

Administration



Administration

UH President/Chancellor	-----	84
Director of Athletics	-----	84
Athletics Administration	-----	85-89
Athletics Staff Directory	-----	90



Dr. Jay Gogue
Chancellor/President
Auburn, 1969

Dr. Jay Gogue became the seventh University of Houston System Chancellor and the 12th University of Houston President on September 2, 2003. He succeeded Dr. Arthur K. Smith, who was the first to hold both titles of Chancellor and President at UH.

Dr. Gogue (rhymes with "rouge") came to Houston from New Mexico State University, where he served as president since July 1, 2000. Prior to that, he spent five years as provost at Utah State University and was vice president for research at Clemson University from 1988 to 1995.

His administrative philosophy reflects a strong commitment both to scholarship and to research.

"When I first arrived at Clemson, the research and sponsored programs expenditures were about \$32 million. When I left, these numbers were about \$110 million," Dr. Gogue recalls with pride.

Similarly, during his relatively brief stint at NMSU, research expenditures increased from \$140 million to \$160 million, including a substantial amount for various NASA-related projects.

"Increasing academic quality and raising standards were also major objectives of my efforts at Utah State and at New Mexico State," Dr. Gogue says. "At both institutions we established a 'Teaching Academy' to work with faculty to improve instruction at all levels.

At Utah State, we established and secured private funding for Regents Professorships for the first time. And at New Mexico, I was especially proud of our work to create chaired professorships. During the last three years, we added 29."

He also points to great strides made in the Distance Education program at New Mexico State during his tenure.

"When I arrived, we had one degree offered via Distance Education. This fall, there were 13, including seven master's degrees and a doctorate."

In addition to encouraging scholarship and research, Dr. Gogue has emphasized community service and outreach in his previous administrative appointments.

"I'm coming out of systems at Clemson, Utah State and New Mexico State that have statewide outreach programs focusing on economic development, community health, homeland security, agriculture, leadership and so on," he says. "We've also played a prominent role sponsoring community events such as the Festival of the American West and the Las Cruces Symphony. I look forward to continuing that kind of interaction and support in Houston."

A native of Waycross, Georgia, Dr. Gogue, 55, earned bachelor's and master's degrees in horticulture from Auburn University. In 1973, he received a Ph.D. in horticulture from Michigan State University.

Dr. Gogue began his professional career in 1973 as a research scientist with the National Park Service. From 1977 to 1986, he was chief scientist for the Park Service and responsible for educational centers, law enforcement activities and natural resource management at 50 national parks.

A former Little League coach and U.S. Army reserve officer, Dr. Gogue is a board member of the Natural Resources Ecology Section of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges and is certified as an accreditation reviewer for the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges, a regional accrediting agency.

"We're honored and excited to be here," Dr. Gogue says. "We want to accomplish great things for the four UH System institutions. There are still untold and unimaginable opportunities for collaboration between our universities and our friends and supporters."



Dave Maggard
Director of Athletics
California-Berkeley, 1962

He's carried an Olympic flag and has received the Olympic Order. Now, as one of the most respected leaders in intercollegiate athletics, Dave Maggard is the standard bearer for the University of Houston athletics program. Maggard begins his second full year at Houston after serving as a consultant for the Sacramento (Calif.) Sports Commission and UC-Davis Medical Center for two years.

Maggard also brings a wealth of intercollegiate athletics experience, insight and a history of integrity to Houston. He was the director of athletics at the University of Miami from 1991-93. In his first year, the Hurricane football team won a national championship in 1991. The 1991-92 women's basketball team advanced to the NCAA's "Sweet 16" after completing the Big East's first undefeated season by either a men's or women's team in conference play. Two other teams, men's golf and women's tennis, also captured Big East Championships in their first seasons as a league member. Miami's baseball team also finished third in the College World Series. Off the field, Maggard also led the Hurricanes to unprecedented success when he established the school's first endowed scholarship fund in the fall of 1991, and created an additional \$6 million surplus for 20 men's and women's athletic programs.

In addition, 22 Hurricane student-athletes were named to the Big East All-Academic team and three received District Academic All-America honors. In addition to winning the 1991 national championship, Miami's football team received honorable mention academic honors by the College Football Association (CFA) for a 70 percent or better graduation rate.

The following year, Miami's football team ended the year ranked second nationally, and the women's basketball team played in the NCAA Tournament after winning their second straight Big East championship.

Maggard went to Miami after serving 19 years as athletics director at his alma mater, the University of California-Berkeley. Under his direction, California's program served as the prototype for contemporary collegiate athletics. The Golden Bears won 22 national championships in six different sports: water polo, rugby, swimming, tennis, crew and gymnastics. California's baseball team also finished third nationally during his tenure.

Maggard also was instrumental in the resurgence of California's basketball and football programs that yielded the school's best record and first NCAA Tournament appearance in 30 years. He also created a comprehensive academic support program and established a faculty mentoring program and an endowed scholarship program. He also established the Bear Backer fund-raising arm for athletics, which was the most successful program on the Berkeley campus for years.

Maggard served on more than 20 athletics governing bodies while he was at Miami and California. He also served as a chairman for the NCAA's Council of Eligibility Appeals. Maggard also was a chairman on the NCAA's Committee on International Relations, and he was a member of the organization's NCAA Division I Basketball Committee, Committee to Review Amateurism Issues and Committee to Combat Gambling. Maggard also was a member of the CFA's Board of Directors as the representative from the Big East and was a member of the Big East Football's Executive and Bowl Committees during his tenure at Miami.

While at California, Maggard chaired six different Pac-10 Conference Committees, which included long-term planning, and bowl committees.

Following his success at California and Miami, Maggard was named the Managing Director of Sports for the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic games in 1993. Maggard managed over 600 paid staff and 8,500 volunteers throughout the 1996 Olympic games. He also oversaw site selection, acquisition and building of all venues and equipment for all sports competitions and training.

After the 1996 Olympic games, Maggard served as the Vice President of Sports Administration for Turner Sports/Time Warner, Inc. and was the Executive Vice President for the Atlanta Thrashers hockey team until 2000. A former Olympian, Maggard earned one letter in football and three letters in track and field at California. He set a school record in the shot put that stood for more than 19 years. He was the recipient of both the Brutus Hamilton Award for outstanding leadership in track and field and the Jake Gimbel Award as Cal's senior athlete exhibiting the best attitude toward athletics. An endowed scholarship in football carries his name.

He earned his bachelor's degree in physical education and social science in 1962 and worked at several Bay Area high schools as a teacher and coach while a member of the U.S. National Track Team and training in the shot put for a place on the 1968 Olympic Trials.

He recorded what was then the fifth-longest throw in history, a put of 67' 4.50" to earn an Olympic berth. Although competing while ill, he went on to finish fifth at the 1968 Olympic games in Mexico City.

He was beckoned back to his alma mater in 1968 to serve as an assistant track and field coach and assumed the head coaching duties a year later. In 1972, he accepted the position of athletics director at age 32, making him the youngest AD in the nation.

Born January 12, 1940, he grew up in San Francisco and Turlock, Calif.. Maggard and his wife, Carolyn, have three adult children: David, Darin and Dana. Maggard was inducted into California's Hall of Fame in 1996. He also received the U.S. Sports Academy's Carl Maddox Sports Management Award and the International Olympic Committee's Olympic Order that year. He received the General Robert Reese Nyeland Athletic Director Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997.

Maggard currently serves on the NCAA Academic, Eligibility/Compliance Cabinet and is chair of the Committee on Agents and Amateurism.



John Robinson, Jr.

Senior Associate
Athletics Director
Columbia, 1987

John A. Robinson, Jr. begins his second season as the Senior Associate Athletics Director at the University of Houston. In this capacity, he is responsible for coordinating all day-to-day administrative functions of the Athletics Department and assists the Director of Athletics in supervising and providing leadership for all departmental activities including: strategic planning, finances, personnel, fund raising, facilities, sport supervision and scheduling for football and men's basketball, and game administration.

In addition, Robinson also oversees the following support areas: business office, corporate relations, equipment room, facilities, operations and special events, gift shop, marketing & promotions, strength & conditioning, sports medicine, ticket office, and video operations. In addition, he represents the Department on campus-wide committees.

Before coming to the University of Houston, Robinson was an Associate Athletics Director at Villanova University in Pennsylvania. During his seven-and-a-half year tenure at Villanova, he was responsible for providing leadership and supervision in the areas of sport administration, marketing and promotions, strength and conditioning, sports medicine, compliance, and operation of the university fitness centers. In addition, he served as the admission liaison for men's basketball and football, and fulfilled the role of University athletics financial aid liaison.

Furthermore, Robinson was involved in fundraising for football, men's and women's cross country/track & field, golf, men's lacrosse, and men's soccer. He also was appointed the Athletics Department's coordinator for the NCAA Re-Certification process and served as a member of the Steering Committee and the Fiscal Integrity Subcommittee during the re-certification process. Robinson was one of the primary authors of Villanova University's new gender equity plan, and served as the University's Coordinator for the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA). Furthermore, Robinson was active on the conference level where he was on the Big East Conference Rowing Committee and the Big East Legislative Committee.

In 2000, Robinson was one of seven college athletics administrators selected from a national pool to be an NCAA Fellow, an 18 month professional development program designed by the NCAA to assist individuals in preparation for senior administrative levels on both the institutional and conference levels. During his career, he has also served on such committees as the University Board of Academic Integrity, the University Equity Committee, the University Inclusiveness and Diversity Committee, and the Task Force for University Re-Certification.

Robinson was a student-athlete at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas where he was a member of the varsity football team which was Conference Co-Champions, played in the Sun Bowl, and the Aloha Bowl. While at SMU, Robinson was named to the All-Southwest Conference Academic Honor Team. Subsequently, he transferred to Columbia University in New York City, where he played football and graduated with a BA in economics. Thereafter, he obtained a JD from Tulane University Law School in New Orleans, and then practiced law in Texas where he is a member of the State Bar of Texas. Robinson also received a MBA from Villanova University.



Chris Burkhalter

Associate Athletics Director
for Communications
Southwest Texas State, 1989

Houston native Chris Burkhalter begins his fifth year as the Associate Athletic Director for Communications at the University of Houston. In this capacity, Burkhalter oversees Sports Information, Media Relations, Publications, the Internet and Radio and Television Services.

In the 2001-2002 academic year Burkhalter was the lead negotiator on long-term contracts for radio broadcasts (football and men's basketball), internet web site and football and men's basketball programs. Burkhalter also locked in Craig Ackerman as the "Voice of the Cougars" for the next several seasons--the first consistent voice for Cougar Athletics in five years. For the first time in school history all four major sports at UH (football, men's and women's basketball and baseball) were broadcast over the airwaves.

He also served as the point person on the recently negotiated multi-million dollar contract with ISP Sports. Additionally, in his tenure at UH Burkhalter has consolidated all departmental publications within the Sports Information Office, while the official athletic department web site, UHCougars.com, has been elevated to premier status with e-commerce capability, online ticketing and interactive fan participation.

Burkhalter returned to his hometown after serving as the Assistant Athletic Director for Media Relations at the University of Texas at El Paso in 1998-99. While at UTEP, Burkhalter oversaw the Media Relations office while serving as the liaison for the Miner football and men's basketball teams, as well as both UTEP golf programs.

Burkhalter went to UTEP after spending two years at Indiana State University, where he was the Assistant AD for Media Relations. At Indiana State, he handled the publicity of football and men's basketball, and oversaw the men's and women's tennis programs as the department administrator. He spent two years at Indiana State, first arriving in September 1996 as Director of Athletic Media Relations.

Before working at Indiana State, Burkhalter spent six months as the Media Services Manager for the Texas Terror of the Arena Football League in their inaugural season. Burkhalter handled all facets of promotions and relations for the team, including community, public and media. He also handled the team travel as the general manager's traveling secretary.

While working for the Terror, Burkhalter also assisted in the Media Services department of the NBA's Houston Rockets. Burkhalter joined the Terror after working as the Sports Information Director at Northern Arizona University for three years.

Burkhalter came to NAU from the University of Wyoming in Laramie, where he served as an Assistant SID for one year.

Burkhalter began his sports information career as a graduate assistant at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette (now University of Louisiana at Lafayette), where he handled the publicity for women's basketball, men's and women's cross country and men's and women's track and field. He earned his master's degree in European history from USL in 1992 and received his bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism from Southwest Texas State University in 1989. He was named to Who's Who Among Students in America Colleges and Universities.

While at Southwest Texas in San Marcos, Burkhalter held several positions within the journalism department, including sports director at KAT Radio and sports anchor/producer for Channel 19 News. He was the sports editor for the school yearbook--the Pedagog--for two years and was a feature writer for the student magazine, the Hillside Scene. He was the voice of the Bobcat women's basketball team for two years.

Burkhalter and his wife, Kristi, have a son, Mack. Burkhalter has a daughter, Alexis, who turned 12 in July and entered seventh grade this past fall. He is a member of the Football Writer's Association of America, Basketball Writer's Association of America and the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA.)



Kevin Fite

Associate Athletics Director
for Compliance & Eligibility
Northern Iowa, 1986

Kevin Fite begins his third year as the Associate Athletics Director for Compliance and Eligibility at the University of Houston. In his role at UH, Fite oversees all aspects of the athletics department's compliance efforts including the review of all eligibility-related matters for all 16 varsity sports and approximately 420 student-athletes.

He serves as a liaison between the NCAA and Conference USA offices regarding all compliance matters and coordinates the institution's rules education efforts for all athletics department coaches and staff.

Fite also serves on the Conference USA Legislative Review Committee, monitoring proposed legislation within the NCAA governance structure. During his first two years at Houston, Fite has increased the department's efforts to monitor the recruiting efforts of all coaches effectively while minimizing the potential for inadvertent violations of NCAA rules. Fite has emphasized the need to streamline the certification of eligibility process and improve the documentation related to all aspects of student-athlete's participation in competition.

Fite came to Houston after spending over six years at the NCAA headquarters--first in Overland Park, Kansas, and then in Indianapolis, Ind.. He spent the first four years as a Student-Athlete Reinstatement Representative and processed reinstatement requests and self-reports submitted by member institutions on behalf of ineligible student-athletes.

While a member of the Student-Athlete Reinstatement staff, Fite served as a staff liaison to the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee and the NCAA Academics/Eligibility/Compliance Cabinet. Fite also initiated the NCAA staff's effort in developing a database of information related to basketball leagues in Europe and Australia and the potential eligibility implications related to participation in these leagues. The NCAA still utilizes much of the information developed by Fite in their evaluations of student-athletes eligibility.

When the NCAA moved to Indianapolis in August of 1999, Fite became an Enforcement Representative until his move to Houston. In this position Fite conducted investigations of potential major violations of NCAA legislation, as well as educated involved institutions regarding the NCAA infraction process and enforcement policies and procedures.

A 1986 graduate of the University of Northern Iowa with a bachelor's degree in history education, Fite later earned his master's

degree in higher education from Iowa State University in 1991. He began his collegiate professional career at Iowa State, where he was a graduate assistant in the Athletic Academic Services division. He also served as an Academic Counselor at Oklahoma State University from 1991 until 1993, before he was elevated to Assistant Director of Academic Eligibility at OSU in August 1993.

A native of Ottumwa, Iowa, Fite is married to the former Robbie Boren and they are the parents of a seven-year-old son, Billy, and a daughter, Sarah, born last August.



Diane Hall
Associate Athletics Director
for Sports Programs/SWA
Ball State, 1976

Diane Hall is in her 16th year as a member of the University of Houston athletics staff and in her fifth year as the Associate Director of Athletics for Sports Programs. Hall oversees the operations of most of the Cougars' Olympic Sports programs, and represents the university as the Senior Woman Administrator to Conference USA and the NCAA.

Her duties include administering all Conference and NCAA championships, including NCAA Baseball Regional and Super Regional championships at Cougar Field, C-USA Volleyball, Tennis, Golf, Track and Field, and Swimming and Diving. Hall works directly with the coaches in matters of budgeting, fund-raising, scheduling, recruiting and operations. She also serves as department advisor to the Athletics Advisory Committee and on the President's Commission on the Status of Women. Hall has overseen the addition of Women's Soccer and Softball programs at Houston. In addition, she is involved with Houston's gender equity and NCAA certification efforts. Hall also teaches Athletics Administration and Management in the department of Health and Human Performance.

Hall served four years as Chair of the NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee from 1999 to 2002. She serves as liaison for sports programs to the Senior Women Administrators of C-USA. She serves as an advisor to the Houston Area Girls and Women in Sports program and assisted the City of Houston committee to bring the Men's Final Four Championships to Houston in 2010. Hall was selected as the 2002 YWCA Outstanding Woman of the Year in Athletics for the city of Houston.

Hall spent nine years as head women's cross country coach and assistant men and women's track and field coach for the Cougars before relinquishing those duties to move into administration in 1995. During her coaching career the teams won Southwest Conference Championships as well as several individual NCAA championships in Track and Field.

She coached NCAA 800 meter finalist, cross-country All American and current UH head women's cross country coach Theresa Fuqua, and three 4x800 meter relay teams which finished third at the NCAA Indoor Championships. Hall also coached Olympian Delissa Walton-Floyd, who placed fifth in the 800 meters at the 1988 Olympic Games, and US national 800 meter champion, Essie Washington.

Hall was selected as the head track and field coach for the Houston area junior team that competed in Stavanger and Oslo, Norway.

She was also an assistant coach for the 1991 USA Junior Pan American team that competed in Argentina.

A native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, she earned her BS degree in physiology and education from Ball State University, where she was a member of the field hockey and track and field teams. Her husband of two years, Steve, is the President/CEO of the Houston Alumni Organization. She has two children, Jenny and Jared, and a stepson, Andy.



Katina Jackson
Associate Athletics Director for
Development/Annual Giving
Houston, 1989

Houston native Katina Jackson was named an Associate AD for Development and Annual Giving last August after serving as an Assistant A.D. for five years.

Jackson joined Houston's Athletics Administration in January 1998 and has been involved in the city's fundraising community for over 15 years. Her experience on virtually every level of local development work has brought a new dimension to Houston's fund-raising thrust. She is a member of the National Association of Athletic Development Directors' (NAADD) Executive Board.

Her primary responsibility at Houston is to ensure the advancement of annual donations through the newly created, fund-raising arm for the Athletics Department, Cougar Pride. Cougar Pride is an organization of alumni, fans, former student-athletes, coaches and friends joining together to provide current student-athletes with a first-class education and a chance to excel in the classroom and on the playing field.

Jackson also was the co-chair for Houston's "A Night with the Stars" Hall of Honor gala in 1998, 2000 and 2002. The gala is a bi-annual event honoring UH's greatest student-athletes, coaches and administrators.

Jackson joined the Athletics administrative staff after serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the Houston Athletics Foundation from 1996-98, and was responsible for planning the 1996 and 1997 Cougar Baseball Golf Classics. She is a former member of the Board of Trustees of Episcopal High School, and in 1995 co-chaired an event that grossed over \$850,000.

She has led capital campaigns, annual giving drives, chaired committees for some of the communities most successful events, supervised hundreds of volunteers and worked closely with UH's athletics program on several earlier projects.

Jackson was also a founding member of VICTORY, the fund-raising arm of the American Cancer Society, which annually holds the highly successful Cattle Baron's Ball. She also held leadership positions and administered events for the Texas Surgical Society, West University Little League and St. John's School, among others.

She has been honored several times for her service activities, including the Volunteer of the Year for the Kelsey Seybold Foundation in 1997, Citizen of The Year for West University Place in 1994 and Special Achievement Award (1995) and Lady of the Knight Award (1992) from Episcopal High School.

In addition to attending Vanderbilt University for two years, Jackson earned her bachelor's degree from UH in Art History in 1989, graduating summa cum laude. She was a member of the National Honor Society and Phi Kappa Phi.

She and her husband, Gil, have four adult children: Marina, Alex, who was a four-year letterman for the Cougar baseball team, Scott and George. She also has one granddaughter, Katina Maria Christensen.



Mathilda Christophe
Assistant Athletics Director
for Business Services
Northwestern State, 1989

A native of Natchitoches, Louisiana, Mathilda Christophe begins her eighth year at the University of Houston and her second as the Assistant Athletics Director for Business Services. She joined the Athletic Department in June 2001, as the Business Operator and was promoted in April of 2002 to her current post. She is responsible for and administers the financial, administrative and human resources operations for the Athletic Department.

Before joining the Athletic Staff, Christophe spent two years as the Business Administrator for the Provost Central Business office and four years as the financial coordinator in the Dean's Office for the College of Pharmacy. There, she received the College of Pharmacy Staff Achievement Award in 1998.

Before coming to Houston, Christophe was an accounting clerk in the accounts payable department for the University of Texas Health Science Center. She began her career at her alma mater, Northwestern State, where she spent two years as an accounting clerk in the Comptrollers Office. Christophe earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Northwestern State University in 1989.



Jeff Cook
Assistant Athletics Director
for Equipment Room Operations
Kansas State, 1993

Jeff Cook begins his third season as the Assistant Athletics Director for Equipment Room Operations for all UH sports.

Cook came to Houston from South Florida, where he served as their equipment manager from 1997-00. While at USEF, Cook was responsible for everything from ordering and purchasing uniforms and equipment to sewing torn jerseys. He was responsible for labor intensive transfer of equipment for road games and overseeing the coaching staff's sideline communication system during games.

Before joining the USF staff, Cook was an area coordinator for athletic equipment at Illinois State University from 1993-97. He spent the summer of 1993 as the intern/assistant equipment manager for the Sacramento Gold Miners of the Canadian Football League, and worked as a student assistant while attending Kansas State from 1989-93. He assisted in taking the team to the 1992 Coca-Cola Bowl in Tokyo.

Cook received a degree in kinesiology from Kansas State in 1993.



Devin Crosby
Assistant Athletics Director
for Marketing and Promotions
Slippery Rock, 1997

Devin Crosby begins his third year with the University of Houston and his second as the Assistant Athletics Director for Marketing. He oversees UH Athletics Marketing and is responsible for the business development and licensing for the athletics department. In addition, Crosby is the day-to-day interface with the athletic department's marketing arm, International Sports Properties (ISP).

Crosby came to Houston after serving three years in the Marketing and Promotions Department at Holy Cross College. During his final year there, he was the Director of Athletics Marketing where he managed corporate sponsorship and advertising for the Athletics Department. He helped increase attendance for basketball and football for the 2000-01 seasons.

Crosby was named the Director of Athletics Marketing after serving as the Manager of Athletics Events and Promotions in 1999-00 where he developed and coordinated "Crusader Kids Day" which was recognized by the NCAA News.

Crosby went to Holy Cross in 1998 as the Coordinator of Community Development after serving as an intern in the media relations office at Eastern Michigan University in 1996 and as a graduate assistant for media Relations at East Stroudsburg University in 1997-98.

He graduated from Slippery Rock University with a bachelor's degree in communications studies in 1997. While at Slippery Rock, Crosby was a three-time all-conference performer and member of the school's record-setting 1600-meter relay team. Crosby received his master's degree in sports management from East Stroudsburg University in 1999.

A native of Aliquippa, Pa., Crosby graduated from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School in, Coraopolis, Pa. in 1993. He participated on the school's basketball and track teams and was the state runner-up in the 400-meters of the 1993 Pennsylvania State Track & Field Championships.

Crosby and his wife Cynthia reside in Houston.

Sean Conner

**Assistant Athletics Director
for Ticket Operations**
Texas A&M, 1994



Desert Storm veteran Sean Conner is in his first year as the Assistant Athletics Director for Ticket Operations at the University of Houston. Conner oversees the daily operations of the UH Athletics Ticket Office and monitors ticket sales for all UH Athletics events.

Conner came to Houston after serving as the assistant ticket manager at Texas A&M for four years. There, he managed ticket operations for 10 sports and audited all tickets sold. Conner also served as a liaison between the Athletics Department and the 12th Man Foundation.

He served three years in the U.S. Army from 1989-92 and was part of the U.S. forces in Operation Desert Shield/Storm/Provide Comfort.

Following his honorable discharge, he earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and sports administration at Texas A&M in 1994.

Upon graduation, Conner served three years as a season ticket coordinator and customer services supervisor for the Texas Rangers from 1994-97. He also served as a credentials coordinator for the Texas Motor Speedway from 1997-99 before returning to his alma mater.

A native of Dallas, Texas, Conner was born July 3, 1968. He played baseball at Richland Junior College before joining the Army. He and his wife, Trudy, have three children: Shannon, Brayden and Meaghan.

Maria C. Peden

**Assistant Athletics Director
for Student-Athlete Services**
Trinity College, 1996



In her seventh year at the University of Houston, Maria C. Peden is the Assistant Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Academic Services.

Peden joined the Academic Center for Excellence/Student-Athlete Services Staff in September 1996. She is the principal advisor for men's basketball. Peden also has been the lead counselor for baseball, volleyball, football, softball and swimming and diving in previous years.

Her other responsibilities include study hall coordination and "Cougar of the Week" selection and acknowledgment. She also participates in recruiting visits and works with the coaching staff to ensure that the men's basketball team reaches out to the community. In the past year, players have increased their public speaking and volun-

teer activities at local elementary schools, hospitals, libraries and centers for the disabled.

Peden also coordinates the admissions process for signees, as well as housing requests and academic reports. She calculates graduation rates and nominates UH student-athletes for Conference USA and national awards, while assisting with graduation and All-Sports banquets.

Peden began her work with student-athletes as a tutor at the University of North Carolina. She returned to her hometown of Washington, D.C., where she was appointed the University Teaching Fellow at George Washington University to begin work on her doctorate. While at G.W.U., she began tutoring the men's basketball team part-time and soon moved into a full-time position as the academic counselor for basketball, baseball, and men's soccer. At George Washington, she also served as the liaison between potential recruits and the Admissions Office, responsible for coordinating all documentation, applications and recruiting updates.

Peden came to Houston in 1996 and was the lead counselor for the Cougar football team from 1997-99. She left the University to travel and live in Ireland and rejoined student-athlete services staff in December 2000, when she was appointed the Academic Counselor for men's basketball.

Peden earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Trinity College in Washington, D.C., in 1986, and a Master's degree in Sociology/Statistics from North Carolina.

Peden and her husband, Patrick, were married in July 2002.

Roland Sparks

**Assistant Athletics Director
for Facilities**
Lamar, 1967



Roland Sparks begins his 14th year at the University of Houston and is in his eighth year as assistant athletics director for facilities.

In that role, Sparks maintains all intercollegiate facilities and grounds, including the Athletics/Alumni Center, Hofheinz Pavilion, Robertson Stadium and Cougar Field. He served as the business manager and ticket manager for the Cougars during his first five years at the school. He came to Houston after working as a public accountant in San Antonio.

A native of Anahuac, Texas, Sparks graduated from Lamar University in 1967 with a degree in accounting. He and his wife, Samantha, have two adult children, Brett and Kristen. He enjoys sports, reading, fishing, boating and spending time with his granddaughters.

Department of Athletics Directory

Athletic Director's Office

Dave Maggard, Director of Athletics	713-743-9370
John Robinson, Senior Associate A.D.	713-743-9370
Diane Hall, Associate A.D.-Sports Programs/SWA	713-743-9468
Diane Talley, Administrative Assistant	713-743-9370
Karla Hoffschneider, Administrative Assistant	713-743-9370

Business Office

Mathilda Christophe, Assistant A.D.	713-743-9475
Sharon House, Asst. Business Manager	713-743-9520
Sharon Manuel, Business Assistant	713-743-9361
Nyisha Hamilton, Business Assistant	713-743-0787
Mae Maness, Administrative Assistant	713-743-9480

Computer Technology

Donnie Weidner, I.S. Analyst	713-743-9362
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Compliance Office

Kevin Fite, Associate A.D.	713-743-9382
T.J. Meagher, Compliance Coordinator	713-743-9426
Becky Kraft, Administrative Assistant	713-743-9394

Equipment

Jeff Cook, Assistant A.D.	713-734-9421
Tim Lubojasky, Assistant Equipment Manager	713-743-9394

Facilities & Operations

Roland Sparks, Assistant A.D.	713-743-9366
T. Riley, Assistant Director	713-743-9387
Andy Williams, Assistant Director	713-743-9374

Marketing/ Development

Katina Jackson, Assoc. A.D.-Development	713-743-0837
James Nicas, Special Events Coordinator	713-743-3793
Melissa Gottlieb, Program Coordinator	713-743-4684
Bill Yeoman, Development Officer	713-743-9450
Devin Crosby, Asst. A.D.-Marketing & Promotions	713-743-9452
Mike Hales, Asst. Marketing Director	713-743-9459
Demeatra Yowman, Administrative Assistant	713-743-9450

Sports Information

Chris Burkhalter, Associate A.D.	713-743-9409
Rick Poulter, Assistant Director	713-743-9407
Amy Abramczyk, Assistant Director	713-743-9391
Jeff Conrad, Assistant Director	713-743-9410
Drew Lacy, Intern	713-743-9408
Karon Harper, Secretary	713-743-9404

Sports Medicine

Mike O'Shea, Head Athletics Trainer	713-743-0782
John Houston, Associate Trainer	713-743-0786
Susan Sawchak, Assistant Trainer	713-743-0783

Student Services/ Academics

Maria Peden, Asst. A.D./ Student Services	713-743-9983
Alex Brown, Academics Coordinator	713-743-9367
Gina Parks, Academics Coordinator	713-743-9383
Chris Dyko, Academics Coordinator	713-743-9400
Gretchen Wiggins, Academic Counselor	713-743-9458
Melanie Snook, Academics Counselor	713-743-0838
Keon Banks, Program Coordinator	713-743-4492

Ticket Office/ Gift Shop

Sean Conner, Assistant A.D.	713-743-9447
Liz Litsch, Asst. Ticket Manager	713-743-9446
Sara Trexler, Gift Shop	713-743-0794
David Tidmore, Gift Shop	713-743-9444

Video

Grant Green, Coordinator	713-743-9420
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Baseball

Raynor Noble, Head Coach	713-743-9396
Sean Allen, Assistant Coach	713-743-9396
Kirk Blount, Assistant Coach	713-743-9396
Traci Cauley, Dir. of Baseball Operations	713-743-9396

Football

Art Briles, Head Coach	713-743-9388
Dave Aranda, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Randy Clements, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Oscar Giles, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Ron Harris, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Thomas McCaughey, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Phillip Montgomery, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Derrick Odum, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Jason Phillips, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Mike Spradlin, Assistant Coach	713-743-9388
Colin Shillinglaw, Football Operations	713-743-9388
Joe Alcoser, Football Operations	713-743-9388
Pam Wright, Football Secretary	713-743-9388
Stephanie Gomez, Football Operations Secretary	713-743-9388

Golf

Vince Jarret, Head Coach	713-743-9417
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Men's Basketball

Ray McCallum, Head Coach	713-743-9430
John Fitzpatrick, Associate Coach	713-743-9430
Melvin Haralson, Assistant Coach	713-743-9430
Michael Young, Assistant Coach	713-743-9430
David Saltman, Video Coordinator	713-743-9430
Melvin Brandley, Secretary	713-743-9430
Linda Truscott, Office Assistant	713-743-9430

Soccer

Bill Solberg, Head Coach	713-743-9377
Joe Kirt, Assistant Coach	713-743-0831
Dano Holcomb, Assistant Coach	713-743-0830

Softball

Kyla Holas, Head Coach	713-743-9339
Nichole Dickson, Assistant Coach	713-743-9304
Beth McClendon, Assistant Coach	713-743-9368

Swimming & Diving

Mark Taylor, Head Coach	713-743-9373
Jane Figueiredo, Diving Coach	713-743-9372
Jennifer Browne, Assistant Swimming Coach	713-743-9373

Tennis

Jennifer Hyde, Head Coach	713-743-0836
John Severance, Assistant Coach	713-743-4051

Track & Field/ Cross Country

Leroy Burrell, Head Coach	713-743-9467
Kyle Tellez, Assistant Coach	713-743-9469
Theresa Fuqua, Assistant Coach/Head Cross Country Coach	713-743-9376
Will Blackburn, Assistant Coach	713-743-9385

Volleyball

Bill Walton, Head Coach	713-743-9474
Nikki Shade, Assistant Coach	713-743-9474
Phil Nickel, Assistant Coach	713-743-9474

Women's Basketball

Joe Curl, Head Coach	713-743-9460
David Jones, Assistant Coach	713-743-9460
DeJuena Chazer, Assistant Coach	713-743-9460
Todd Buchanan, Assistant Coach	713-743-9460

Olympic Sports Staff

Triney Kadura, Administrative Assistant	713-743-9399
Fatima Salazar, Secretary	713-743-9460