

Office of Student Life

Recognizing that student-athletes face unique pressures, the University of Florida Athletic Association instituted the **Office of Student Life (OSL)** in 1979.

The OSL is located in the Academic Advisement Center, which is one block east of Ben Hill Griffin Football Stadium. The facility, which opened in the fall of 1995, features offices for the staff, 15 tutor rooms, two video rooms (for viewing class lectures available on video), two computer labs (each housing 18 computers) and a study room.

OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- * Orientation & Assessment
- * Academic Advisement
- * Tutorial Services
- * Personal Counseling and Referral
- * Study Skills
- * Career Exploration and Development
- * Personal Development
- * Life Management Skills
- * Community Service
- * Leadership Training
- * Comprehensive Substance Abuse Education
- * Gambling Awareness

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.

The UF OSL is the first SEC program to be named as a Program of Excellence by the National Association of Collegiate Athletic Directors (NACDA). The National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS) has lauded the UF OSL each of the last three years for its community service and degree completion programs.



Lindsay Dawaf earned her degree after a stellar career from 2001-04.



Alexis Gordon, a former ITA No. 1-ranked singles player, earned her bachelor's degree in December of 2007.



CASSISI LEARNING LAB

Ready for use in July of 2004, The Cassisi Learning Lab features eight individual sound proof rooms that are used by the Learning Strategy Tutor Program which services the student-athletes with disabilities. The state-of-the-art \$300,000 addition is located on the third floor of the Academic Advising Building. The addition of these rooms addresses the increasing need for a separate area that meets the specific needs of student-athletes with learning disabilities. Each room has its own computer and printer with specific programs aimed at teaching learning strategies to the students in the areas of organization, time management, and study skills. Each room provides an environment for one-on-one tutoring which minimizes distraction while providing a quiet and separate area to learn.



Tom Williams, the Assistant Athletics Director for Student Services, oversees the women's tennis team's academic progress.

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.

In addition, the Athletic Association sponsors the annual **"Career Days"** where area professionals and business people speak with and interview Gator student-athletes.



Rew Woodruff coordinates UF's Life Skills Program