

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Urgency can be used as a management strategy. Influence can become more salient when situations become more urgent.
- Presidential involvement in decisions in athletics was more significant when the academic situations affecting athletics were more urgent, or were perceived to be more pressing.
- Faculty-athletics interaction was a key contributor to the ability for stakeholders to affect academic decisions.
- Relationships between athletics and faculty, either new or pre-existing, were critical to improving the academic performance of athletes and athletic teams.

The pressure to make decisions that help athletic teams win is felt by the players, coaches, athletic administrators...and these decisions are often covered in all forms of the media.

QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE

1. Within your department, who are the stakeholders and what role do they hold towards influencing decisions involving academic policies, programs, or procedures in relation to their impact on athletics endeavors?
2. Within your department, who are the key individuals responsible for developing and building cross-campus relationships? Is the athletics department benefitting from these relationships?
3. Who are the campus stakeholders with an interest in academic performance and success of student-athletes? Are faculty at the forefront of academic decisions related to individual student-athletes and the athletic department as a whole?
4. Are individual coaches, administrators, and staff satisfied with how academic performance (admissions, APR, course selection) decisions are made? Does stakeholder influence contribute to a positive student-athlete outcome?



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Additional Resources:

- [Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics](#)
- [American Council on Education \(ACE\) Athletics Resources](#)

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