Women's Soccer, and Men's and Women's Golf teams attended the L.E.A.D. Leadership Retreat on January 11– 12 at the Quaker Lake Camp in Climax, NC. The keynote speaker for the weekend was Duke Football Alumnus and Teamworks CEO, Zach Maurides. Zach spoke on the importance of student-athletes finding their why and allowing that to drive their decision-making as leaders. Leadership theories and practices were discussed and applied throughout all retreat activities. L.E.A.D. culminated with teammates sharing with each other what they commit to do for the team. [ARTICLE.](#)



Don McPherson Event

Duke Athletics hosted ACC legend, Don McPherson, for a discussion with student-athletes on the importance of honest conversations regarding sexual violence against women. The hour-long program was hosted in Scharf Hall and was open to all student-athletes. This program is part of the personal development programming provided by the Student-Athlete Development Department. Mr. McPherson has worked and focused on the issue of men's violence against women since 1995, when he became the director of the Sports in Society Mentors in Violence Prevention Program. [ARTICLE.](#)



Black Student-Athlete Summit

The Duke Athletic Department sent three student-athletes to this year's Black Student-Athlete Summit hosted at the University of Texas at Austin. Redshirt Juniors Brandon Hill and Scott Bracey of the Duke Football Team along with Senior Michelle Stagers from Women's Lacrosse attended the three-day summit in January. Researchers and administrators presented on projects, programs, and current research that help support black student-athletes become successful on college campuses.

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

The A.C.T.I.O.N. Mentoring Program ended for the fall semester with Rich Johns and his ACT with Respect Always Program. As a former coach, Rich Johns' program challenges our student-athletes to be conscious of what their 99 is, which is how you treat others and yourself. In February, the One Love Foundation presented the Escalation Workshop to our first-year students, followed by a conversation on relationship violence. The Student-Athlete Development Department has partnered with the One Love Foundation for the past five years.



ACC Service Trip

Two Duke student-athletes, Nikhil Pulimood and Michael Marsack of the Duke Track and Field team, traveled down to Wilmington, NC to help with hurricane relief efforts in the area. The group traveled down on Friday, March 15th and returned to campus Sunday, March 17th. During their time in Wilmington, the group volunteered at the Food Bank of CNEC, the NC Diaper bank, and other local organizations.

ACE: The Rubenstein – Bing Student-Athlete Civic Engagement Program

ACE provides one-time funding for accepted Duke-Stanford ACE student-athletes to participate in three-week, immersive summer service experiences with an international community partner. Each summer 40, student-athletes participate in one of four international group programs with service themes like education, coaching, environmental sustainability and conservation, and health outreach and education.

2019 Locations

China, Peru, South Africa, Vietnam

- 36 Duke student-athletes applied
- 20 Duke student-athletes selected

Captain's Program

Duke Women's Soccer Assistant Coach and former USA Women's Soccer Team Captain, Carla Overbeck, shared her experiences during the second Captain's Meeting of the spring semester. Coach Overbeck spoke on the vital roles captains have in supporting their teammates and holding them accountable to the standards of the team. She spoke to how captains have to be willing to speak with coaches and manage up, themes Dr. Greg Dale has emphasized over the course of the year.



Read Across America

Michelle Stagers of the Women's Lacrosse Team and Jake Bobo from the Duke Football Team participated in the New Hope Elementary Read Across America Program. Both student-athletes spent 30 minutes reading and answering questions from 3rd graders at New Hope Elementary.

Duke Student-Career Development

Career development for the student-athletes continues to be a major focus and there have been numerous opportunities during the spring semester for our student-athletes to prepare themselves for life after sports.

Workshops and Individual Sessions

- Networking
- Resume and Cover Letter writing
- Career Exploration
- Internship planning
- Entry Level opportunities

Information Sessions

There have been many companies and organizations during the semester host information sessions focused on the recruitment of Duke student-athletes.

Partnership program recruitment and selections for internships that provide great opportunities for our student-athletes has been ongoing this semester.

Duke Student-Athlete Development Programing Continued from the Fall Semester

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Reading with the Blue Devils (RWBD)

First Year ACTION