VISION 2020 GRANT
APPLICATION (AY1)

PROJECT TITLE: THE SUCCESSFUL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE CLASS

TEAM: DR. A. BRUCE WATSON, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
(Team Leader & Vision 2020 Liaison)
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MR. ZAC REA, SCHOLAR-ATHLETE
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TO BE NAMED: HEAD GOLF COACH
TO BE NAMED: HEAD CROSS COUNTRY COACH

ABSTRACT:
The Successful Scholar-Athlete will be an introductory course designed specifically for freshmen (required) who will be participating on any IUSB athletic team. The class would assist those scholar-athletes in successfully balancing the challenges of a rigorous scholastic schedule with the demands of a competitive athletic program. This course would provide opportunities for discovery learning, instruction in learning skills, and assimilation into the social and academic cultures of the IU South Bend campus. Specific areas of focus would be: identifying strengths/weaknesses of each scholar-athlete that will impact their college success, developing short-term and long term academic goals, creating time management systems that work, exploring majors and careers, developing study habits which will lead to academic success, improving communication skills, and honing critical thinking skills. The course work will be coordinated with each head coach to facilitate study table activities and mentoring of each scholar-athlete.

NARRATIVE:
WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS?

1. **Retention**: The retention rate for these scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 will be at least 75% from Fall 2014 semester to Spring 2015 Semester (above the campus rate of 62%)

2. **Persistence**: The persistence rate scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 will exceed the rate for other first year students from the 2014-15 academic year to the 2015-2016 academic year.

3. **Timely Graduation**: The 4, 5 and 6 year graduation rate by the spring of 2020 for these scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 will be at least 50% (above the campus rate of 22%)

4. **GPA**: The GPA of these scholar-athletes registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 will be at least 3.00 (accumulative) each semester (above the campus GPA of 2.95)

5. **Full-time Enrollment**: The Full-time Enrollment of these scholar-athletes registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 will be 100% (above the 83% freshmen rate)

HOW WILL YOU ASSESS WHETHER YOU REACH YOUR GOALS?

1. **Retention**: The Team will compare data for scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 to registration for classes at IU South Bend with data for those same scholar-athletes the Spring 2015 semester.

2. **Persistence**: The Team will compare data of scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 to registration for classes at IU South Bend with data for those same scholar-athletes for the Fall 2015.

3. **Timely Graduation**: The Team will compare data of scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 to matriculation dates from IU South Bend with data for those same scholar-athletes for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

4. **GPA**: The Team will compare data of scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 accumulative GPA each semester with the data of all other IU South Bend students of the same credit standing.

5. **Full-time Enrollment**: The Team will compare data of the full-time status of scholar-athlete freshmen registered for the Successful Scholar-Athlete Class Fall 2014 with the data of all other IU South Bend students of the same credit standing.

WHAT WILL YOU DO TO REACH THOSE GOALS?

The activities within the Successful Scholar-Athlete class are all geared toward ensuring that the students become successful college students. This course would be based upon the successful EDUC-U
100 course for general studies, College of Business and College of Health Sciences, except focusing on the specific needs of scholar-athletes. Components of the class that are supported by the literature on freshmen retention, persistence, timely graduation, GPA and full-time enrollment will be incorporated into the curriculum. These include: Faculty Mentoring of Scholar-Athletes (Kuh, et. al. 2005), Peer-Mentoring of Scholar-Athletes (Kuh, et. al. 2005), Engagement in University of Scholar-Athletes (Bader, 2011), Full-Time attendance by Scholar-Athletes (Habley, et. al. 2012) and Participation in Collaborative Learning Communities by Scholar-Athletes (Bowen, et. al. 2009). The professors of the Successful Scholar-Athlete course will work collaboratively with the coaches, faculty mentors and peer mentors of each Scholar-Athlete in the class to ensure that the five goals are met. These high-impact practices will be reviewed, revised and implemented in following years based upon evaluations of students, peer mentors, coaches, athletic director and professors. The Team will serve as the final review of all the above-mentioned materials.

Typically, the three existing athletic teams recruit approximately fifteen freshmen scholar-athletes to campus each fall. With the addition of the three new athletic teams in the fall of 2014, another fifty or so freshmen scholar-athletes will be arriving. This means that there might be a need for two or three sections of the Successful Scholar-Athlete course in the fall of 2014. Therefore, this proposal would be positively impacting nearly sixty-five freshmen scholar-athletes in the fall of 2014. This number would be approximately thirty freshmen scholar-athletes in subsequent falls if there are six athletic teams. These freshmen scholar-athletes would be of both genders and various ethnic backgrounds who qualify for admission to IU South Bend.

**Budget:** Total $4,858

1. **Salaries & Wages**
   - Bruce Watson (Chair) $2,000
   - Gary Demski (Member) 325
   - Steve Bruce (Member) 325
   - Scott Cooper (Member) 325
   - Jamie Ashmore-Pott (Member) 325
   - Cross Country Coach (Member) 100
   - Golf Coach (Member) 100
   - Zac Rea (Student Member) 325

   **Total** $3,825

2. **Fringe Benefits:**
   - 27% x $4,100 **$1,033**

   **Total** **$4,858**

**Fiscal Sustainability:**

This Successful Scholar-Athlete course would be self-sustaining (student tuition and fees) from the outset. The Team might submit a follow-up application for AY2 to perform work on improving the course based upon the afore-mentioned evaluations. In addition, other units on campus might want to meet with The Team to discuss implementing the high-impact and successful practices of this course if and when the five goals are met.
Timeline:

AY1: The Successful Scholar-Athlete Course would begin in the fall of 2014.

AY2: The Successful Scholar-Athlete Course would continue being offered in the fall of 2015.

AY3: The Successful Scholar-Athlete Course would continue being offered in the fall of 2016.
References


INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND
Internal Proposal Route Sheet
Office of Research Administration
(574) 520-4181 | FAX (574) 520-5549 | sbres@iusb.edu

Erika Zynda
Office of Research Administration
A247
South Bend

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Director:</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Submitting Dept.</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRUCE WATSON</td>
<td>Scholed Ed</td>
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<th>Co-Investigator:</th>
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| Amount of this request: | $ 4,858 |

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<th>Type of Proposal:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Faculty Research Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Curriculum Development</td>
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<td>• Seed Grant</td>
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<td>• Research Project Initiation Grant</td>
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<td>• Regional Research Grant</td>
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<td>• Other 2020 Vision</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Human Subjects</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Biosafety:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Pathogenic agent</td>
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<td>• Human tissue or fluids</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Recombinant DNA</td>
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<tr>
<th>Brief layman's description of project:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory course for entirely freshman scholar athletes to assist them in becoming successful in college and life</td>
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<th>APPROVALS:</th>
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<td>BRUCE WATSON</td>
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