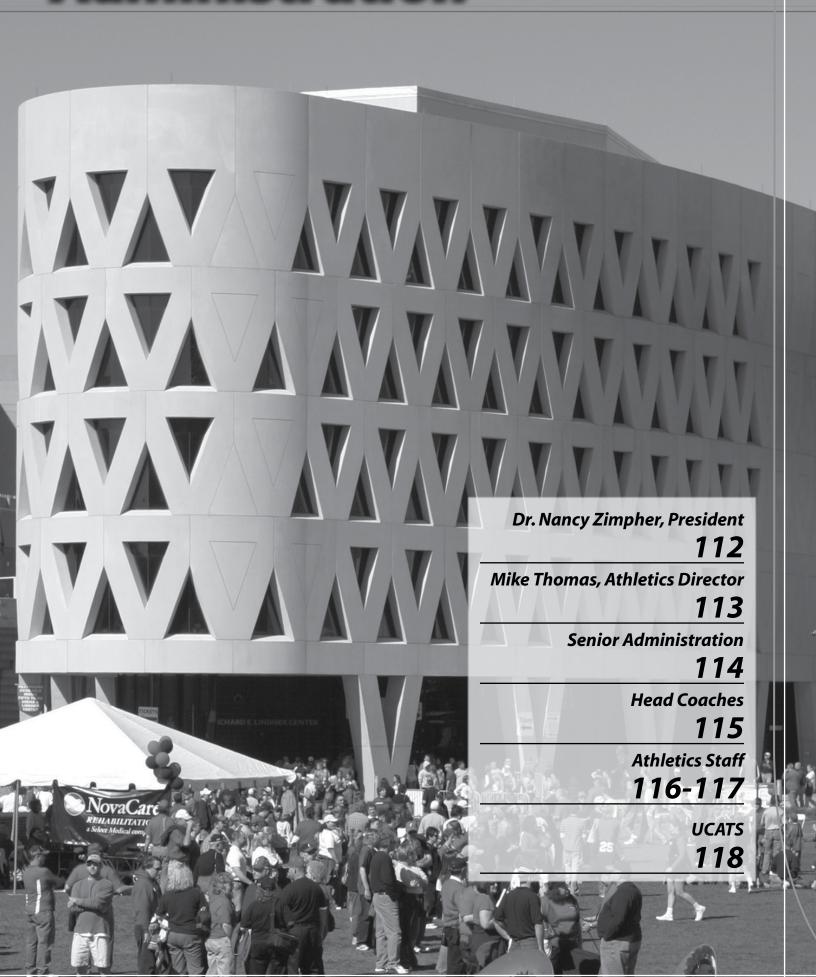
Administration



DR. NANCY ZIMPHER



cince October 1, 2003, Nancy L. Zimpher has Served as the University of Cincinnati's 25th President and its first woman president. At UC, Dr. Zimpher has launched a comprehensive academic planning process that involved a wide spectrum of the university's stakeholders and resulted in the university's strategic vision, UC | 21: Defining the New Urban Research University.

From 1998 to 2003, Dr. Zimpher was the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and held a faculty position in its School of Education. Prior to her appointment in Wisconsin, she served as the Executive Dean of the Professional Colleges and Dean of the College of Education at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. During her career, Dr. Zimpher has worked in various administrative positions and engaged in research and development efforts concerned with improving the preparation of teachers, especially teachers for urban contexts.

Dr. Zimpher is the co-author and co-editor of books on university leadership as well as books on teacher education and urban education. She also has authored and co-authored many monographs, book chapters, and academic journal articles related to academic leadership, school/university partnerships and teacher education, and in many instances her co-author has been her husband, Dr. Kenneth R. Howey, a research professor in education at UC. She often is sought after as a key participant at both national and international conferences, making numerous presentations for groups such as the American Association of

Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), Association of Teacher Educators (ATE), American Educational Research Association (AERA), American Association for Higher Education (AAHE), National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC) and the American Council on Education (ACE).

Currently, she serves as chair of the NASULGC Board of Directors and of a national network of presidents of Urban Serving Universities (USU). She also serves on the boards of ACE and the National Commission on Writing for America's Families, Schools, and Colleges and as the BIG EAST Conference representative to the Division I Board of Directors of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). A past president of a national education reform network, The Holmes Partnership, she has previously served on the Executive Board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, as key investigator in the eightyear Research About Teacher Education (RATE) Study, on the American Council on Education's Leadership and Institutional Effectiveness Commission as chair of NASULGC's Commission on International Programs and as Project Director for a U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Grant.

Dr. Zimpher participates on numerous state, regional, civic and community commissions and boards. Presently, she co-chairs the Ohio Board of Regents' Articulation & Transfer Advisory Council, serves on the board of the Governor's Ohio Partnership for Continued Learning and is a co-founder of a new coalition of higher education constituencies in Ohio called the Higher Education Leadership Coalition. She also serves on the Cincinnati Business Committee and co-chairs its Education Task Force; serves on the boards of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber of Commerce, Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. (3CDC), the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, the United Way of Greater Cincinnati; and chairs the Uptown Consortium, a five-way partnership in neighborhood development adjacent to UC and the consortium partners.

She is the recipient of numerous awards including the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education's Chief Executive Leadership Award (2003); Ohio State University's Alumni Association Professional Achievement Award; the Associa-

tion of Teacher Educators' Distinguished Research Award; the AACTE's Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education; and Virginia Commonwealth University's Distinguished Woman Scholar Award. In 1998, she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, and she has been recognized with the YWCA's Women of Achievement award in Columbus, Milwaukee and Cincinnati.

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MIKE THOMAS



Mike Thomas, a 21-year veteran of college administration, was named as the University of Cincinnati's new athletics director on October 20, 2005. Since taking the reigns of the 18-team, 560 studentathlete department, Thomas has championed studentathlete development and fiscal responsibility, while also authoring a detailed plan for competitive success in the BIG EAST Conference and on the national level.

In May of 2006, Thomas introduced his vision for Bearcat Athletics, aptly titled CATAPULT. Thomas' five-year vision for UC's 18-sport intercollegiate program was launched on the six-month anniversary of his hiring as AD. The plan focuses on three main initiatives: winning BIG EAST team championships, high-level academic achievement, and a comprehensive integration with the Greater Cincinnati Community.

During the 2006 Fall Quarter, the first under the CATAPULT plan, UC's sports teams made major improvements in academics, achieving an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.938. Additionally, 11 of the 17 squads posted team GPAs higher than the general UC student body GPA of 2.965.

A total of 247 student-athletes from UC's 18 sports were named to either the Bearcat or the Topcat Honor Roll. To qualify for the Bearcat Honor Roll, a student-athlete must have earned a grade point average between 3.0 and 3.49 for the quarter, while Topcat honorees must maintain between a 3.5 and a 4.0 GPA.

The Bearcats are stepping up their levels of performance in BIG EAST competition, as four of the six UC fall sports teams improved their finish in the final conference standings over that of Fall 2005. The Bearcat teams collectively posted an improvement of three places. UC's

Thomas at a Glance

Wife: Jenifer

Children: Vince, Joey, Mick, and Meredith **Education:** 1983 Colorado State, B.S.

1986 Western Illinois, M.S.

EXPERIENCE:

1985-86	Marketing and Promotions Associate	lowa
1986-93	Assistant Director of Athletics	Denver
1993-2000	Associate Director of Athletics	Virginia
2000-05	Director of Athletics	Akron
2005-07	Director of Athletics	Cincinnati

men's soccer team became the first Bearcat squad to claim a BIG EAST title, winning the Red Division of the league's regular season race.

"Spreading the Bearcats' message is vital to our continued brand building efforts and our charge to reach out to our alumni, donors, and sports fans and share the excitement of being a Bearcat," says Thomas."I am very proud of the strides that we are making in all areas of UC Athletics. Our achievement is coming as a result of working together as a team. Our student-athletes and staff are setting the bar high and then are reaching their goals."

During his tenure at UC, Thomas has overseen the hiring of four head coaches (men's basketball coach Mick Cronin, women's basketball coach J. Kelley Hall, football coach Brian Kelly, and women's lacrosse coach Lellie Swords), added the sport of women's lacrosse, and introduced a new financial management plan which will trend operations towards a balanced budget for the first time in over a decade.

In March 2007, UC Athletics was recognized in the 2006-07 Diversity in Athletics Award, presented by the Laboratory for Diversity in Sport at Texas A&M University. The award recognizes the NCAA Division I departments of athletics that excel in various areas of diversity. UC was recognized for the graduation of African-American male athletes. UC was one of just 10 programs nationwide to earn the distinction.

Prior to coming to UC, Thomas spent five years as the Director of Athletics at The University of Akron, seven years as associate athletics director at the University of Virginia, an institution known for achieving impressive success both academically and athletically, before bringing that model to Akron. Virginia finished in the top 25 in the Director's Cup in each year of Thomas' tenure there while at the same time was in the Top 10 nationally in student-athlete graduation rates.

Under Thomas' direction, Akron rose from last place to second among Mid-American Conference schools in the Director's Cup annual rankings. Simultaneously, Akron vaulted from last to second place in the MAC

Academic Achievement Awards.

Support services and facilities for academic support for student-athletes were significantly increased, which resulted in a significant improvement in grade point averages and graduation rates of UA student-athletes.

Thomas has coordinated over \$140 million in facility construction and renovation in his career, including \$25 million in capital improvements to Akron's facilities.

Recognized for his administrative acumen by his peers, Thomas presently serves on several national and conference committees, including the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Issues Committee, and the Division I-A Athletics Directors Association Legislative Review Committee.

Most recently, Thomas was named to the NCAA Division I Championships/Competition Cabinet, which is one of two committees that reports to the Division I Management Council. The cabinet has oversight authority of Division I National Championships; sports sciences issues; certification of postseason, all-star and exempted contests; personnel limitations; practice seasons; Olympic sport issues; and student-athlete awards and benefits. In addition, Thomas serves on the Postseason Football Licensing Subcommittee which is the certifying body for football bowl games.

Thomas has also previously served as a member of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Issues Committee and the NCAA Division I Academics/Eligibility/Compliance Cabinet.

In 2005 Thomas received the General Robert R. Neyland Outstanding Athletics Director Award, recognizing his achievements at the University of Akron.

Prior to his experience at Virginia, Thomas spent seven years at the University of Denver as assistant athletics director for internal operations, and one year at the University of Iowa in marketing and promotions.

Thomas, 47, received his B.S. degree in Business Administration from Colorado State University in 1983, and his M.S. degree in Athletics Administration from Western Illinois University in 1986. He and his wife, Jenifer, have four children: Vince, Joseph, Mick, and Meredith.



2007 UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI FOOTBALL SENIOR ADMINISTRATION



Dr. Fritz Russ Faculty Athletics Representative

resident Nancy L. Zimpher appointed Dr. Fritz Russ, Senior Vice Provost and Professor of Marketing, as the faculty athletics representative for the Cincinnati Department of Athletics, effective February 1, 2007. Dr. Russ will also be making a planned transition back to the full time faculty of the College of Business.

As the NCAA indicates, the university's faculty athletics representative (FAR) "works to support a campus environment where athletics is maintained as a vital component of the educational program and where student-athletes constitute an integral part of the student body."

Academic integrity, institutional control of the athletics program, and promotion of student-athlete welfare are a FAR's major focus.

The position's duties include being a liaison between academics and athletics; serving on the University Athletics Committee; assisting in institutional certification processes; participating in compliance reviews; monitoring student-athletes' academic performance and their welfare, assessing and advising on NCAA and conference policies; and attending conference and NCAA meetings.

Russ, who joined the UC faculty in 1989, is the former Dean of the College of Business Administration and former Marketing Department head. Before coming to the University of Cincinnati, he was a chaired professor at the University of North Carolina, where he also served for four years on the university's faculty athletics committee. Russ earned a bachelor's degree from Eckerd College, and a masters and doctorate from Carnegie-Mellon University.



Bob Arkeilpane Deputy Director of Athletics Bob.Arkeilpane@uc.edu



Mike Waddell Senior Associate Director of Athletics **External Relations** Mike.Waddell@uc.edu



Andy Hurley Associate Director of Athletics **Development** Andy.Hurley@uc.edu



Jeanette Shoecraft Associate Director of Athletics Chief Financial Officer Jeanette.Shoecraft@uc.edu



Dan Krone Assistant Director of Athletics Facilities and Operations Dan.Krone@uc.edu



Bill Walker Assistant Director of Athletics Sports Medicine Bill.Walker@uc.edu

HEAD COACHES



Janet Carl Men's and Women's Golf Janet.Carl@uc.edu



Brian Cleary Baseball Brian.Cleary@uc.edu



Mick Cronin Men's Basketball Mick.Cronin@uc.edu



Hylton Dayes Men's Soccer Hylton.Dayes@uc.edu



Tabby Fagan Cheerleaders Tabatha.Fagan@uc.edu



Meridy Glenn Women's Soccer Meridy.Glenn@uc.edu



J. Kelley Hall Women's Basketball James.Hall5@uc.edu



Monty Hopkins M&W Swimming & Diving Monty.Hopkins@uc.edu



Kimberly Jones Tennis Kimberly.Jones@uc.edu



Brian Kelly Football Brian.Kelly@uc.edu



Pam Mork Rowing Pam.Mork@uc.edu



Bill Schnier Men's Track and Field Bill.Schnier@uc.edu



Jim Schnur Women's Track and Field James.G.Schnur@uc.edu



Lisa Spears Dance Team Lisa.Spears@uc.edu



Reed Sunahara Volleyball Reed.Sunahara@uc.edu



Lellie Swords Lacrosse Lellie.Swords@uc.edu



2007 UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI FOOTBALL ATHLETICS STAFF



Jacki Lienesch Director of Academic Services Jacki.Ryden@uc.edu



Michael Davis Academic Advisor Michael.Davis@uc.edu



Megan Watson Academic Advisor Megan.Watson@uc.edu



Ronnell Blizzard Academic Advisor Ronnell.Blizzard@uc.edu



Jennifer Sturm Learning Specialist Jennifer.Sturm@uc.edu



Shelly Dixon Academic Services Secretary Shelly.Dixon@uc.edu



Terren Frenz, PhD. Director of Bands Terren.Frenz@uc.edu



Diane Wade **Business Office Administrator** Diane.Wade@uc.edu



Abby Houser Accountant Abby.Houser@uc.edu



Mary Lu Lodwick **Business Office Coordinator** MaryLu.Lodwick@uc.edu



Patty Speed Business Office Administrator Patty.Speed@uc.edu



Kami Little Administrative Assistant Kami.Little@uc.edu



Nate Baughman Assistant Cheerleading Coach UCcheerleading@yahoo.com



Tim Murphy Assistant Cheerleading Coach UCcheerleading@yahoo.com



Maggie McKinley Dir. of Compliance/Student Services . McKinleymf@uc.edu



Rebecca Hinkel Assistant Director of Compliance Kleinrb@uc.edu



Deborah Gray Financial Aid Coordinator Deborah.Rise@uc.edu



Ann Orme Compliance Secretary Ann.Orme@uc.edu



Meagan Kantor Manager Ticket Operations Meagan.Kantor@uc.edu



Lindsey Delscamp Asst. Manager Ticket Operations Lindsey.Delscamp@uc.edu



Greg Harrell Manager Group Sales/Special Events Greg.Harrell@uc.edu



Eric Nelson Manager Group Sales/Special Events Eric.Nelson@uc.edu



Jeff Smith Assistant Director of Athletics Jeffrey.Smith@uc.edu



Jenny Gardner **Assistant Director of Athletics** Jenny.Gardner@uc.edu



TJ Feuerbach Assistant Director of Development TJ.Feuerbach@uc.edu



Daniel Solow Development Program Associate Daniel.Solow@uc.edu



Bryan Allen Administrative Coordinator Bryan.Allen@uc.edu



Beth Hussey Assistant to the Director Beth.Hussey@uc.edu



Ron Lehman Manager for Olympic Sports Ron.Lehman@uc.edu



Jason Buken Asst. Manager for Olympic Sports Jason. Buken@uc.edu



Linda Neal Assistant Manager Linda.Neal@uc.edu



Scott Wilhoit
Administrative Coordinator
Scott.Wilhoit@uc.edu



John Mason Assistant VP/General Manager Jmason@ispsports.com



Brian Florko Assistant General Manager Bflorko@ispsports.com



Andrew Bond Account Executive Abond@ispsports.com



Joann Mantovani Assistant Athletics Director Joann.Mantovani@uc.edu



Leslie Wenert Assistant Director Leslie.Wenert@uc.edu



JeMaul Groce Manager of Special Events Jemaul.Groce@uc.edu



Michael Harris Assistant Athletics Director Michael.Harris@uc.edu



Kelby Siler Associate Director Kelby.Siler@uc.edu



Lara Thornton Associate Director Lara.Thornton@uc.edu



Shawn Sell Assistant Director Shawn.Sell@uc.edu



Jeremy Martin Assistant Director Jeremy.Martin@uc.edu



Tommy Gelehrter Director of New Media Tommy.Gelehrter@uc.edu



David Fluker Athletics Trainer David.Fluker@uc.edu



Teresa Gethins Athletics Trainer Teresa.Gethins@uc.edu



Dave Andrews Assistant Coach David.Andrews@uc.edu



Curtis Bostic Assistant Coach Curtis.Bostic@uc.edu



Paul Ivkovich Assistant Coach Paul.Ivkovich@uc.edu



Bill Frigge Director of Technology Bill.Frigge@uc.edu





UCATS Mission

To provide financial support to fund student-athletes scholarships and special needs of the department of athletics; while fostering camaraderie, sportsmanship, and school spirit among students, faculty & staff, alumni and friends of the University of Cincinnati athletic programs.

UCATS History

S ince 1979 UCATS has been the framework for supporting the efforts of Bearcats' student-athletes. As the principal fundraising arm of athletics, UCATS provides a way for individuals to help talented young people receive a quality education while ensuring UC's tradition of both academic and athletic excellence.

UCATS donors are a key part of the UC athletics community and are essential to the success of Bearcats' athletics. Their annual contributions provide vital financial support that helps offset the educational expenses of over 500 Bearcats student-athletes, enabling them to succeed in the classroom, on the field, and in the community.

The UC Department of Athletics is responsible for funding all of the scholarship needs for Bearcats student-athletes. The department's reliance on private support increases each year with the continuous rise of tuition costs and scholarship fees.

UCATS is dedicated to the continued improvement and development of the Bearcats' Athletics program and the betterment of its student-athletes. Its donors are friends, alumni and advocates of the University who recognize the value of the intercollegiate athletic experience at the University of Cincinnati.



UCATS

2751 O'Varsity Way Room 470 Richard E. Lindner Center Cincinnati, OH 45221-0021

(513) 556-4884 (877) 55-UCATS

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