



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

A black and white photograph of a hand holding a coin, with the text 'AASP GRANT FUNDS' overlaid in white serif font.

AASP GRANT FUNDS

-take only what you need

AGGIES **DO**



HOW WE GOT HERE

Future plans of the Student Athlete Academic Enhancement Program

A conversation with Administration

- Academic Advisors
- Learning Specialist(s)
- Tutors

March, 2015, Athletic Director asked if I would apply for the AASP Grant

Jackson State University	\$900,000
Tennessee State University	\$900,000

NO!

April, 2015, conference call with MEAC Academic Advisors.
-led by Dr. Caray Banks, Norfolk State University (class 2)

The Meeting

VICE PROVOST, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, and me

Deadline: May 15, 2015



- April 27-what do we need? and who is the committee?
- May 4-7-wrote comprehensive and single year
- May 10-Athletic Director informs me we were not eligible for single year



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AGGIES **DO**

Roles and Review

Athletic Director

- Can and will you sustain?
- past history (i.e. penalties, current budget, support)
- Coaches buy-in

Vice Provost

- budget

Director, SAAEP

- wrote grant (APR analysis)
- Presented to Coaches

What do you really need?

\$277,284

- Personnel
- Facilities
- Technology
- Programming (i.e. Summer Bridge)
- Scholarships



















Identify your critical issues

- Loss of “E” and “R” points by 1st and 4th year students
 1. Additional Academic Advisor
 - focus on first year students
 2. Learning Specialist
 - focus on identifying and accommodating learning challenges
- Lack of Institutional Understanding of APR



IMPLEMENTATION Success- - RESULTS

Goal (Short-term)	2015-16	2016-17
MBB - lose <4 APR points		
MTK - SY APR of >950		
WTK – SY APR of 1000		
-<8 freshmen per term with semester GPA <2.00		
-<6 freshmen with cumulative GPA <2.00		
Goal (Long-term)	2015-16	2016-17
All teams MY APR >930		
<5% of any team cumulative GPA <2.00		
All teams cumulative GPA >2.50		

IMPLEMENTATION SUCCESS- - -RESULTS

Learning Specialist

Fall 2016

- 4/11 (36%) made the Dean's List
- 5 earned semester GPA between 2.07 – 2.67

Spring 2017

- 7/13 (54%) made the Dean's List
- 4 earned semester GPA between 2.75 – 2.96




Mean semester GPA for these SA jumped from 2.60 to 2.93 in one semester.

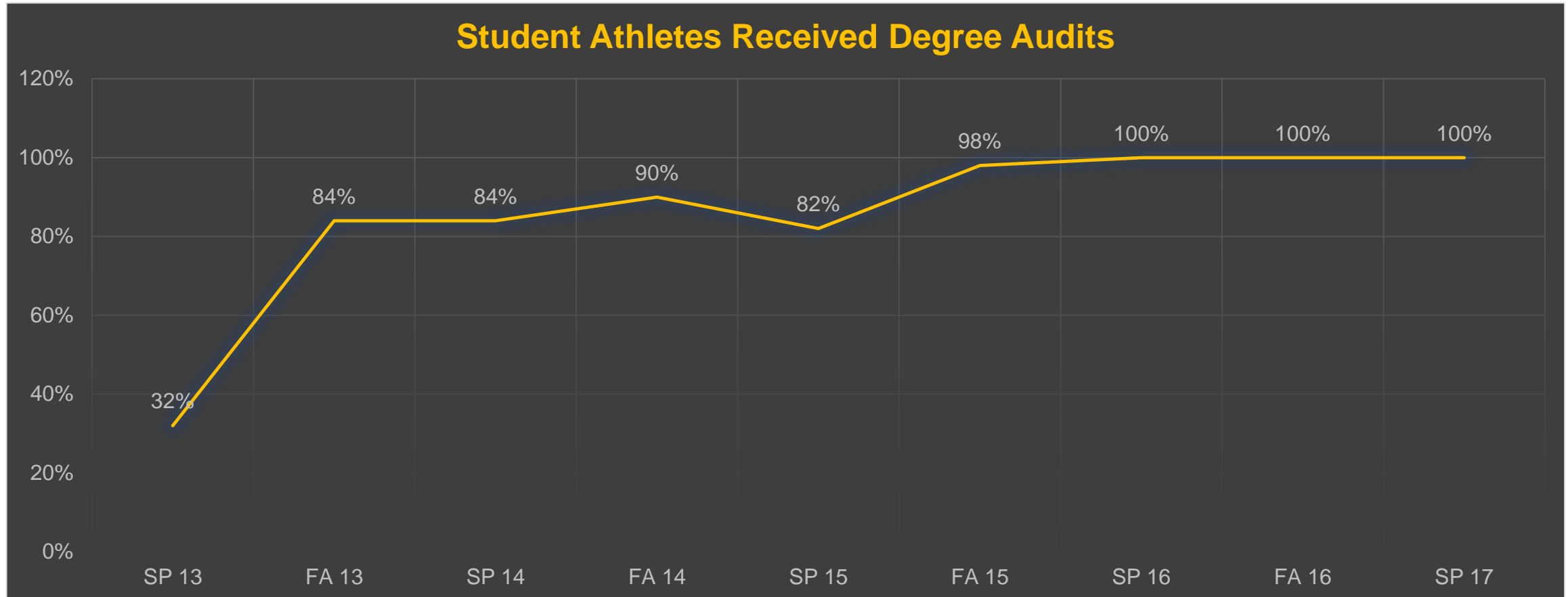
33 SA were referred for testing – 13 were diagnosed with Learning Disabilities.

IMPLEMENTATION Success- - -RESULTS

University Impact

1. Hiring an additional Learning Specialist to work with the general student-body,
2. Re-aligning the advising model for the general student population toward the intensive student-athlete advising model,
3. Adopting the early-alert protocols currently used in Athletics, 
4. The LS has provided training to numerous professors on how to accommodate students with learning disabilities in the classroom and on exams,
5. The LS presented 11 times to the Counseling Center, the Center for Academic Excellence, and Education Department on the role of a Learning Specialist,
6. The LS has assisted various students as they disclosed their disabilities to the Office of Veterans and Disability Services,
7. The AASP Grant allowed us to employ a student from the College of Education as a Learning Specialist intern during summer 2017.

IMPLEMENTATION Success- - RESULTS



IMPLEMENTATION Challenges

YEAR 1

Identifying and hiring a qualified candidate.
-Less than average applicant pool 1st posting

Campus hiring process.
-30 day posting

Minimal understanding of NCAA grant terminology (i.e. in-kind, instructional supplies) by Contracts and Grants.

Many individuals do not know the responsibilities of a Learning Specialist for student athletes

YEAR 2

Accommodating the level of need (finding time in the SA schedule to provide intensive academic support).

Establishing effective relationships with the Office of Veteran and Disability Services.

Establishing effective relationships with athletics coaching staff (trust, too much or too little engagement).

Referral or self-disclosed identification system only (more needs than we are supporting, need screening system in place for all SA).

ONE Student's Story

Chris Belcher 2016-2017

- MEAC champion in 100, 200, and 4x100 relay
- First Team All-American 100, 200, 4x100 relay
- 3rd place finish in NCAA 100 and 4x100 Final, 5th place in 200 Final
- Selected to represent the U.S. in the 2017 World Games in London
- Ran the 3rd fastest 100, the 6th fastest 200, and the 8th fastest 4x100 times in the world this year



Without the AASP Grant and the Learning Specialist



QUESTIONS

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