



ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® TEAM SELECTED BY CoSIDA

FOR RELEASE:

Tuesday, July 19 – 12 noon (ET)

MIT DISTANCE RUNNER MARYANN GONG SELECTED AS CoSIDA DIVISION III ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN, Texas – Track & field and cross country standout **Maryann Gong** of MIT has been named as the 2015-16 CoSIDA Division III Academic All-America® of the Year, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

“I am truly honored to be named the Division III CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year. This award represents what I strive for as a student-athlete. Although balancing academics and athletics is time-consuming and difficult, I've never wanted to sacrifice one for the other. My goal is to perform to the best of my ability in everything I do. This award encourages me to keep trying my best and I hope it encourages others do the same,” said Gong.

Gong, a junior at MIT, is a 12-time NCAA Division III All-American in cross country, indoor track & field and outdoor track & field. In cross country in 2015, Gong won three individual invitational titles, including a New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Championship and a first-place finish at the NCAA Division III New England Cross Country Championship. She was 16th at the 2015 NCAA Division III Cross Country Championship, helping lead MIT to a third-place finish.

“Maryann Gong is a 12-time All-American and 3,000 meter national champion, has earned the Division III Female Athlete of the indoor season in 2015 and holds a 4.0 G.P.A. throughout her three years at MIT. Being selected as the 2016 Division III CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year is a much deserved honor for the three-sport captain. She is the definition of student-athlete and we are proud she is a member of the MIT cross country/track & field program,” said Halston Taylor, Director of MIT cross country and track & field

Gong earned three All-American nods at the 2016 NCAA Division III Indoor Track & Field Championships. She finished second in the one-mile run and third in the 3,000-meter run at nationals. Her third All-American recognition at the meet came as a member of MIT's Distance Medley Relay (DMR) squad that finished sixth.

When Gong isn't running, she is an SQA Intern at A4 Data Technology and is completing research on using machine learning to prescreen for language developmental disorders in children.

“Maryann is very deserving of this incredible honor. She is quietly competitive and sets high expectations for herself to excel. Our athletic department takes a great deal of pride in both the academic and athletic successes of our student-athletes and to have Maryann represent MIT in receiving this prestigious recognition makes all of us very proud,” said Julie Soriero, Director of Athletics

In addition, junior track & field and cross country runner **Leah Esposito** of Carroll College (Mont.) was selected CoSIDA College Division Academic All-America® of the Year winner.

**2015-16 CoSIDA SPORT-BY-SPORT DIVISION III
ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Cl.</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Major, G.P.A.</u>
Courtney Allen, Messiah	Softball	Sr.	Lancaster, Pa.	Accounting, 3.96
Logan Andryk, Milwaukee School of Engineering	M. Soccer	Sr.	Hartland, Wis.	Biomolecular engineering, 3.80
Glenn Balbus, John Hopkins	M. At-Large	Sr.	New Fairfield, Conn.	Mechanical engineering, 4.00
Nicci Bermudes, Aurora	W. Soccer	Jr.	San Diego, Calif.	Health science (Biology, chemistry, physiology), 3.92
Mitchell Black, Tufts	M. Track/XC	Sr.	Brunswick, Maine	Mechanical engineering, astrophysics, 3.72
Conner Combs, East Texas Baptist	Baseball	Jr.	Southlake, Texas	Business, 3.94
Maryann Gong, MIT	W. Track/XC	Jr.	Livermore, Calif.	Electrical engineering, computer science, 4.00
Margaret Guo, MIT	W. At-Large	Sr.	San Diego, Calif.	Electrical engineering, computer science (Bioengineering), 4.00
Jared Holmquist, Trine	M. Basketball	Sr.	Reed City, Mich.	Accounting, 3.90
Maggie Kamp, Calvin	Volleyball	Sr.	Orland Park, Ill.	Business (studio art), 3.91
Jess Rheinheimer, Eastern Mennonite	W. Basketball	Sr.	Manheim, Pa.	Nursing (history), 3.95
Hank Spencer, Mount Union	Football	Sr.	Greencastle, Ind.	Computer science, 3.99

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Jeff Schwartz, North Dakota State University (jeff.schwartz@ndsu.edu) (701) 231-8332
Academic All-America® Committee - Vice Co-Chair for Publicity/Communications



CoSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® OF THE YEAR

DECIDIENTES VEA D BY VEA D

2015-16

Div. I
Div. II
Div. III Maryann Gong, MIT (Women's Track/Cross Country)
CD: Leah Esposito, Caroll (Women's Track/Cross Country)

2014-15

Div. I Matt Brown, Penn State (Wrestling, At-Large)
Div. II Kristin Day, Clarion University (Diving, At-Large)
Div. III John Coleman, Clarkson University (Basketball & Baseball)
CD: Wanessa Siqueira, Park University (Volleyball)

2013-14

Div. I Kim Jacob, Alabama (Women's At-Large)
Div. II Lauren Battista, Bentley (Women's Basketball)
Div. III Christy Cazzola, Wisconsin-Oshkosh (Women's Track/Cross Country)
CD: Stephen Lunney, Martin Methodist (Men's Soccer)

2012-13

Div. I Barrett Jones, Alabama (Football)
Div. II Kari Daugherty, Ashland (Women's Basketball)
Div. III Colton Hunt, Randolph College (Men's Basketball)
CD: Mia Persson, Lindsey Wilson (Women's Soccer)

2011-12

Div. I Brooke Pancake, Alabama (Women's At-Large)
Div. II Bryan Lippincott, Concordia, St. Paul (Baseball)
Div. III Drew Golz, Wheaton (Men's Soccer, Baseball)
CD: Jamie Achten, Lee (Women's Soccer)

2010-11

UD: Maya Moore, Connecticut (Women's Basketball)
CD: Shannon Gagne, New Haven (Women's Track/Cross Country)

2009-10

UD: Justine Schluntz, Arizona (Women's At-Large)
CD: Jessica Pixler, Seattle Pacific (Women's Track/Cross Country)

2008-09

UD: Galen Rupp, Oregon (Men's Track/Cross Country)
CD: Greg Micheli, Mount Union (Football)

2007-08

UD: Sarah Pavan, Nebraska (Volleyball)
CD: Troy Ruths, Washington (Mo.) (Men's Basketball)

2006-07

UD: Sarah Pavan, Nebraska (Volleyball)
CD: Jamie Wolf, Clarion (Women's At-Large)

2005-06

UD: Christine Sinclair, Portland (Women's Soccer)
CD: Josh Lamberson, NW Missouri St. (Football)

2004-05

UD: Alex Smith, Utah (Football)
CD: Carli Dale, Juniata (Volleyball)

2003-04

UD: Emeka Okafor, Connecticut (Men's Basketball)
CD: Kristen Shields, Whitworth (Women's Track/Cross Country)

2002-03

UD: Theresa Kulikowski, Utah (Women's At-Large)
CD: Ashley Rowatt, Kenyon (Women's At-Large)

2001-02

UD: Stacey Dales-Schuman, Oklahoma (Women's Basketball)
CD: T.J. Hess, Widener (Football)

2000-01

UD: ***Ruth Riley, Notre Dame (Women's Basketball)***
CD: Emily Bloss, Emporia State (Women's Basketball)

1999-2000

UD: Chad Pennington, Marshall (Football)
CD: Korey Coon, Illinois Wesleyan (Men's Basketball)

1998-99

UD: Matt Stinchcomb, Georgia (Football)
CD: Kelly Schade, Simpson (Softball)

1997-98

UD: Peyton Manning, Tennessee (Football)
CD: Brad Gray, MIT (Football)

1996-97

UD: ***Danny Wuerffel, Florida (Football)***
CD: ***Julie Roe, Millikin (Women's Basketball)***

1995-96

UD: Todd Fuller, North Carolina St. (Men's Basketball)
CD: Chris Palmer, St. John's (Minn.) (Football)

1994-95 TIE

****Rebecca Lobo, Connecticut (Women's Basketball)***
****Rob Zatechka, Nebraska (Football)***

1993-94

****Carl Erikson, Oberlin (Men's At-Large)***

1992-93

****Jim Hansen, Colorado (Football)***

1991-92

****Tommy Vardell, Stanford (Football)***

1990-91

****Al Parker, Georgia (Men's At-Large)***

1989-90

****Alec Kessler, Georgia (Men's Basketball)***

1988-89

****James Martin, Penn St. (Men's At-Large)***

1987-88

****Michael Smith, Brigham Young (Men's Basketball)***

** From 1988-1995 only one winner was chosen per year. Beginning in 1996 the format was changed to select one winner per year in each division (College and University)*

The program expanded to include four divisions in 2011-12.

Names in bold italics indicate members of the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Hall of Fame

