

Philosophy for Utica College Athletic Department

- 1.** The Athletic Department supports the College's academic mission by insisting on academic success to be eligible for participation in athletics. Athletics supports the Utica College mission to "create a community of learners with diverse experiences and perspectives..." Athletics enhance the liberal education of men and women by exposing them to cultural, ethnic, and individual differences. Student athletes learn to appreciate diversity in an environment of equality and mutual respect.
- 2.** The Athletic Department supports the College's mission of "encouraging lifelong learning, and...promoting scholarship in the belief that the discovery and application of knowledge enrich teaching and learning." Participation in athletics at Utica College gives student athletes opportunities for positive and realistic self-appraisal. The student athlete learns citizenship and ethics, develops social skills and leadership potential, and gains a strong sense of independence.
- 3.** The athletic program enriches the life of the campus and enhances the sense of community.
- 4.** Intercollegiate sports participation is encouraged for as many students as possible.
- 5.** The Athletic Department strives for broad participation through intercollegiate, club, and intramural sports. The department also emphasizes competitive excellence, sportsmanship, and positive attitudes.
- 6.** The majority of scheduling is conducted with other Division III colleges in the Empire 8 Conference (Alfred, Hartwick, RIT, Nazareth, St. John Fisher, Ithaca, Elmira) as well as non-conference opponents in Utica College's geographic area.
- 7.** Appropriate facilities, competent coaches, and competitive schedules are available to Utica College student athletes to assist them in reaching their athletic potential.
- 8.** Emphasis is given to in-season competition; however, teams and individuals are encouraged and supported through post-season championships.
- 9.** The athletic program is controlled, financed, and staffed through the same general procedure as other departments of the College.
- 10.** Sport for men and women are given equal emphasis and the desired quality of competition is similar in all sports. Participant interest will be one factor considered in the determination of the level of support provided by the College to each sport.

