Education through Athletics

Athletic participation helps our students grow, learn, and enjoy themselves while they use and develop their personal, physical, and intellectual skills. Harvard values the lessons that have long been taught by athletic participation: the pursuit of excellence through personal development and teamwork, ethical and responsible behavior on the field and off, adherence to the spirit of rules as well as to their letter, leadership and strength of character, and sportsmanship – respect for one’s opponents, acceptance of victory with humility, and acknowledgement of defeat with grace. In teaching these lessons to its students, Harvard instills habits which will lead students to better and healthier lives. While winning is not an end in itself, we believe that the efforts by our intercollegiate athletes to be their best will lead them to succeed throughout their lives.

Build Community and Pride in Harvard

Athletics at Harvard builds community through the engagement of students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and creates a portal through which neighboring communities can enjoy the Harvard experience. We all take pride in knowing that our coaches are educators and our athletes are true representatives of Harvard’s student body – Harvard athletics are admitted through the same process, receive the same academic support, and are held to the same standards as every other Harvard student. Successful athletic teams generate unique excitement across the campus and community, help strengthen bonds among the various arms of our university, build collegiate loyalty in a healthy manner, and give our community members yet another reason to be proud to represent Harvard.

Harvard Department of Athletics - Strategy and Multi-Year Plan (FY18-FY20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy/ Major Milestones</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>Future state</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Align Application Portfolio with Business Need</td>
<td>Goal 1: Leverage existing platforms to streamline portfolio • Discover opportunities for intramural/club sports and transition to a common platform (e.g. OrgSync) • Replace the existing scheduling system to allow for more efficient scheduling of athletics facilities and coordinate with larger FAS initiative, EMS/Roombook. • Discovery and implementation of Athletics Consolidated Reporting platform.</td>
<td>Goal 1: Leverage existing platforms to streamline portfolio • Discover opportunities to migrate athletics functionality into my.harvard. • Continue to invest in platforms such as OrgSync and Salesforce (for community building and outreach.) • Continue to expand Athletics Consolidated Reporting Platform</td>
<td>Goal 1: Leverage existing platforms to streamline portfolio • Continue to explore opportunities and implement solutions on common platforms.</td>
<td>Leverage existing platforms and best practices around assessing new investments to ensure a stable and supported set of applications, an easy experience for end users and a reduction in ongoing operations and maintenance costs</td>
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<td>Goal 2: Identify opportunities to retire applications • Collect and report on metrics of usage and operational costs to inform application retirements.</td>
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<td>Goal 3: Invest in new platforms and solutions • Discovery and implementation of a new Membership/Recreation platform • Continue Discovery to identify opportunities for expansion of the athletics portfolio onto new platforms (e.g. Equipment Room and MedRoom) to improve financial planning and expediency of student transactions • Complete discovery for an Athletics Management System.</td>
<td>Goal 3: Invest in new platforms and solutions • Implement an inventory management system for the Equipment Room and MedRoom to improve financial planning and expediency of student transactions • Complete discovery for an Athletics Management System.</td>
<td>Goal 3: Invest in new platforms and solutions • Continue to understand new IT needs for Athletics units and explore opportunities in the Athletics IT environment.</td>
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<td>Goal 4: Continue to enhance and evolve key platforms • Document lifecycles for all applications • Reduce technical debt on existing applications. • Make existing applications in the portfolio accessible and mobile.</td>
<td>Goal 4: Continue to enhance and evolve key platforms • Continue to reduce technical debt on applications remaining in the portfolio to reduce ongoing operations and maintenance costs. • Continue to make existing applications in the portfolio accessible and mobile. • Continuously improve portfolio in accordance with the lifecycle planning.</td>
<td>Goal 4: Continue to enhance and evolve key platforms • Continue to update the Application lifecycle for all applications and refer to it to propose new projects for FY20 and future year.</td>
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<td>Improve access and integration of data needed by the Department of Athletics and other University Applications.</td>
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| **Goal 6: Athletics Video**  
- Define retention policy and preservation needs of data  
- Working with HUIT, adopt a new platform for collecting and editing video.   |
| **Goal 7: Identify and pursue opportunities to make data available for easy, but secure access.**  
- Consolidate Athletics data from transactional systems into a common repository making it available to the new reporting tool.  
- Ensure that best practices and standard tools recommended by the HUIT Data Management program are utilized. (e.g. Mulesoft, Collibra)  
- Improve integration between Athletics systems and other Harvard systems for student and alumni data. |
| **Goal 8: Support Athletics staff in using data**  
- Work with units to help create dashboards and reports for local requirements from the central repository. |

| Connections with Students and Alumni  
Leverage technology to improve timeliness and relevancy of communications to Athletics communities. |
|---|
| **Goal 9: Attract and retain outstanding people**  
- Improve processes for student athlete recruiting.  
- Enhance the student and alumni experience  
- Continue to investigate communication and recruitment technologies.  
- Improve NCAA Compliance processes. |
| **Goal 10: Enhance the student and alumni experience**  
- Enhance community experience through improved Membership/Recreation platform.  
- Review Wireless Router mappings and add more WAP as needed.  
- Understand opportunities in technology that may be gained by Allston expansion. |
| **Goal 11: Provide up-to-date IT infrastructure for reliability, availability, security, and performance.**  
- Facility security enhancements  
- Investigate technology in the classroom for use with student-athletes. |

| Goals 6: Athletics Video  
- Complete video editing, retrieval, and storage process.  
- Define retention policy and preservation needs of data  
- Working with HUIT, adopt a new platform for collecting and editing video. |
| **Goal 7: Identify and pursue opportunities to make data available for easy, but secure access.**  
- Expand data repository as new applications are adopted.  
- Work with student systems and alumni systems to integrate data through published API’s. |
| **Goal 8: Support Harvard College staff in using data**  
- Provide new dashboards as well as tools for self-service adhoc reporting. |

| Department of Athletics has seamless access to its robust data and is able to use that data to improve decisions and better support the experience of student-athletes. |

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<th>Improvements in the quality, timeliness, and relevancy of communications and user experience.</th>
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| **Goal 9: Attract and retain outstanding people**  
- Implement new communications tools for students, delivering content based on their own selections and analytics.  
- Enhance the student and alumni experience.  
- Implement new communications tools for students and alumni engagement based on their own selections and analytics. |
| **Goal 10: Enhance the student and alumni experience.**  
- Implement new communications tools for students and alumni engagement based on their own selections and analytics.  
- Further integration of club sports with varsity sports. |
| **Goal 11: Provide up-to-date IT infrastructure for reliability, availability, security, and performance.**  
- Facility security enhancements  
- Investigate technology in the classroom for use with student-athletes. |