

Student and Academic Services Research Group
Research/Assessment Proposal Form

Your Name: Patty Weldon

Department: Athletics

Date submitted: October 26, 2007

1. Purpose and goals of the study: The Cornell Department of Athletics plans to conduct a study of former members of the Cornell Women's Athletic Association [CWAA]. The purpose of the study is to learn about the nature and extent of individual alumna's participation in the CWAA. Study results will be used to construct a more complete historical perspective of this important association, and to identify individual women who made significant contributions to the program through their participation.

Importance of research to the University, SAS, your Department: The CWAA played a critical role in providing opportunities for women to participate in athletics at Cornell. Through this study, the Department of Athletics hopes to establish a relationship with former CWAA members. Study results will be used to inform a variety of institutional publications and projects, including organizing an event to honor alumnae who played a substantial role in advancing organized athletics for women at Cornell.

2. Outline of research design

a) Target population and sampling frame (sample size and method of selecting)

The target population would consist of former CWAA members. The method of selection would be all former CWAA members listed in the current Athletics Development database. Currently there are approximately 1750 women in the database.

b) Data collection method, copies of instrumentation (e.g., survey, interview protocol—please attach) and estimated time required to participate

See Attached Survey.

c) Use of incentives: No incentives will be used.

d) Data security and protection of confidentiality of personally identifiable information (How will you ensure confidentiality? How/where will you store data?): All collected data will be stored in the sports information archives. The archives are stored to a locked room in the sublevel of Teagle Hall. Athletic Compliance and business records are also stored in this area.

3. Proposed timing of study (start and end dates of data collection, dates of proposed communications with subjects): We would like to launch the study in early January of 2008.

- January 8th, mail survey to subjects.
- January 30nd, mail out follow-up reminder. This reminder will be sent to anyone who has not responded to the survey.
- February 13th, do a second mailing of the survey to subjects who have not responded.

- March 14th, close survey.

4. Plan for analyzing and distributing results: All results will be reviewed and analyzed by Patty Weldon, Coordinator of Alumni Projects for Women's Athletics and distributed to the senior administration of the department of athletics. The results will be one tool used to identify former WAA members who made significant contributions to the program via participation. These women will be recognized and honored at an event to be held at a later date.

Dear Cornell Alumna:

The Cornell Women's Athletic Association (CWAA) played a critical role in providing opportunities for women to participate in athletics at Cornell. The Cornell Department of Athletics wants to learn more about this important chapter in our history. No-one is in a better position than former CWAA members, such as you, to help us build a more complete historical perspective of this association.

We invite you to complete a short survey concerning your CWAA experiences. The enclosed survey asks about the specific activities you participated in, as well as any memorable events or experiences you would like to share. The information collected from this survey will be used to inform a variety of institutional publications and projects, including the recognition of individuals who played a substantial role in advancing organized athletics for women at Cornell.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete and may be returned to us, at your earliest convenience, in the stamped, self-addressed envelope provided. Your recollections of your CWAA involvement will be invaluable as we seek to better understand and celebrate the achievements of this remarkable association and its individual members.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Patty A. Weldon, Coordinator of Alumni Projects for Women's Athletics (phone) 607-254-5361 or email paw32@cornell.edu.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your memories with us.

Sincerely,

Patty A. Weldon
Coordinator of Alumni Projects for Women's Athletics
Cornell University

Survey of Former CWAA Members
Cornell University Department of Athletics

1. Did you participate in the CWAA?

- Yes
- No (If not, do not continue with this survey. Please return it so that we may update our records.)

2. How many years were you involved in the CWAA?

- One
- Two
- Three
- Four or more

3. Please list the activities or sports that you participated in while a member of CWAA

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____

4. Were there instructors or coaches for the sports or activity programs you participated in?

- No
- Yes, for all of them.
- Yes, for some of them. If so, please list which of the sports or activity programs you participated in had instructors or coaches:
 - i) _____
 - ii) _____
 - iii) _____
 - iv) _____

5. If you were on a team, did you compete against other colleges or universities?

- Yes
- No
- Was not on a team

6. How did you view your participation in the CWAA? (mark all that apply):

- Leisure
- Fitness
- Competitive
- Other, please describe: _____

7. How did you become involved in the CWAA? (Mark all that apply)

- A classmate
- An instructor
- An announcement
- Sought out some type of activity on my own
- Other, please describe: _____

8. How would you rate the overall quality of your experiences in the CWAA?

- Very positive
- Somewhat positive
- Both positive and negative aspects
- Somewhat negative
- Very negative

9. If you are willing, please use the space below to describe one of the most interesting or memorable experiences you had through your involvement in the CWAA:

10. If you are willing to be contacted to provide more information about your CWAA experiences, please provide your preferred contact information below:

Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Mail: _____

Thank you for taking part in this survey!