

**CENTRAL
ARKANSAS**

TM

**ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2021**



TM



ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2021



CONTENTS

- **AD Address/Letter**
- **Academic Integrity**
- **Rules Compliance**
- **Facility Enhancements**
- **Events Hosted**
- **Financial Prudence**
- **Significant Accomplishments**
- **Student-Athlete Well-Being/Success**

Dear Bear Nation,

The 2020-21 academic year was filled with challenges, disappointments, and actual excitement as we all dealt with extremes on many fronts. We forged ahead with a football season when most retreated.

Our staff and students handled over 11,000 COVID-19 tests with a positivity rate of less than 2%. We implemented many safety protocols. We had only two sports postpone or cancel games due to our own positive testing. We handled a 10% budget cut due to decreased revenues from the pandemic.

We continued to learn a great deal about systemic racism in our country and how we can make the experience for our African American students better. We saw an increase in mental wellness needs for our students and staff.

We added over 70 student-athletes to our program to assist with enrollment at UCA. We experienced the resignations of three long-tenured head coaches with a combined 30 years of service to UCA (Allen Gum, David Kuhn, Ross Duncan), and one with more than 40 years of service to UCA Athletics (Richard Martin). And we made the move from the Southland Conference to the ASUN conference as a charter member of the new ASUN football league.

I don't think I am incorrect in stating this past year brought more challenges than any other before and we appreciate all the support we received from all constituencies which care so deeply about this great athletics program.

Outside of the extremes, we continue to see accomplishments with many great initiatives and maintained our increased graduation rates. Student-Athletes graduated 21 percentage points higher than the general student body which is a metric the NCAA reviews closely. It puts UCA in a great position.

At UCA, we embrace the NCAA DI principles of Academic Integrity, Rules and Governance, Financial Prudence, and Student-Athlete Well-being. These characteristics shape our program as we excel at providing a great place to live, learn, and compete. UCA is a total package program. We succeed in academics, socially, and life skills; while winning championships. Our goal is to provide a wonderful educational experience for our student-athletes which is further enhanced through athletics success. The fondest memories come from our great teams and programs. We want all to have that experience.

As we enter our 16th year in Division I, and our first in the ASUN, our image continues to be very important to our success. Through our branding, facilities, and media; our image is impacted. We will ensure our image elicits a perception of a first-class program.

We have been successful due to the re-branding of our logos and trademarks. We have been successful due to our abundant facility improvements since our move to Division I. We have been successful due to our forethought in social media and communications. We have been successful due to our staff's creativity and innovation. And we have been successful due to our willingness to take risks and go against the norms. We do all of this for all of you.

UCA Athletics is committed to providing a rewarding student-athlete experience, an enjoyable fan/donor experience, and a professional and classy image. We will do this while contributing to the university's educational experiences. UCA Athletics cherishes the role it plays on this great educational campus of UCA. Athletics will AVIDLY provide a rewarding and enriching experience for the diverse group of students and coaches leading to excellence and accountability in the classroom, on campus, and in their sport.

GO BEARS! GO SUGAR BEARS!



Brad Teague, Ph. D.
Director of Athletics

CENTRAL ARKANSAS

TM

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2021



TM

MISSION

To AVIDLY provide a rewarding and enriching experience for students and coaches leading to excellence and accountability in the classroom, on campus, and in their sport.

AVID - UCA dedicates itself to **Academic Vitality, Integrity, and Diversity**

CORE VALUES

1. Student-Athlete Success
2. Excellence
3. Accountability
4. Innovation
5. Collegiality

LEADERSHIP TRAITS

1. Work Ethic
2. Integrity
3. Communication
4. Professionalism

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Student-Athlete Experience
2. Fan/Donor Experience
3. Program Image

COACHING EVALUATION

1. Recruiting
2. Academics
3. Athletics
4. Administrative
5. Compliance
6. Student-Athlete Well-Being
7. Public Relations



Athletics programs utilize several metrics to evaluate the success of their student-athletes in academics. Grade Point Average (GPA), Graduation Success Rate (GSR), Federal Graduation Rate (FGR), Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Completed Athletics Eligibility Graduation Rate (CEGR) are all part of the evaluation system. As detailed below, UCA turned in an overall cumulative GPA of 3.22 for the second consecutive year, has an FGR 9 points greater than the student body, had its fifth straight year with an APR above 980 and has maintained a department-wide 3.0+ GPA for 8 consecutive years.

	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21
GPA															
Wom	3.02	3.03	3.11	3.17	3.16	3.18	3.19	3.28	3.28	3.32	3.35	3.40	3.37	3.43	4.43
Men	2.74	2.75	2.73	2.78	2.79	2.82	2.88	2.87	2.88	2.88	2.98	3.02	3.04	3.08	3.08
Total	2.77	2.85	2.87	2.92	2.94	2.98	3.02	3.04	3.04	3.10	3.14	3.18	3.19	3.22	3.22

GSR															
Wom	76%	77%	79%	90%	86%	95%	82%	83%	73%	81%	89%	88%	90%	93%	92%
Men	48%	49%	52%	62%	68%	75%	67%	66%	69%	70%	73%	74%	69%	71%	77%
Total	55%	57%	61%	73%	74%	81%	73%	72%	74%	75%	80%	80%	78%	80%	83%

FGR															
Wom	58%	56%	60%	61%	55%	58%	50%	49%	66%	60%	64%	65%	65%	79%	76%
Men	35%	50%	39%	41%	50%	43%	43%	42%	65%	56%	49%	51%	45%	61%	56%
Total	48%	54%	49%	51%	53%	50%	47%	46%	65%	58%	56%	58%	54%	68%	64%
<i>Student Body</i>	45%	43%	41%	41%	42%	41%	41%	41%	45%	45%	42%	43%	42%	43%	45%

APR															
Wom	929	956	947	979	964	988	972	990	980	997	987	986	994	994	#
Men	902	919	938	955	957	952	939	933	971	971	980	980	978	982	#
Total	914	933	941	966	960	971	957	963	976	985	984	984	987	989	#

CEGR Total	93%	93%	96%	100%	94%	99%	97%	99%	97%	93%	95%
-------------------	------------	------------	------------	-------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------

Official in October each year



COMPLIANCE

1. The most important part of Compliance is that all individuals associated with UCA Athletics promote and support the interest of the athletic department to ensure full compliance with NCAA, ASUN Conference and University Rules.
2. Increased rules education and updates to coaches, staff, boosters, and student-athletes. These updates occur in a variety of ways from face to face, email blasts, website notices, and individual meetings with coaches or student athletes.
3. Conversion to e-filing system for all student-athlete records.
4. Financial Aid will enter student-athlete data without the assistance of athletics staff.
5. Implementation of JumpForward to make tracking many aspects of Compliance simpler for coaches as well as the compliance office.
6. Compliance staff and general counsel will continue semi-annual meetings.

FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS

1. Football locker room/team lounge received overhaul in Spring/Summer 2021.
2. New artificial turf at Football (Estes Stadium), Baseball (Bear Stadium) and Softball (Farris Field) in Summer 2021.
3. New signage outside football/baseball/softball in Fall 2021.
4. New banners in Farris Center in Fall 2021.
5. New "Scottie Pippen Court" at the Farris Center in July 2021.
6. Update of Men's Basketball hallway in the Farris Center in Spring 2021 and locker room in Spring 2022.
7. New lockers for Women's Soccer in Spring 2021.
8. Team lounge area at Football (Estes Stadium) redone in Spring 2021.
9. Courts at Farris Center and Prince Center refinished with new design and ASUN logo.

ON-CAMPUS EVENTS HOSTING

1. Arkansas Activities Association All-Star Week, which includes All-Star games for football, boy's and girl's basketball, boy's and girl's soccer, volleyball, baseball, softball and cheer and dance student-athletes from around the state (not held in 2021 due to covid-19).
2. Scottie Pippen Basketball Camp was held in July 2021 in conjunction with the unveiling of the new Scottie Pippen Court at the Farris Center.
3. Numerous high school and youth baseball tournaments were held at Bear Stadium, UCA's baseball stadium.
4. The opening ceremonies for the USSSA World Series (youth baseball) was held at the Farris Center in Summer 2021.
5. Hosted first-ever historic meeting between UCA Softball and University of Arkansas Softball at Farris Field.



PURPLE CIRCLE ANNUAL FUND

The Purple Circle is the official annual fund of the University of Central Arkansas Department of Athletics and is our top fundraising priority. The Purple Circle Fund provides essential operating resources and is critical to the continued success of UCA Athletics in supporting all sports. The Purple Circle fund focuses on 3 key areas to positively impact the lives of our 400+ UCA student-athletes. These areas of focus are: Academic Support; Student-Athlete Success Initiatives; Facility Enhancements.

In a year when athletic departments around the country were faced with covid-19 pandemic issues, our membership still responded as, with Purple Circle contributions totaling \$506,000. This year on UCA's Day of Giving, donors contributed \$229,369 to the Purple Circle Fund, continuing the exciting trend of the previous year.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

The arrangement with Peak Sports MGMT/UCA Sports Properties has proven to be extremely beneficial for UCA Athletics and corporate partners alike, as our property has grown from \$300,000 per year to over \$900,000, and the Central Arkansas brand continues to enhance its image and visibility. During this time, local and regional businesses have realized an increase in value in their relationship with Central Arkansas Athletics.

BUDGET

UCA & UCA Athletics are committed to reducing the amount of state funding for Athletics while increasing the amount of external funding from ticket sales, fundraising, corporate sponsorships, and NCAA Revenue. This trend is demonstrated below.

Revenue	FY21 *		FY20		FY19		FY18		FY17		FY16	
Student Fees	\$5,225,000	42%	\$5,276,664	41%	\$5,215,840	38%	\$5,249,391	39%	\$5,314,847	43%	\$4,925,356	41%
Auxiliaries	\$2,949,669	24%	\$2,770,932	21%	\$3,698,946	27%	\$3,611,406	27%	\$2,700,735	22%	\$3,250,932	27%
E&G	\$1,391,407	11%	\$1,362,789	11%	\$1,333,453	10%	\$1,304,748	10%	\$1,272,925	10%	\$1,000,000	8%
External Funds	\$2,767,935	22%	\$3,395,029	26%	\$3,258,809	24%	\$3,216,003	24%	\$3,008,934	24%	\$2,714,937	23%
Federal	\$150,000	1%	\$150,205	1%	\$130,672	1%	\$120,963	1%	\$115,607	1%	\$106,242	1%
	\$12,484,011	100%	\$12,955,619	100%	\$13,637,720	100%	\$13,502,511	100%	\$12,413,048	100%	\$11,997,467	100%
Expenses												
Salaries & Fringes	\$4,034,887	32%	\$4,236,859	33%	\$4,140,814	30%	\$4,087,035	30%	\$3,866,429	31%	\$3,800,713	32%
Scholarships	\$4,651,631	37%	\$4,290,018	33%	\$4,554,909	33%	\$4,484,781	33%	\$4,062,265	33%	\$3,890,101	32%
Travel	\$1,341,369	11%	\$1,418,134	11%	\$2,032,145	15%	\$1,894,897	14%	\$1,716,320	14%	\$1,690,939	14%
M&O	\$856,998	7%	\$1,362,577	11%	\$1,182,049	9%	\$1,276,509	9%	\$1,070,933	9%	\$1,089,585	9%
Debt Service	\$674,220	5%	\$669,102	5%	\$672,746	5%	\$671,793	5%	\$674,447	5%	\$547,265	5%
Medical	\$150,000	1%	\$153,697	1%	\$152,211	1%	\$145,612	1%	\$136,063	1%	\$135,075	1%
Federal	\$150,000	1%	\$150,205	1%	\$130,672	1%	\$120,963	1%	\$115,607	1%	\$106,242	1%
Facilities	\$444,292	4%	\$450,110	3%	\$474,377	3%	\$495,496	4%	\$405,256	3%	\$414,801	3%
Other	\$180,614	1%	\$224,917	2%	\$297,797	2%	\$325,425	2%	\$365,728	3%	\$322,746	3%
	\$12,484,011	100%	\$12,955,619	100%	\$13,637,720	100%	\$13,502,511	100%	\$12,413,048	100%	\$11,997,467	100%

* 10% cut from FY 19 due to covid-19

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



As the University of Central Arkansas athletics department closed out its 15-year membership in the Southland Conference in 2021, the Bears and Sugar Bears continued to be one of the most successful programs in the conference, both athletically and academically.

The UCA athletics department transitioned to the ASUN (Atlantic Sun) beginning July 1, 2021, ending a highly successful partnership with the SLC that began during the 2006-07 academic year.

In May 2021, UCA's athletic department, for the second consecutive year, won the SLC Academic Performance Award, which is presented annually to the member institution compiling the highest APR average (academic progress rate) based on a seven-point scale and percentage calculation. UCA captured 63 percent of the maximum accumulated points the institution could receive, based on the number of conference sports in which UCA participates. This award included the four-year APR averages from 2016-17 through 2019-20.

UCA totaled more than 200 student-athletes named to the SLC Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll, encompassing 17 of its 18 sports, with men's soccer competing in the Sun Belt Conference due to no league sponsorship of the sport by the SLC. The Bears and Sugar Bears combined to have 42 All-Conference selections.

UCA also claimed one of the two prestigious 2021 F.L. McDonald Postgraduate Scholarships presented by the Southland, the league's ultimate academic honor for graduating student-athletes. Will Siler of Searcy, Ark., a member of the football team who had a perfect 4.0 grade-point average over his UCA career, was awarded the \$5,000 scholarship and will use it to attend medical school.

The Bears and Sugar Bears, under the direction of Dr. Brad

Teague, UCA's director of athletics, President Houston Davis and the UCA medical and athletic training staff, maneuvered successfully through and survived a pandemic year where very little was normal in the world of athletics. A rigorous and thorough testing procedure, in conjunction with the UCA Health Services and Conway Regional Health Systems, kept the UCA athletic teams healthy and competing throughout the school year when many institutions were unable to.

For instance, the UCA Football team was showcased by playing the very first collegiate game in the nation on national television on Aug. 29 in the Guardian Credit Union FCS Kickoff in Montgomery, Ala., UCA was one of few teams at the FCS level to complete a full season in the traditional fall season, while many NCAA schools and conferences pushed back their entire seasons until the spring.

Academically, UCA's more than 400 student-athletes continued to maintain a combined 3.20 overall GPA, with the Spring 2021 semester being the 17th consecutive semester over 3.0. Sixteen of UCA's 18 athletic teams had a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.

UCA won the "Governor's I-40 Showdown" trophy again, outdistancing the Little Rock athletic program for the second consecutive year in the year-long competition between the nearby schools.

TRACK & FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY

UCA set numerous school records in 2021, in both indoor and outdoor track and field and sent five student-athletes to the NCAA West Regionals, including sprinters Ajah Criner and Zachary Jewell, hurdler Jordan Atkins, triple jumper Taylor Coleman and middle distance runner TJ Robinson.

Jewell, a senior from Mena, Ark., earned All-America honors as he qualified for the NCAA Nationals in Eugene, Ore., where he finished 16th in the nation in the 100 meter dash. He is just the

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



second UCA track and field athlete to earn All-America honors in the NCAA Division I era.

UCA landed nine student-athletes on the All-SLC teams. Criner, Jewell and Sara Steimel were first-team selections, with Steimel winning the 3,000-meter steeplechase. Robinson, Tamera Rhode, Tyler Rose, Aysha Anderson and Criner earned second-team honors. Tamara Reeves and Atkins were named to the third team.

FOOTBALL

The Bears had another National Football League (NFL) draftee, the highest ever, when cornerback Robert Rochell (Shreveport, La.) was selected by the Los Angeles Rams in the fourth round (130th pick) on May 1, 2021. Rochell, a two-time All-American during his time at UCA, was the Bears' fourth NFL draftee in the past six years, and was the first Southland Conference player drafted since 2018.

Rochell was also UCA's third player to participate in the prestigious Reese's Senior Bowl in January.

UCA had 12 student-athletes named to the 2020 Fall All-Southland Conference team, including the Offensive Player of the Year in sophomore wide receiver Tyler Hudson (Spring, Texas), and also had the Coach of the Year in Nathan Brown.

The Bears played one of the toughest schedules in school history after the SLC moved the league slate to the spring. UCA finished 5-4 against a schedule that featured two FBS opponents and the eight-time defending FCS champion (North Dakota State). UCA also played the first FBS game of the season, taking on the UAB Blazers on Thursday, Sept. 3 at historic Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala.

Tyler Hudson and Robert Rochell were named finalists for two prestigious national awards. Hudson was a finalist for the Walter

Payton Award, which goes to the national offensive player of the year at the FCS level and is named for the legendary running back. Rochell was a finalist for the Buck Buchanan Award, which is presented annually to the national defensive player of the Year in the FCS.

BASEBALL

The Bears played their final season in the SLC in 2021 and their final campaign under the direction of head coach Allen Gum. The winningest coach in UCA baseball history announced his retirement at the conclusion of the season. Gum was UCA's head coach for 11 seasons and won 310 games at UCA, and a combined 536 games between UCA and his alma mater Southern Arkansas, an average of 33.5 victories per year.

UCA's associate head coach/pitching coach Nick Harlan was appointed as the new Bears head coach.

Junior lefthanded pitcher Noah Cameron (St. Joseph, Mo.) was drafted in the seventh round by the Kansas City Royals in the 2021 MLB Draft, the 13th UCA player to be drafted since 2011.

UCA's freshman Tyler Cleveland of East End, Ark., was named the SLC Relief Pitcher of the Year and a first-team All-SLC selection after winning six games and recording nine saves. He was also named an All-American by several national publications.

The Bears had a record 18 players earn their UCA degrees _ including several master's degrees _ during the 2020-21 school year.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Coach Anthony Boone's Bears played their usual formidable schedule, with consecutive games at Arkansas, Ole Miss and Mississippi State, all members of the Southeastern Conference, within a span of five days in December 2020. The Bears faced

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



eventual NCAA national champion Baylor on the road to close out the first semester.

Senior guard Rylan Bergersen was a third-team All-SLC selection after finishing third in the conference in scoring, second in assists and first in minutes played per game.

MEN'S SOCCER

The Bears will compete in the ASUN for the first time in 2021 and will play under a different head coach for the first time since 2011. Ross Duncan, who resigned after the season to move back to Oregon to be close to family, led the Bears to back-to-back NCAA Tournaments in 2017 and 2018 by winning the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament both years. UCA then moved to the Sun Belt Conference in 2019 and won that regular-season title as well.

Frank Kohlenstein, a consultant to the UCA program since 2017, assumed the head coaching duties in June 2021.

The Bears lost to Georgia State on penalty kicks in the 2020 Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

UCA had three players named to the All-Sun Belt team, including senior Kasper Anderson (Randers, Denmark), senior Soren Jensen (Copenhagen, Denmark) and junior Alberto Suarez (Zaragoza, Spain).

TENNIS

The UCA women's tennis team had two doubles players and three singles players named to the All-Southland Conference team. Yada Vasupongchai from Samutprakan, Thailand, was a first-team singles selection, while Chunxi Xin (Baoding, China) and Fuka

Nonoyama (Myoshi, Japan) earned first-team honors as a doubles team. Freshman Maja Gledic (Johannesburg, South Africa) and Jaeun Lee (Seoul, Korea) were named second-team doubles.

Vasupongchai, Nonoyama (twice) and Gledic were named SLC Players of the Week during the 2021 season.

SOFTBALL

The softball Bears, under the direction of 13-year coach David Kuhn in his final season, finished 21-6 in Southland Conference play in 2021, the most conference win in school history. UCA also won 37 games overall, the second-most in the history of the program.

UCA finished as the regular-season runnerup in the SLC as well as the SLC Tournament runnerup, losing 1-0 in the championship game.

The Bears landed five players on the All-SLC teams, including the Freshman of the Year in outfielder Jenna Wildeman from Bentonville, Ark. She was joined on the All-SLC first-team by redshirt freshman pitcher Kayla Beaver from Jackson, Tenn. Second-team honors went to senior Kaylyn Shepherd, sophomore Jordan Johnson and redshirt freshman Mary Kate Brown.

Wildeman was an All-Region selection and named the winner of the New Balance/NFCA Golden Shoe Award after leading the NCAA in stolen bases.

Wildeman was named the SLC Softball Student-Athlete of the Year and was joined on the All-Academic team by Beaver, Brown and Johnson.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



MEN'S & WOMEN'S GOLF

The UCA women's golf team, with no upperclassmen, finished as runnerup at the 2021 SLC Tournament. UCA had two players, Camila Moreno of Bogota, Columbia, and Elin Kumlin of Kinna, Sweden, finish in the top five individually, with all five Bears finishing in the Top 20. Moreno was third overall while Kumlin tied for fourth place.

Kumlin earned her second consecutive SLC first-team All-Academic honor with a 3.87 GPA.

The men's golf team finished sixth at the 2021 SLC Tournament with just two upperclassmen on the squad. Junior Miles Smith had a team-best 17th-place finish.

INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

Playing over both semesters in 2021-21, the Sugar Bears won two matches in the SLC Tournament before falling in the semifinals. Freshman Charlie Tidwell of Colorado Springs, Colo., was named to the All-Tournament team.

UCA had two players, seniors Emily Doss and Bailey Waddington, named to the All-Southland Conference team. Waddington and junior Madi Bowles were also named to the SLC All-Academic team, both sporting perfect 4.0 grade-point averages. Waddington earned the academic honor for the third consecutive season.

In his first full season as head coach, John Newberry led the Sugar Bears to a 12-8 overall record and an 8-4 mark in the SLC in a season shortened by the pandemic.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The UCA Beach Bears had three pairs named to the All-SLC teams, including Bria Garmon (Festus, Mo.) and Shannon Stone (Littleton, Colo.) on the first team and Evelyn Griffith (Little Rock, Ark.),

Faith Hasness (Spring Branch, Texas), Julia Dravec (Warrenton, Va.) and Kayla Cook (Heath, Texas) earning second-team honors.

Hasness was also one of 10 student-athletes from the SLC to earn All-Academic honors with a 3.96 grade-point average.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

The Sugar Bears, under the direction of head coach Sandra Rushing, won two games at the 2021 SLC Tournament before losing in the semifinals in Katy, Texas.

Lucy Ibeh, a junior forward from Lagos, Nigeria, earned three SLC postseason honors, including SLC Newcomer of the Year, first-team All-SLC honors and SLC All-Defensive Team recognition. Ibeh also was named the SLC Player of the Week on Feb. 22.

UCA played an historic first-ever game against the University of Arkansas on Dec. 13, 2020 at Bud Walton Arena in Fayetteville, Ark., after Arkansas relaxed its long-standing rule of not playing in-state institutions.

WOMEN'S SOCCER:

The Bears finished with another winning overall record in a rare season split over two semesters, including in-state victories over Little Rock (twice) and Arkansas State.

UCA had two student-athletes named to the All-SLC team, including sophomore Emma Hawkins named to the first team and sophomore Abby Gibson selected for the second team. The Bears also had four players (Hawkins, Gibson, Zoe Can de Cloot twice) named SLC Players of the Week during the season.

Hawkins, senior Hadley Dickinson and junior Gracie Hair were named to the Southland Conference All-Academic team, all with GPAs above 3.3.



STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

- Athletes bought more than 2,500 toys for Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign
- Raised more than \$4,500 for Samaritan's Feet through pancake breakfast at Stoby's, setting up shoe distribution for Conway children during the 2020-21 academic year.

LIFE SKILLS AREAS RECOMMENDED BY NCAA

- Alcohol and drug guidelines
- Personal development
- Leadership
- Sexual orientation
- Diversity
- Nutrition
- Personal counseling
- Gambling
- Career counseling

AREAS COVERED THIS YEAR

- Athlete2Career
- Sexual misconduct/Title IX training
- Racial Injustice/Social Justice Committee
- Secret Service Career Presentation

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Throughout the year, our teams volunteer at numerous community events, school programs, youth & elderly programs and charity functions, in addition to on-campus events and organizing and volunteering for fundraisers for a variety of charities. In all, our student-athletes logged more than 500 hours of community service over the past year even during the pandemic. Some of the projects UCA student-athletes & staff were involved in over the past year include:

- Delivered shoes to Florence Mattison Elementary, providing shoes for over 200 children
- Conway Optimist Club Youth Football Clinic
- Virtual reading programs at local Elementary schools
- 5K Walk for Diabetes
- Collected toys for Toys for Tots
- Packed boxes at Operation Christmas Child warehouse
- Volunteered at Boys & Girls Club of Conway
- Assisted with Tacos4Life Mobile Pack program to provide food to underdeveloped nations
- Staffed "The Big Event" volunteer day in Conway
- Worked UCA "Brake For Bears" safe driving/pedestrian awareness event