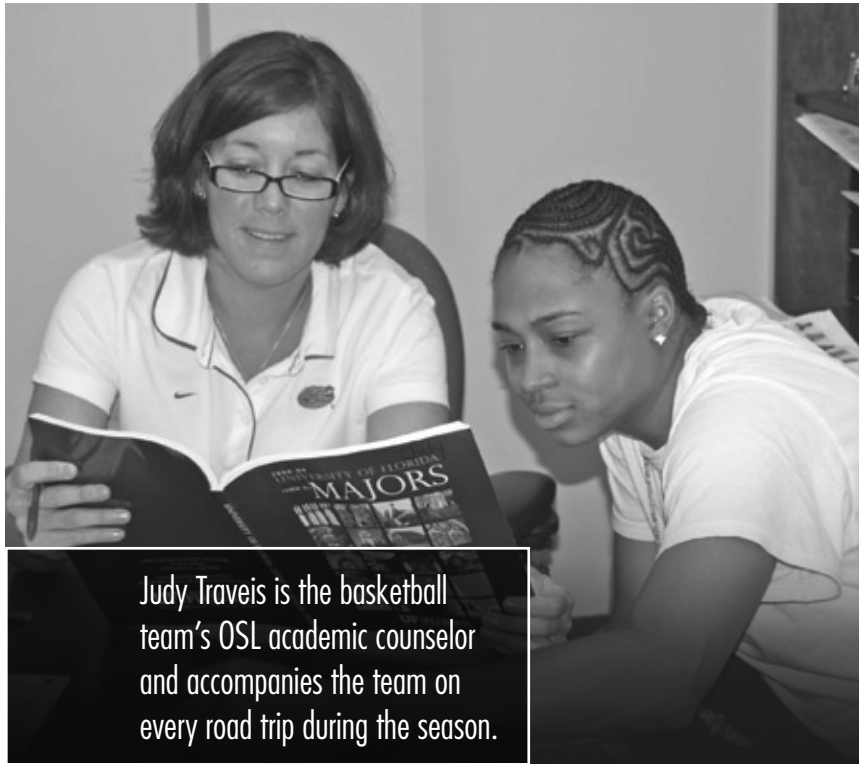




# ACADEMIC, PERSONAL & CAREER SUPPORT OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



Judy Traveis is the basketball team's OSL academic counselor and accompanies the team on every road trip during the season.



There are two computers labs inside the OSL, available only to Gator student-athletes.



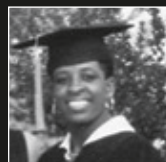
## OSL'S APPROACH TO ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

Advising student-athletes in planning a course of study leading toward graduation is one of the most important functions of the Office of Student Life. Their approach to advising encourages the collaborative efforts of student-athletes, faculty and the OSL staff to develop a plan of action tailored to the unique needs of each student-athlete. Academic advising is essential to the student-athlete's success at the University of Florida.

Until a student-athlete is accepted into the college of her selected major, her OSL counselor is her guide through class selection and registration. Once she is accepted into a college, class selection and registration is a combined effort between her college advisor and her OSL counselor. This double-team effort assists her until the degree is complete!



Recognizing that student-athletes face unique pressures, the University of Florida Athletic Association instituted the Office of Student Life (OSL) in 1979. The OSL, which opened in the fall of 1995, is located in the Academic Advisement Center, one block east of Ben Hill Griffin Football Stadium.



## OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE (OSL)

### Programs and Services

#### OSL MISSION & PHILOSOPHY:

The mission of the Office of Student Life (OSL) team is to prepare students for life after college. The OSL is committed to empowering student athletes to develop responsibility, self reliance, interdependence, personal values and leadership skills. The award winning OSL demonstrates UF's commitment to the total student athlete by providing comprehensive CHAMPS/Life programs which include academic counseling, tutoring, career and leadership development, community service and extensive services for students with learning disabilities.

#### WHO ARE THEY?

- ✓ 15 full-time staff members

#### WHAT DO THEY DO?

- ✓ We focus on three important areas of every student-athlete's collegiate experience: Academic, Personal Counseling & Development and Professional/Career

#### ACADEMIC:

- ✓ **Academic Advising**
  - Priority registration
  - Open door policy — advising 24/7
  - Counselor travels with teams
- ✓ **Academic Mentoring**
- ✓ **Tutorial Services**
  - More than 100 tutors with Master's or Ph.D. degrees are available to student-athletes
  - Group
  - Individual
  - Strategy Tutors specifically for athletes with learning disabilities
  - Monitored classes
- ✓ **Creswell Computer Learning Program System**
- ✓ **Cassisi Learning Lab**
- ✓ **Study Hall**
  - Mandatory 8 hours for all freshmen; 5 hours for all sophomores
  - Two computer labs for student-athlete use only
  - Study rooms and common areas

#### PERSONAL COUNSELING & DEVELOPMENT:

- ✓ **Student-Athlete Assistance Program**
  - Consists of various athletic department and UF staff and professional counselors
- ✓ **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)**
  - Study rooms and common areas
  - Advocate for student-athletes rights, share academic, financial and social information with teammates, participate in opportunities to enhance leadership skills, promote special events for student-athletes, etc.
- ✓ **Individual and/or Group Seminars**
  - Examples: stress & time management, nutrition, financial responsibility, media relations
- ✓ **New Student Orientation**
- ✓ **Student Development in a University Setting - Freshman/Sophomore Class**

#### PROFESSIONAL/CAREER:

- ✓ **Career Exploration & Development - Works closely with UF and Career Resource Center to promote career exploration**
  - Career Counseling
  - Internship & career expo for student-athletes only
  - SDS 3340 — Junior/Senior Class
  - Gator Career Network — offers assistance with job shadowing, mentoring, career counseling, internships and summer employment
- ✓ **Goodwill Gators Community Service Program**
  - Gives back to the Gainesville community; volunteer opportunities to serve the community and promote the personal and professional growth of our student-athletes
- ✓ **Professional Sports Counseling Panel**
  - Authorized by the NCAA
- ✓ **Publications**
  - Graduating Gators
  - Professional Profile
  - Gator Connection
  - Gator Link
  - Student-Athlete Handbook





# ACADEMIC, PERSONAL & CAREER SUPPORT OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## DID YOU KNOW?

- The University Athletic Association budget for academic support is \$1.93 million, for an average of \$4,196 per student-athlete.
- Since 1992, UF has honored 71 Academic All-Americans to rank fourth among all Division I colleges.
- Three Gators have been selected to the CoSIDA Academic All-American Hall of Fame, the second best total in the nation.
- 22 Gator student-athletes have earned NCAA post-graduate scholarships.
- 348 Gator student-athletes participated in 1,877 hours of community service for Goodwill Gator activities in 2007-08, partnering with 43 schools, 27 civic organizations and 19 non-profit organizations.
- Florida had 187 members of the Southeastern Conference Academic Honor Roll in 2007-08, tying last season as the second-highest total in school history. UF is the only school to place 100-plus student-athletes on the SEC Academic Honor Roll for each of the last 11 years.
- Florida leads all League schools with 2,519 Academic Honor Roll recipients since 1980, which includes an SEC-best 1,805 recipients in the last 11 seasons. The Gators have the highest number of both men's and women's recipients during that stretch.



## LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Florida's Office of Student Life has been selected as one of 50 programs in the country to participate in the **NCAA Life Skills Program**. The mission of the NCAA Life Skills Program is to provide a systematic personal development program designed to reach each student-athlete based on his or her individual needs. The focus of the program is on the individual as a whole person - academically, athletically and emotionally - and on the changing needs and skills of that person in the years during college and after graduation.

Florida's **CHAMPS/Life Skills program** was one of seven programs in the nation to be recognized as a program of excellence for their accomplishments and commitment to preparing student-athletes for life in October of 1998.

Within the Office of Student Life is the **Gator Career Network**, a career counseling and placement network which assists Gator student-athletes in achieving their career goals away from athletic competition.

The **Gator Career Network**, which employs a career counselor, works closely with the career placement office on the University of Florida campus in helping student-athletes in such things as resume writing, interview techniques, job research and selection and job and internship placement.

The OSL also teaches a **Career and Life Span Planning** course offered to junior and senior student-athletes that aides with the transition away from the athletics world. Topics include dietary changes, job search strategies, graduate school preparation and financial responsibility.



## SOPHIA WITHERSPOON AWARD FOR OVERALL EXCELLENCE

The Sophia Witherspoon Award is presented each term to two individuals - one male and one female - who exemplify the positive attitude and strong work ethic in the classroom that they display on the playing field. It is one of the most prestigious awards presented by the Office of Student Life. The award was named after the former Gator Basketball standout because she exemplified the ideal student-athlete.

## UF WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HAS 100% GRADUATION SUCCESS RATE

The University of Florida women's basketball team was one of seven Gator athletic teams that scored a perfect 100 percent Graduation Success Rate (GSR), while the overall Gator athletic program produced an 89-percent GSR in data released from the NCAA on Oct. 3, 2007

The overall Florida athletic program was 12 points above the national average.

The data was compiled from tracking student-athletes from 1997-2000. The overall national NCAA Division I GSR is 77 percent, while the women's basketball national average is 81 percent.

UF was one of only three programs in the 2007-08 U.S. Sports Academy National All-Sports top 10 to post a GSR above 85%.

The GSR is a NCAA measurement that improves on the federally mandated graduation-rate by including transfer data in the calculation. It was developed in response to college and university presidents who wanted graduation data that more accurately reflect the mobility among students in today's higher education climate.

