Athletic Director’s Message

A year into this position and the one thing I can tell you is that Smith women are driven and passionate about what they do. And what better environment for those qualities to be revealed than within athletics and recreation. As you glance through our newsletter, you will see many examples of Smith women “winning” on the field, in the classroom and in our community. It is special to be a Smith student-athlete. We have many projects on the horizon to demonstrate just how important athletics and recreation can be for our students. We are close to completing a branding project within Ainsworth to showcase the rich history of Smith College Athletics as well as highlight many of our student-athletes. A renovation and upgrade to our varsity weightroom will be completed at the end of August and we hope to break ground on a new boathouse on the Connecticut River for our rowing program this year. So there are exciting things happening in this department. But at the end of the day you “win with people.” I feel so fortunate to work with some very committed coaches, enthusiastic staff members and students who make you want to come to the office every day! I am excited about the future of Smith Athletics and Recreation and look forward to sharing all of our great successes throughout the coming year with you. Go Pioneers!

- Kristin Hughes

BY THE NUMBERS

3.47
Average GPA of 249 student-athletes

47%
Percent of athletes with a GPA of 3.5 or higher (average 3.70)

56
NEWMAC Academic All-Conference Athletes

22%
Percent of student-athletes on the Dean’s List

3
Fullbright Fellow Offers
Hannah Francis
Michaela Gill
Anna Partridge
2015 Fall Sports Wrap-Up

CROSS COUNTRY
Team Highlights: The Pioneers finished 4th at the Smith Invitational, Seven Sisters Championships and NEWMAC Championships.
Individual Highlights: Danielle Opatovsky ’16 led the Pioneers at the Smith Invitational with a 2nd place finish, followed by Casey Hecox’s ’19 8th place finish. At the Codfish Bowl, Hecox crossed the line in 10th place, while Katie Ferrall ’16 was named to the All-Seven Sisters team for her 7th place at the Seven Sisters Championships. In the final race of the season at the NEWMAC Championships, Ferrall (15th) and Opatovsky (18th) led the Pioneers. Ferrall and Opatovsky were honored as All-Academic Award winners by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

FIELD HOCKEY
Team Highlights: The 2015 Pioneers completed a 13-9 season, the program’s most wins since 1993 and earned Smith’s first-ever ECAC Championship with a 4-1 win over Salve Regina. The Pioneers faced a challenging strength of schedule, ranked 2nd in the conference and 14th in the nation. En route to their ECAC Championship, Smith played five NCAA tournament teams, including this years’ eventual NCAA National Champion. Of those five teams, the Pioneers defeated three in the regular season. Smith’s 2-1 victory over Mount Holyoke was the first since 2003 and their NEWMAC tournament win over Springfield was the first over the Pride since 2002, and first conference tournament win since 2000. Individual Highlights: Kat Estes ’16 was named to the NEWMAC first-team as well as the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) All-Region first-team and was selected to play in the NFHCA Division III Senior Game, coached by Jaime Ginsberg. Beatrice Chaudoin ’19 was a second-team All-Conference selection, named to the NFHCA All-Region second team and was recognized as the ECAC Tournament’s Most Outstanding Player.

SOCCER
Team Highlights: Smith finished seventh in conference play with a 3-3-4 record as the Pioneers made their second consecutive NEWMAC tournament appearance and were selected to the ECAC tournament for the first time since 2006. During the regular season, Smith earned their first win over MIT since 2005 and stunned WPI in double overtime. Individual Highlights: Jackie Foody ’17 and Innis Hitt ’17 were named to the NEWMAC All-Conference second team.

TENNIS
Team Highlights: A young team composed of nine underclassmen gained valuable experience during the 2015-16 season. The Pioneers began 2015 with a 8-1 win over UMass Boston and earned back-to-back NEWMAC victories over Springfield and Emerson in the fall. Individual Highlights: Sam Peikes ’18, Noa Dubin ’18 and Margaret Anne Smith ’17 represented Smith at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Regional, competing against the top players in New England. Pelkes was named to the Seven Sisters All-Tournament team.

VOLLEYBALL
Team Highlights: Under first-year head coach Iain Braddak, the Pioneers competed hard and that work paid off in their tri-match sweep against Eastern Connecticut and John Jay College. Against Eastern, Smith prevailed in five sets, 3-2 and cruised to a 3-0 win over John Jay. In their season finale against Wheaton, the Pioneers rallied from a 2-0 deficit for a 3-2 NEWMAC victory. Individual Highlights: Macarena Rojas ‘19 and Julie Voorhes ’17 were named to the All-Tournament team of the Smith Invitational, while Mei-Li Smith’16 earned All-Tournament team recognition at the Hall of Fame Tournament. Smith recorded her 1,000th assist and Voorhes eclipsed the 1,000 dig mark during in 2015.

2015-16 Winter Sports Wrap-Up

Basketball
Team Highlights: The team opened their season as runner-ups of the Tyler Tip-off Tournament and qualified for the postseason as the No. 7 seed after a one year hiatus. The Pioneers nearly upset WPI on February 3 and followed that with another strong performance at MIT in their next game. Smith finished on a strong note, winning four of their last five games. Individual Highlights: Kennedy Guest-Pritchett ’19 earned All-Conference second team recognition as Smith’s leading scorer and rebounder, averaging 12.4 points and 9.3 rebounds per game.

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Swimming & Diving
Team Highlights: The Pioneers were named a Scholar All-American Team for 2015-16 as the squad achieved a grade point average of 3.0 or higher during the fall and spring semesters. Individual Highlights: At the NEWMAC Championships, Desi Stoyanova ’19 set a new school record in the 400 Individual Medley with her time of 4:38.78. CeCe Arrison ’16 turned in a stellar senior campaign on the diving board, qualifying for the NCAA Championships for the first time in her career. She broke the school record on the 1-meter board with her score of 300.10 in her final home meet against Mount Holyoke. Arrison and Anna Partridge ’16 were both named CSCAA Scholar All-Americans.

Indoor Track & Field
Individual Highlights: Zoe Rubinstein ’18 earned All-Region honors in the pole vault at the New England Championships, while Meadesha Mitchell ’16 qualified for the Open New England Championships in the 500 meter dash. Rubinstein set a new personal record in the pole vault at the ECAC Championship as she earned All-Conference honors. Rubinstein joined Amelia Stapleton ’19, Aliece Goodman ’19 and Raegan Thomas ’19 in the 4x200 relay as the squad ran a season best time at the ECAC Championships.

2016 Spring Sports Wrap-Up
Crew
Team Highlights: The Pioneers used the Snake Regatta and Head of the Charles to prepare them for a first place finish by the Varsity 8 and Novice 8 at the Amherst Regatta to begin the season. At the New England Rowing Championship, the 3V8 placed 3rd in the Petite Final, the 2V8 finished 2nd in the Petite Final and the Varsity 8 crossed the line 4th in their final. Individual Highlights: Mariana Mapes ’16 was recognized by the NERC as an All-Scholar Award winner, Miriam Seldin-Stein ’16 earned NIRC All-Stewards Team recognition and Piper Hayden ’16 was honored as a Division III CRCA Pocock All-American. Gracie Hackenberg ’18 and Olivia Shaw ’17 earned All-Conference second team honors.

Equestrian
Team Highlights: The Pioneers opened the season tied as Reserve Champions at the Smith Show, followed by a first place finish at the Williams Show. Throughout the season, Smith never finished outside of the top-5 in nine events. Eighteen riders were honored with the National All-Academic Award by the IHSA. Individual Highlights: Five Smith riders qualified for the New England Zone Championships headlined by Qingyun Zheng ’16 who earned a trip to the National Horse Show after she was awarded Reserve Champion in the Walk-Trot division at the Zone Finals.

Lacrosse
Team Highlights: First-year head coach Katie Moore guided a young team to five wins, including a NEWMAC victory over Coast Guard and four non-conference wins early in the season. Individual Highlights: Goalkeeper Sarah Price ’18 was named to the NEWMAC second team and was named the conference’s Goalkeeper of the Week on March 24. Julia Hamilton ’18 received Offensive Player of the Week honors twice this season while Ray Silveria ’16 netted her 100th career goal against Wilkes University.

Softball
Team Highlights: Smith finished a challenging NEWMAC schedule with a 9-9 record to finish just outside of qualifying for the conference tournament. The Pioneers earned four wins down the stretch of the season, including a split against Brandeis and Wheaton and a sweep at Coast Guard. Individual Highlights: A number of student-athletes reached career milestones and set new school records during the 2016 season. Tori Brown ’16 and Caroline Kushner ’16 both joined the 100 hit club while Natalie Burchat ’17 and Rowan Turner ’18 each set new career highs in strikeouts this year. Ally Snyder ’17 set school records with her eight home runs this season and 15 homers in her career as she was named to the NEWMAC All-Conference second team.

Track & Field
Individual Highlights: Zoe Rubinstein ’18, Katy McClellan ’19 and Cassie Naranjo ’19, an All-New England honoree, each finished in the top 10 of their respective events at the Open New England Championships. The trio also qualified for the ECAC Championships. McClellan was selected to compete in the javelin at the 2016 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field Championships, the first time a Smith thrower has qualified since 1997. Her career-best mark of 41.90 meters (137’6”) shattered a 28-year school record in her first meet as a collegiate athlete.
2015-16
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT AWARD WINNERS

At the annual Athletic Awards Banquet on May 1, 2016, the department honored outstanding student-athletes from each class, as well as the Woman of the Year. Awards were also handed out for Coach of the Year, Graduate Assistant of the Year, highest individual GPA, and highest team GPA. The Marly Pineda Pioneer Team was also announced.

Pokora Senior Scholar-Athlete Award (pictured above) - Crew’s Marianna Mapes, Equestrian’s Yijin Wei, Lacrosse’s Bethany Claps, Soccer’s Jamie Cyr and Swimming & Diving’s Anna Partridge shared the award given to the senior student-athletes with the highest GPA.

Highest Team GPA Award (Equestrian) - The team finished the year with a 3.65 GPA, marking the third time since the 2004-05 season that the equestrian team has posted the highest GPA at Smith.

First-Year Athlete of the Year - Beatrice Chaudoin, a member of Smith’s field hockey team, was selected as the Pioneers’ Rookie of the Year. A center back on the 2015 ECAC Championship team, Chaudoin anchored a defense that allowed the lowest goals against average (1.72) in program history. She started all 22 games, recording six goals, five assists and two defensive saves. Chaudoin was named to the NEWMAC All-Conference second team, the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) All-Region second team and was named the Most Outstanding Player of the ECAC Championship Tournament.

Sophomore Athlete of the Year - Julia Hamilton, a dual sport athlete on Smith’s field hockey and lacrosse teams, received Sophomore Athlete of the Year honors. Hamilton registered a career-high 35 points on 15 goals and five assists for the 2015 ECAC Championship field hockey team. She went on to record 60 points on 46 goals, 14 assists for the Pioneers’ lacrosse program.

Junior Athlete of the Year - Allison Snyder, a member of the softball team, picked up Junior Athlete of the Year honors. Snyder led Smith in every offensive category, including her .365 batting average with 38 hits and 29 RBI. Snyder set school records in 2016 with her eight home runs this season and 15 homers in her career.

Senior Athlete of the Year - CeCe Arrison, a student-athlete on the swimming & diving team, earned Senior Athlete of the Year recognition. Arrison qualified for the NCAA regional meet all four years and made an appearance at the 2016 NCAA Championships for the first time in her career. In her four years, she amassed 51 top-three finishes and placed in the NEWMAC Championship finals six times. Arrison set a new school record (300.10) on the 1-meter board in her final home meet against Mount Holyoke.

Woman of the Year - Anna Partridge, an engineering major on Smith’s swimming & diving program, was recognized as the department’s Woman of the Year. The award accounts for academics, athletics, community service and leadership. Partridge, who was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to study renewable energy in Finland, qualified for the NCAA Regionals her sophomore, junior and senior seasons and finished in the championship finals 6-of-6 times in the NEWMAC Championships. She was a member of the Tau Beta Kappa honor society, a volunteer at “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day” at Smith College and founded the college’s circus club, the Bearded Ladies.

Coach of the Year - Jaime Ginsberg (Field Hockey)

GA Coach of the Year - Emily Lopez (Softball)

Marly Pineda All-Pioneer Team - A former swimmer and assistant coach with Smith’s swimming and diving team, Pineda ’08 MS ’10 passed away in August of 2010. This recognition is given to those Smith athletes who exemplify dedication, passion, selflessness, sportsmanship, and the spirit of a champion.

Mandy Castro - Basketball
Marianna Mapes - Crew
Val Villafane - Cross Country
Kelsey Parks Smith - Equestrian
Casey Rau - Field Hockey
Ray Silveria - Lacrosse
Lily Eriksen - Soccer
Tyler Feeney - Softball
CeCe Arrison - Swimming and Diving
Joanna Kim - Tennis
Sarah Feldman - Track and Field
Macarena Rojas - Volleyball

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Iain Braddock
Head Volleyball Coach
Braddock completed his first season as head coach of the Pioneers in 2015 after a two year stint as head coach at U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Prior to his time at USMMA, Braddock spent a year as the head men’s and assistant women’s coach at Culver-Stockton College. Braddock was also an assistant coach at Springfield College, his alma mater, from 2010-11. He graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Movement in Sports Studies in 2010 and a Master’s degree in Physical Education and Sport Performance in May 2012.

Katie Moore
Head Lacrosse Coach
Moore wrapped up her first season at the helm of the lacrosse program in the spring of 2016 after spending the last eight seasons as the head coach at Elmira in New York. From August 2005 to July 2006, Moore was involved with the St. James Independent School for Girls Lacrosse team in London, England and the Hitchin Lacrosse Development Program in Hitchin, England. She played four seasons at St. Mary’s College of California, where she still holds multiple school records.

Emily Lopez - Head Softball Coach
Lopez was named the Smith College head softball coach in July of 2016. She was an assistant coach for the Pioneers in 2015 after a successful playing and coaching career at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges (CMS). In her seven years with the program, CMS won five conference championships and made six appearances in the NCAA Division III National Tournament (four as a player, two as a coach). She served as a team captain for two years and graduated holding the program records for career home runs and walks. As a senior, she was named CMS Female Athlete of the Year. Lopez graduated from Claremont McKenna College with a BS in Neuroscience.

Welcome to Smith

Ciara Lawrence
Sports Information Director
Lawrence came to Smith in October of 2015 after serving as the assistant sports information director at Keene State College from 2014-15. She has worked as an assistant at Becker College, University of California Irvine and Tufts University. Lawrence graduated from Becker College in 2009 with a degree in Business Administration and holds a Master’s degree in Sports Management from California State University Long Beach.

Jake Turner
Strength & Conditioning Coach
Turner joined the Smith College Department of Athletics and Recreation on July 1, 2016, to begin working as the head strength and conditioning coach of the Pioneers’ 12 varsity teams. He comes to Northampton from the University of Portland where he served as an assistant for the Pilots since July 2015. He earned a Master’s of Science in Sport and Wellness Leadership while a graduate assistant at Austin Peay State University. Turner attended Middle Tennessee State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science with a minor in Nutrition. During his four years in Murfreesboro, he was the strength and conditioning intern.

ESS Class of 2016 Job Placements
Victor Brady - Head Field Hockey Coach - Bryn Mawr College
Grady Congleton - Athletic Trainer - Kents Hill School
Bethany Dumas - Assistant Women’s Cross Country and Track & Field Coach - Amherst College
Drew Hargrave - Head Volleyball Coach - Haverford College
Katie Sheehan - Clinical Instructor - Ithaca College
Mary Shimko - Assistant Women’s Soccer Coach - Holy Cross
Milana Socha - Assistant Swim Coach - University of Toledo
Meredith Spencer-Blaetz - Head Field Hockey Coach - Stevens Institute of Technology
Jackie Ward - Assistant Women’s Basketball Coach - Hartwick College
Kristina Williams - Assistant Women’s Basketball Coach - Lewis and Clark
Margaret Wolford - Assistant Lacrosse Coach - Saint Francis University

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Checking in With Basketball’s Mandy Castro

A number of Smith College student-athletes take advantage of the summer months to participate in research opportunities and internships around the world that will enhance their academic experience.

Senior captain Mandy Castro, a biology and education major from San Diego, California, is spending her second consecutive summer doing research focused on coral reefs in Belize.

Castro became involved with this research project last summer because the internship “Coral Reef Ed-Ventures” is a perfect combination of her two fields of study. The team in Belize conducts research as well as educates the local children about marine conservation.

Castro finds this summer opportunity extremely beneficial because as a winter sport athlete, she has chosen not to study abroad during the academic school year.

Alumnae Spotlight: Paige Christie ’15 Breaks World Record in Hudson River Swim

Paige Christie ’15 is no stranger to taking challenges head on. After all, in 2014 she became the first person from the region to swim across the English Channel, completing the treacherous 21 miles in an excellent time of 12:55. Even more impressive was her latest accomplishment, setting a world record as the youngest person to swim the 120 miles of the Hudson River.

Christie won both 19.8 mile stages (2 and 5), was the youngest to win a stage and became the sixth human to ever swim 8 Bridges, the 120 miles of the Hudson River. Held on seven consecutive days (June 26 - July 3), with an average distance of 17.2 miles between bridges, it is the longest marathon swim in the world. The swim strung together the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge, the Mid Hudson Bridge, Newburgh-Beacon Bridge, Bear Mountain Bridge and finally, the spectacular Verrazano Narrows Bridge, covering 120 miles of rolling river.

During the swim, Christie’s dad was on a boat, observing from land.

“Alongside every swimmer at 8 Bridges, is an incredibly dedicated kayaker,” said Christie. “I don’t know how I hit the mega millions jackpot by being assigned to Margrethe, but all I can say is that I couldn’t have done the swim without her. Her ability to read the Hudson River, the currents, shipping channels, and the optimum place to position the swimmer, is nothing short of genius.

It’s no coincidence that it was the sixth year of the 8 Bridges swim, Christie was the sixth human to ever do it and she was the sixth Smithie to swim the English Channel. We will just have to wait for the next milestone Christie conquers.
Smith College Welcomes Abby Wambach

It had been a long time goal for the seniors on the Smith College soccer team to get Abby Wambach to their Commencement. That dream came true on February 17th when the two-time gold medalist and all-time leading scorer in international history was announced as an honorary degree recipient at Rally Day.

Any member of the Smith community -- students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees -- may nominate an individual for an honorary degree and/or to serve as Commencement speaker.

Not only did the team nominate Wambach, but they also used the hashtag #AbbyForCommencement on social media and carried the famous “Abby spirit head” at events on campus and to all soccer matches to bring more attention to their mission.

Wambach arrived to Northampton on Commencement weekend not just to receive her honorary degree, but also participate in a Q&A with Smith student-athletes.

Interviewed by two members of the soccer team, Olivia Mallari and GiGi Ross (pictured right), Wambach answered questions on gender equality in the workplace, life after retirement and much more. At the end of the Q&A, Mallari and Ross presented Wambach with a Smith College soccer jersey with her name on the back and of course, she took a selfie with everyone in attendance.

On Sunday, May 15th, Wambach joined the other honorary degree recipients at Smith’s 138th Commencement where she accepted her degree alongside the Class of 2016.

“Having Abby at Smith for Commencement and actually being able to talk to her at the Q&A was almost a fairy-tale ending to my four years at Smith,” said Mallari. “Being a part of the soccer team at Smith was such a formative experience, and having Abby here to celebrate the culmination of four years with my best friends and teammates was something I will never forget.”

“I really couldn’t have dreamt up a better commencement weekend,” said Ross. “Nine months ago we never thought that making the Abby Pioneer Head would have led to her actually coming to Smith. Having Abby at our graduation would have been exciting enough, but the opportunity to meet her and MC the Q&A was such an incredible and unforgettable experience. She had so many inspiring and insightful things to say and I feel very lucky that Olivia and I were able to have a hand in the event.”
Smith Athletics Undergoes Facility Upgrades

Graduate assistants Clare Doyle and Jackie Ward pioneered the Smith College branding project in 2015-16. Under their guidance, Smith Athletics underwent visual upgrades that included the Hall of Fame Wall, Athletics History Wall, a mural overlooking the Olin Fitness Center and much more.

Smith College History

The wall provides visitors a timeline of significant athletic events in Smith College history from 1892 - 1987.

Smith College Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame Wall honors the inductees of the Class of 2012 and 2014.

Wall Mural in Olin Fitness Center

Scott Gym Upgrades

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Call for Nominations

The Smith College Department of Athletics and Recreation is seeking nominations for the third class of the Pioneer Athletics Hall of Fame, to be inducted in the fall of 2017.

Eligibility for Hall of Fame Membership

Athletes:
- Are a Smith alumna at least 10 years prior to nomination. Nomination for students who may have passed away before graduating will also be considered.
- Played a minimum of two years in one sport.
- Are positive role models.
- Prior to the founding of intercollegiate athletics, must have distinguished themselves in the athletics arena in their area of expertise or interest.
- Have made an impact on campus life and the greater community during their years on campus.
- Have made a positive impact on the athletic program.

Coaches & Administrators:
- Are not presently, and have not been in the past five years, on the staff at Smith College.
- Demonstrated superior competence and professionalism to the athletics program.
- Are positive role models.
- Made contributions to or earned recognitions by conference, regional, and/or national organizations.

Contributors:
- Who have made a major impact on the athletics program at Smith College

Teams:
- That have had an outstanding record or accomplishment such as, but not limited to: qualifying for the NCAA Championship, winning an ECAC Championship or an undefeated season.

Any questions can be directed to Ciara Lawrence at cmlawrence@smith.edu
Please visit www.smithpioneers.com for all Hall of Fame nomination information.