

Faculty Athletics Representative

Position Responsibilities

June 2021

Position Summary

The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) is recognized as the representative of Virginia Tech and its faculty in the relationship with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC). The FAR represents VT as the voting delegate to the annual NCAA convention and any other NCAA or ACC meetings. In addition, the FAR serves on NCAA councils, cabinets, and committees as appointed. The FAR helps to interpret NCAA and ACC legislation and policies, and is also empowered to assist in the preparation, on behalf of VT, any requests for waivers or appeals from such legislation or policy.

The Faculty Athletics Representative represents the faculty in supporting the academic well-being of student-athletes. The FAR has responsibility to ensure, either directly or indirectly, that student-athletes meet all NCAA, conference, and VT requirements for eligibility to practice, financial aid, and intercollegiate competition. As FAR, the representative has the responsibility to monitor the student-athlete experience including participating in or reviewing results of exit interviews of graduating VT student-athletes. Such interactions provide insight into the student perceptions of the athletics program, including interactions with coaches and the operating policies at VT. On the athletics side, the FAR works with the athletic director, and other athletic staff, to educate student-athletes about NCAA rules, and compliance programs within the athletics department. The FAR's typical activities include the coordination of the nominations process for NCAA and ACC honors and postgraduate scholarships; administration of the coaches' rules examination and NCAA student surveys; and attendance at departmental senior staff and coaches' meetings with Compliance.

The Faculty Athletics Representative meets regularly with the Director of Athletics and serves as the Senior Faculty Advisor on athletics to the President of Virginia Tech. The FAR serves as a channel of information between the faculty and administration and the athletics program; the FAR provides periodic reports to the University Athletics Committee relating to matters of academic integrity, performance of student-athletes, rules compliance or violations, and other matters related to the athletics program.

Appointment Terms

The FAR is appointed by the University President for a five-year term. The term is eligible for reappointment for a second five-year term. The appointment term may terminate early if the FAR requests relief due to academic, research and/or personal obligations. Additionally, the President reserves the right to appoint a FAR before the end of the five-year term if the FAR is unable to perform duties or fails to perform in accordance with standards and expectations.

The appointment of the FAR is managed through a nomination and selection process. Nominations, including self-nominations, are open to any tenure track faculty member at Virginia Tech who has been employed by the university for a minimum of five years. An understanding of university athletics and the role of a student-athlete is preferred.

Key Responsibilities

Represent Virginia Tech to the NCAA and ACC

Serve as delegate to all NCAA meetings and conventions, as well as, NCAA councils, cabinets, and committees, as appropriate

Be well versed and knowledgeable regarding NCAA or ACC legislation and policies

Be knowledgeable about all institutional investigations, alleged violations, and student infractions

Assist in the preparation of any requests for waivers or appeals from NCAA or ACC legislation or policy, including eligibility requirements and restoration

Be knowledgeable of all secondary and major violations to the NCAA

Administer the coaches' rules examination and NCAA student surveys

Serve as faculty advisor to the President regarding athletics

Establish solid working relationships with the director of athletics, compliance coordinator, director of admissions, registrar and director of financial aid

Develop a comprehensive plan for the institutional control of intercollegiate athletics (with the President and Athletics Director), and ensure that appropriate and explicit assignments of both responsibility and authority are made

Assist in preparing VT's self-study report and participate in any peer-review team on-site evaluations

Be visible to the student-athletes – Monitor the student-athlete experience and be involved in personal and academic welfare of the students

Participate in orientation activities

In conjunction with the Director of Athletics and the Compliance Director, ensure that student-athletes understand and meet all NCAA, ACC, and Virginia Tech requirements for eligibility to practice, financial aid, and intercollegiate competition

Establish control or oversight of academic eligibility decisions

Conduct or review a portion of exit interviews with student-athletes

Coordinate the nomination process for NCAA and ACC postgraduate scholarships and honors

Report to the faculty and administration periodically about the academic wellbeing of student-athletes, performance, rules or compliance violations, and other matters related to the athletics program

Regularly attend monthly University Athletics Committee meetings and provide periodic reports including information related to academic matters, performance of student-athletes, and compliance

Attend periodically the departmental senior staff and coaches' meetings with compliance team.