PREPARATION PITFALLS
Post-Eligibility Career Preparation of NCAA Division I Female Athletes

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Female student-athletes report value in their experiences as student-athletes, but indicate that these experiences alone are not enough for them to start a career outside of athletics.

- Learning opportunities which may help gain entry into their chosen field such as internships, study abroad programs, organization membership or attending events of their major were limited.

- Female student-athletes reported unfamiliarity with student services available on-campus positioned outside of the athletic department.

- Role conflict between their student role and athletic role also contributed to the lack of preparation for post-eligibility career transitions.

QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE

1. Does our athletic department create and encourage professional development programming for women student-athletes based on their individual career interests?

2. Does our athletic department career development policies support opportunities of the entire student-athlete population?

3. Does our athletic department partner with other on-campus career development programs located outside of the athletic department?

4. What types of experiential learning or internship opportunities are available for student-athletes that fit within their academic and athletic responsibilities and support their career interests?

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Additional Resources:
- NACWAA Career Center
- NCAA Career Resources

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