



Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) Roles & Responsibilities

The Wayne State University Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) is to work in conjunction with the President, athletics department administrator and the GLIAC Office to exercise three primary roles:

1. *Ensuring a quality student-athlete experience and student-athlete well-being*
2. *Ensuring the academic integrity of the athletics program; and*
3. *Ensuring institutional control of the athletics program.*

The FAR's responsibilities within each of the above mentioned roles shall fall under three focus areas: student-athletes, academic integrity and institutional control. Those responsibilities, which are designated by focus area, include but are not limited to the following:

Focus on Student-Athletes

- *To contribute to the academic success of WSU student-athletes, the FAR is expected to:*
 - ✓ Serve as a liaison between WSU faculty, administration and student-athletes and assist in the mediation of conflicts between these groups.
 - ✓ Assist in the distribution of information regarding student-athletes' academic success to all campus constituents and to the community at-large.
 - ✓ Work with the compliance office to ensure that all eligibility requirements are met.
- *In an effort to contribute to athletics excellence, the FAR will:*
 - ✓ Advocate a climate of respect between coaches, faculty and student-athletes.
 - ✓ Help educate student-athletes about the importance of sportsmanship and a positive game/practice environment.
 - ✓ Attend sporting events when possible.
- *The FAR must be committed to the active involvement of student-athletes in campus and community activities. Demonstrating this commitment includes:*
 - ✓ Encourage student-athletes to participate in both community service and community engagement projects.
 - ✓ Encourage student-athletes to represent the institution at social, civic and academic events.
 - ✓ Share the academic success of WSU student-athletes with the community at-large.
 - ✓ Encourage student-athletes to be good citizens, leaders and contributors in their community.
- *The FAR will support all Life Skills initiatives by:*
 - ✓ Encourage student-athlete participation in leadership academies and/or other professional development opportunities at the campus, conference and national level.
 - ✓ Encourage diversity and foster attitudes of tolerance, inclusion and respect.

- ✓ Promote practices of ethical and behavioral conduct.
- ✓ Encourage student-athletes to recognize the need to “balance” the roles in their lives.

Focus on Academic Integrity

The FAR’s focus on academic integrity is based on the five principles of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. *To uphold these principles within the athletics department, the FAR is charged with:*

- ✓ Promoting honest communications between all constituents (student-athletes, coaches, staff, faculty) when dealing with student-athlete issues.
- ✓ Fostering an environment of trust and civility between all constituents.
- ✓ Cultivating an environment where neither favoritism nor harshness towards WSU student-athletes is tolerated.
- ✓ Fostering an environment of respect between all constituents.
- ✓ Maintaining current knowledge of NCAA rules to be effective in the role of liaison between academics and athletics.

Focus on Institutional Control

According to the FARA Handbook, “Faculty athletics representatives are expected to take an active role in the institutional control of the intercollegiate athletics program on their campuses. Neither a lack of active involvement of the faculty athletics representative in the institutional compliance effort, nor unfamiliarity on the part of the faculty athletics representative with NCAA regulations is excused by the NCAA, should a major violation occur at the institution.”

To ensure this active role in institutional control, the FAR is expected to:

- ✓ Attend national, regional and conference meetings that provide professional development opportunities for rules education.
- ✓ Serve as a member of the compliance committee and assist in the development and oversight of institutional athletics policies and procedures.
- ✓ Report regularly with the Wayne State Academic Senate on athletics points of interest.
- ✓ Participate in annual NCAA rules education taking place during initial team meetings.
- ✓ Be an active participant in determining the institutional position on proposed legislation.