



Alcorn
State University

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 18, 2014
TO: Deans, Chairs, Faculty & Advisors
FROM: Donzell Lee, Ph.D. *D.L./gl*
Interim Provost/Vice-President of Academic Affairs
RE: **NCAA DATA REVIEW: JANUARY 15, 2015 REQUEST**

As you may know, Alcorn State University is undergoing NCAA Data Review. Data Review is a mandatory, annual review of a member institution's student-athletes' academic performance. Data Review is, no doubt, intense: Transcripts, financial aid, eligibility forms, squad lists, graduation data, degree audits, degree progression, and *curriculum plans* for thousands of former/current student-athletes must be analyzed and timely dispatched to the NCAA upon request. Failure to provide meticulous and accurate proof of required documentation may subject NCAA institutions to violations, penalties, and adverse publicity¹.

You were of great assistance in helping Alcorn meet its inaugural deadline for the *Preliminary* Data Review (December 5, 2014). Now, over the next several months, the NCAA will request even more, time-sensitive student-athlete academic data. Alcorn may not always know the sports, years, or forms the NCAA will request. However, as these requests are made, we will give you as much advanced notice as possible.

In this case, the NCAA has issued a data request, **due January 15, 2015**. Specifically, and to comply with *NCAA Bylaw 14 (Eligibility)*, please find attached a spreadsheet containing names and A-numbers of student-athletes in your unit. Needed are completed curriculum sheets/graduation plans for these identified student-athletes. (Note: This request is not different from (a) the curriculum plans you provide students-advisees as they progress through your programs or (b) the graduation plans you submit to Financial Aid for *Satisfactory Academic Progress* appeals). Please email these items to Jason Cable, Compliance Director.

In closing, the Provost's Office is committed to successful completion of the NCAA Data Review. You will be pleased to know that our student-athletes continue to graduate at higher rates *vis.* the general student-population. The GradesFirst[®] platform, monitored study halls, faculty-peer tutors, and advisor progress-towards-degree-interface certainly contribute to these positive outcomes. Indeed, your assistance at this juncture not only assists with a successful Data Review, it contributes to student success.

As we progress over the next several months with the Review, please contact Jason Cable (Compliance Director jmcable@alcorn.edu) or John Igwebuikwe (NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative/Interim Vice-Provost jigwe@alcorn.edu) if you have any questions.

Your usual cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Go Braves!

¹ See <http://theadvocate.com/home/8370878-125/southern-teams-facing-ineligibility> (Southern University banned because of "unusable data").