

GOLDEN HURRICANE

2010-2011 · ANNUAL REPORT



Message from the **Athletic Director**



Dear Golden **Hurricane Club** Members,

Once again, our studentathletes, coaches and teams excelled in every way — on the fields of

play, in the classroom, and in the community. I am pleased to present to you our annual report, which highlights the many outstanding achievements of the past year.

Without question, it was a successful year in competition, with TU teams capturing six Conference USA championships during 2010-11. This now brings our total number of team championships, since becoming a C-USA member in 2005, to a league-best 34. In addition, fourteen teams were represented in the post-season with eight student-athletes earning a total of nine All-America honors.

This success on the field is matched only by the outstanding accomplishments in the classroom. Nine Golden Hurricane student-athletes were named to their sports' All-Academic teams in 2010-11, while seven student-athletes were named to the Academic All-District VI team. The year was also highlighted by senior women's soccer player Mackenzie Ayer being selected as the recipient of the prestigious Jim Castaneda Postgraduate Scholarship Award by Conference USA.

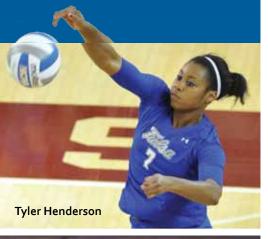
The accomplishments highlighted within this annual report not only represent the effort and hard work of our student-athletes and coaches, but also the tremendous support and commitment of our loyal friends and fans. You have played an integral role in our success, and for that we are truly grateful.

Thank you for your support of TU Athletics. I look forward to celebrating even more achievements with you in the coming year.

Go TU!

Butta Cif

Bubba Cunningham Director of Athletics









2010–2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Athletic Department Mission Statement • Enhance the educational experience of all University of Tulsa students.

ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

What a year for Golden Hurricane Athletics! The year began in August with a 4-o women's soccer victory over Northwestern State and ended in June with all six spring sports competing in national championship events, as the men's tennis team advanced to the NCAA "Sweet 16" and the softball team was one win away from reaching the NCAA "Super" Regional. Tulsa added to its' already league-leading Conference USA championships with six league titles and one shared Western Division crown in football, and now has won 34 C-USA championships in six years as a league member. In addition, TU studentathletes earned nine All-America honors and 99 All-Conference USA selections — to name just a few of the accomplishments. It's been an incredible year of tremendous team performances and outstanding individual efforts. We hope you've enjoyed these memorable moments and had an opportunity to witness some of them in person. Now, join us in taking a look back at 2010-11.

MEN'S SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS

- The men's soccer team finished the season with a 12-7-2 record and advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth consecutive year, and seventh time in school history, after earning a school-best number 2 national ranking for three straight weeks during
- TU placed four men's soccer players on NSCAA All-Midwest Region teams. Seniors Justin Chavez and Ashley McInnes, and junior Austin Neil picked up first team accolades, while senior Chris Taylor was named to the second team and senior Hunter Christiansen was a third team honoree.

WOMEN'S SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS

- Jordan O'Brien was voted by the league coaches as the Conference USA Women's Soccer Freshman of the Year. O'Brien was also named to the Conference USA All-Freshman Team along with teammate Claire Nicholson.
- Both Jordan O'Brien and Claire Nicholson were selected to the All-Conference USA squad. O'Brien received first team honors, while Nicholson garnered third team accolades.

MEN'S TENNIS HIGHLIGHTS

- The men's tennis team had a phenomenal year, winning its fifth Conference USA crown and advancing to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history. To make it to the "Sweet 16," the Golden Hurricane defeated No. 20 Oklahoma and No. 13 Texas on back-to-back days.
- The men's tennis team dominated the 2011 Conference USA postseason awards as the Golden Hurricane nearly swept the specialty awards and had four student-athletes named to the All-Conference USA singles first team. Junior **Ashley Watling**, sophomores Clifford Marsland and Marcelo Arevalo, and freshman Japie De Klerk all earned first-team singles honors. Watling and Marsland were also named to the all-conference doubles first team, and Arevalo and De Klerk were named to the all-conference doubles second team. Arevalo was recognized as the league's player of the year and De Klerk was named as conference freshman of the
- Head men's tennis coach, Vince Westbrook was named as the Conference USA Coach of the Year for the fifth time after guiding TU to a 21-8 record, a fifth conference championship and its sixth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

WOMEN'S TENNIS HIGHLIGHTS

- The women's tennis squad ended the 2011 campaign ranked 21st in the nation — the highest year-end ranking in school history. The TU women rackedup a 26-3 record and for the fourth time in five seasons, walked away with the Conference USA crown, and for the fifth-straight season, advanced to the NCAA Tournament.
- The Golden Hurricane led the league in all-conference selections with six student-athletes being named to All-C-USA teams. Senior Alexandra Kichoutkin made the singles first team for the fourth-straight year, and she and fellow senior Jo-Anne Karaitiana were named to the doubles third team. Junior Anastasia Erofeeva was named to the singles second team and the doubles third team. Junior Ewa Szatkowska was named to the singles third team and the doubles third team while sophomore Michelle Farley and freshman Sam Vickers were both named to the singles second team.
- All-conference selection, Sam Vickers, was named the Conference USA Freshman of the Year and Dean Orford, who is in his sixth year as head women's tennis coach at TU, was named the ITA Central Region Coach of the Year and the Conference USA Coach of the Year.

MEN'S BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Skelly Field at H.A. Chapman Stadium

- The Golden Hurricane men's basketball team finished the season with a 19-13 record and a second-place finish in Conference USA with an 11-5 league mark. The team was led by the league's leading scorer, Justin Hurtt, who averaged 20.3 points per game. Hurtt was named to the All-Conference USA first team in addition to being selected to the 2011 U.S. Basketball Writers Association All-District VI Team.
- Scottie Haralson was named as the Conference USA Newcomer of the Year and rookie Jordan Clarkson was named to



WOMEN'S GOLF HIGHLIGHTS

- The women's golf team placed second at the 2011 Conference USA Championships and had three golfers earn all-C-USA honors. Sophomore Kristina Merkle was named to the C-USA first team for the second consecutive season, while juniors Marita Engzelius and Kamryn Ruffin earned second - and third-team honors,
- respectively. For the 32nd time in program history, the Golden Hurricane women's golfers made an appearance in the national tournament.

SOFTBALL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Tulsa softball team finished the season ranked No. 24 in the nation, its highest ranking in program history, after compiling a 46-15 record and claiming a share of the Conference USA regular season crown. TU advanced to the NCAA Norman Regional final, coming within one victory of advancing to the NCAA "Super" Regional.
- Head coach John Bargfeldt was named Conference USA Coach of the Year and pitching sensation Aimee Creger was named C-USA Freshman of the Year, as the Golden Hurricane placed a schoolrecord seven players on all-Conference USA teams. Creger was joined on the all-C-USA first team by sophomores Samantha Cobb, Caitlin Everett and Lacey Middlebrooks, while senior Kelly Chapman and freshmen Jill Barrett and **Shelby Blanton** garnered second team honors. Creger was also selected to the 2011 Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division I All-America third team.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

 TU got some outstanding play from two key individuals. Seniors Tatum Beer and Kara Vaughan concluded their collegiate careers ranking among the best in the Tulsa record books. Beer is third with 142 three-pointers, fourth with 170 steals and sixth with 242 assists, while Vaughan ranks sixth with 103 three pointers.

TRACK & FIELD HIGHLIGHTS

 Both the men's and women's teams finished second at the Conference USA Indoor Championships. The men tied the school record for its best finish and this year's finish was the best finish for the women in school history. During the outdoor season, the men's team finished third and the women's team placed eighth at the conference meet.

- Tulsa won a combined twelve individual conference titles during the indoor and outdoor seasons, and set twelve new school records.
- Sophomore Chris O'Hare claimed All-America honors at both the Indoor and Outdoor NCAA Championships. O'Hare finished second in the mile at the indoor championships, the highest finish in school history, and 11th in the National Finals at the outdoor championships.
- Senior Paula Whiting won four conference crowns on the year, two during the indoor season (mile and 3,000-meter) and two during the outdoor season (1,500-meter and 5,000-meter). She also earned All-America honors at the NCAA Outdoor Championships with a 13th-place finish in the 5,000-meter.

ROWING HIGHLIGHTS

- Tulsa's Varsity 4+ captured a bronze medal at the Conference USA Rowing Championships, the Golden Hurricane's first league medal.
- Senior **Heather Brooks** was the lone TU women's rower selected to the all-Conference USA team. Brooks has participated in more than 35 regattas in her four seasons at TU.
- At the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association (SIRA) Championships in April, TU medaled all five boats, including one gold, three silvers and one bronze. TU tied Purdue for the women's points trophy, marking the second consecutive year the Golden Hurricane has won the team title.
- For the first time in program history, the team traveled to Boston, Massachusetts to race against Harvard. TU's Varsity 4+ battled harsh weather conditions to top both Harvard's "A" and "B" boats.
- Tulsa's Lightweight 4+ finished sixth at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association (IRA) National Championship. The Golden Hurricane crew featured seniors Heather Brooks and Carla Horne, junior Abigail Gorman, and sophomores Molly Selig and Puja Sztorc.

VOLLEYBALL HIGHLIGHTS

- The volleyball team dominated the competition this year as they posted a school-best 31-3 record, including a perfect 20-0 league mark setting a Conference USA record for most league wins. TU claimed the Conference USA title and advanced to the NCAA Tournament for only the second time in school history, advancing to the second round with a victory over #13-seed Louisiana State. The TU ladies finished the season ranked 20th in the nation.
- For the second consecutive year, sophomore Tyler Henderson was named an AVCA All-American, earning second team accolades. She was also named as the C-USA Player of the Year. Teammate and fellow sophomore, Jordan Clampitt was selected as the Conference USA Setter of the Year, while earning AVCA honorable mention • Between the men and women, TU had All-America honors.

FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Tulsa football team finished the 2010 season with a 10-3 record and ranked 24th in the final Associated Press poll — the highest national finish since the 1991 season.
- In one of the most memorable wins in school history, TU traveled to South Bend, Indiana and defeated Notre Dame 28-27 in front of a sell-out crowd at Notre Dame Stadium. For more information on this historic victory, see "TU Defeats the Fighting Irish."
- Football standout **Damaris Johnson** led the nation for the second straight year in all-purpose yards per game average (224.4 yards). In only his junior season, Johnson became the NCAA all-time record-holder for all-purpose yardage (7,796 yards) and kickoff return yards (3,417 yards). He earned second-team Associated Press All-America honors and was selected as the Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Year.
- Junior quarterback G.J. Kinne was named Conference USA Offensive Player of the Year after leading the Hurricane to the No. 1 ranking in C-USA in rushing offense, scoring offense and total offense.
- Linebacker Shawn Jackson and safety Marco Nelson were named Freshman All-Americans in addition to earning a spot on the Conference USA All-Freshman Team.

MEN'S GOLF HIGHLIGHTS

- The TU men's golf team finished in third place at the Conference USA Championships and was selected to the NCAA Regional field for the 21st time in school history.
- Sophomore Chris Worrell was named second-team all-Conference USA, while teammate Johannes Veerman earned C-USA all-freshman team honors.

CROSS COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- The University of Tulsa men's and women's cross country teams swept the Conference USA Championships by claiming both the men's and women's crowns, which was just the third time in league history that one university has captured both titles. The 2010 championships marked the men's second league title in three years, and the first conference crown for the TU women.
- fifteen student-athletes named to the all-conference cross country teams. On the women's side, Paula Whiting, Jacqueline Fairchild, Katie Wright and Melanie Cleland all earned all-C-USA first team honors. Jaclyn Rollins was named to the all-conference second team, and Ashley Scott earned third team all-Conference USA accolades. Katie Wright was also named as the C-USA Outstanding Senior. For the men, Justin Duncan, Chris O'Hare and Carl Stones were all named to the all-C-USA first team. Teammates Tom Marshall, Geraint Davies, Mitch Johnson and Sam Masters earned second team laurels, and Paulo Pinheiro and Daniel LePage were named to the all-conference third team. Head coach Steve Gulley was tabbed as the conference coach of the year on both the men's and women's side.
- The women's cross country team made school history by becoming the first TU women's team to ever compete at the NCAA Cross Country National Championships after receiving an at-large bid into the field. They finished in 30thplace and were paced by senior Melanie Cleland who finished in 116thplace with a time of 21:29.3.

Kristina Merkle



SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Service is a key component to the complete student-athlete experience at The University of Tulsa. During 2010-11, TU varsity teams contributed almost 2,000 hours of community service to a variety of organizations and causes throughout the Tulsa area, including:

- Big Brothers and Big Sisters
- Jackson Elementary School
- Tulsa Youth Ranch
- 9/11- National Day of Service
- Happy Hands
- Habitat for Humanity
- Kendall Whittier Elementary School
- Petsmart
- Hawthorne Elementary School
- Pet Adoption League
- Over 130 TU student-athletes participated in Lift Up America, a regional effort to provide food and supplies to area food banks and shelters.
- Senior women's soccer player Brandi Neilson and sophomore women's rower Megan Melott were named recipients of the Conference USA Spirit of Service Award, which recognizes the community service efforts of the league's studentathletes, based upon significant community service, good academic standing and participation in their sport. Melott has represented the women's rowing team in many community outreach activities, while Neilson has given much of her time to the Tulsa area schools, serving as a mentor to school-age youth.
- The TU Spirit Squad was recognized with the Outstanding Team Community Service Award at the annual Golden Cane Awards Dinner for their involvement in various community service activities throughout the year.

- Celia Clinton Elementary School
- Tulsa Public Schools First Serve Program
- Aim High Academy
- Lift Up America



Zach Nulisch

ACADEMICS

Throughout the year, student-athletes at The University of Tulsa compete and excel at the highest levels against some of the nation's elite on the fields of competition. However, in their pursuit of excellence in intercollegiate athletics, they also meet head-on the challenging academic rigors that come with being a student at TU.

During the 2010-11 year, a total of 187 TU student-athletes were named to the Conference USA Commissioner's Honor Roll for having a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better. In addition, a league-best 57 student-athletes were recognized as Conference USA Academic Medalists, for having over a 3.75 cumulative GPA. These are just some of the outstanding academic achievements turned in by TU student-athletes this past school year.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS:

- Thirteen student-athletes were named to the President's List for having a perfect 4.0 grade point average, while an additional 70 student-athletes were named to the Dean's List for having a GPA of 3.5 or better.
- Women's soccer player Mackenzie Ayer was selected by Conference USA as one of twelve recipients of the prestigious Jim Castaneda Postgraduate Scholarship Award. Ayer graduated in 2011 with a double major in communications and psychology and has been accepted into TU's Industrial/Organizational Psychology master's program.
- For the 2010-11 academic year, seven student-athletes were named to the Capital One Academic All-District VI team for their respective sports (Zach Nulisch, Men's Soccer; Chris Taylor, Men's Soccer; Ashley McInnes, Men's Soccer; Lexis Learmouth, Women's Soccer; Bonnie Davidson, Women's Tennis; Paula Whiting, Women's Track & Field; and Kamryn
- Nine Golden Hurricane student-athletes were named to Conference USA All-Academic squads in 2010-11 (Matt Boullt, Men's Soccer; Maddie Jones, Women's Soccer; G.J. Kinne, Football; Clifford Marsland, Men's Tennis; Kamryn Ruffin, Women's Golf; Carl Stones, Men's Cross Country and Men's Track & Field; Paula Whiting, Women's Cross Country and Women's Track & Field; Katie Wright, Women's Cross Country; and Chris Worrell, Men's Golf).



Golden Cane Awards

At the annual Golden Cane Awards Dinner, more than 400 Golden Hurricane student-athletes, team managers and trainers were recognized for their achievements on the field and in the classroom; in addition for their service to the community during the 2010-2011 school year. This year marked the 16th anniversary for the year-end gala, which has become a signature event for TU Athletics, thanks to the vision and work of members of the TU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

TU Defeats the Fighting Irish

An interception in the end zone by senior **John Flanders** with 36 seconds remaining on the clock cemented a 28-27 Golden Hurricane victory over Notre Dame at historic Notre Dame Stadium. In what will go down in TU lore as one of the biggest wins in school history, the Hurricane traveled into South Bend,



Indiana and claimed TU's first win over a Bowl Championship Series (BCS) opponent since 1998 when the Hurricane defeated Oklahoma State at

The win over the Fighting Irish provided the spark the Golden Hurricane needed for the rest of the season, as TU would not taste defeat again during the 2010 campaign, which was capped off with a win over #24-ranked Hawaii in the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl. TU finished the season ranked number 24 in the nation with a 10-3 record, the third 10-plus win season in the past four years.

TU Welcomes New Head Coaches

This past year, The University of Tulsa introduced three new head coaches in the sports of football, volleyball and women's basketball.



TU assistant coach and former Golden Hurricane quarterback Bill Blankenship was named as the 28th head football coach in school history on January 24, 2011. Blankenship had just completed his fourth season on the football coaching staff in 2010. In his four seasons with the Golden

Hurricane, he had been a part of 36 victories, two straight Conference USA West Division titles (2007, 2008), one shared C-USA Western Division crown (2010), two appearances in the C-USA Championship Game (2007, 2008), two GMAC Bowl Championships (2008, 2009) and the 2010 Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl Championship. Prior to his coaching stint at TU, he spent 14 years as the head football coach and athletic director at Union High School, where he guided his team to Oklahoma Class 6A state titles in 2002, 2004



On February 10, 2011, Steven McRoberts was appointed as TU's new head volleyball coach. McRoberts brought 14 years of head coaching experience to the Golden Hurricane program, where he has compiled a career record of 397-140, posted 20-plus-win seasons 13 times, had six seasons

with 30-plus wins and earned conference coach of the year honors nine times. McRoberts came to TU from the University of Central Arkansas where he served as head coach for the past seven years, winning back-to-back Southland Conference regular season titles.



Matilda Mossman was appointed as the head women's basketball coach on March 22, 2011. Mossman had spent the previous nine years as the head girls basketball coach at Norman High School, where her teams won eight straight regional championships and advanced

to the state semifinals six times, including a state championship in 2005. However, Mossman is no stranger to the college game, where she has held head coaching stints at both the University of Arkansas and Kansas State University. In eight years as a collegiate head coach, Mossman registered a 150-95 overall record and was tabbed as the Big Eight Conference Coach of the Year in 1987 while coaching at Kansas State.

Athletic Honor Roll

ALL-CONFERENCE USA SELECTIONS

Men's Soccer

Ashley McInnnes (First Team) Justin Chavez (First Team) Hunter Christiansen (First Team) Austin Neil (Third Team) Chris Taylor (Third Team)

Volleyball

Jordan Clampitt (First Team) **Tyler Henderson** (First Team) Jessica Adams (Second Team) Diana Silva (Second Team) Hannah Stout (Second Team)

Football

G.J. Kinne (First Team) Damaris Johnson

(First Team-Punt Returner; Second Team-Kick Returner & Wide Receiver)

Marco Nelson (First Team) Clint Anderson (Second Team) Michael Such (Second Team) Tanner Antle (Honorable Mention) Charles Clay (Honorable Mention) Cory Dorris (Honorable Mention) John Flanders (Honorable Mention) **Tyler Holmes** (Honorable Mention) Shawn Jackson (Honorable Mention) **Dexter McCoil** (Honorable Mention) Odrick Ray (Honorable Mention)

Tyrunn Wlaker (Honorable Mention)

Women's Soccer

Jordan O'Brien (First Team) Claire Nicholson (Third Team)

Men's Tennis

Marcelo Arevalo

(First Team-Singles; Second Team-Doubles) Japie De Klerk

(First Team-Singles; Second Team-Doubles)

Clifford Marsland (First Team-Singles & Doubles)

(First Team-Singles & Doubles)

Women's Tennis

Ashley Watling

Alexandra Kichoutkin (First Team-Singles; Third Team-Doubles)

Jo-Anne Karaitiana (Third Team Doubles)

Anastasia Erofeeva (Second Team-Singles;

Third Team-Doubles) Ewa Szatkowska

(Third Team-Singles;

Third Team-Doubles) Michelle Farley (Second Team-Singles)

Sam Vickers (Second Team-Singles)

Men's Basketball

Justin Hurtt (First Team)

Men's Golf

Chris Worrell (Second Team)

Melanie Cleland (First Team) Jacqueline Fairchild (First Team) Paula Whiting (First Team) Katie Wright (First Team) Jaclyn Rollins (Second Team) Ashley Scott (Third Team)

Men's Cross Country Justin Duncan (First Team)

Chris O'Hare (First Team) Carl Stones (First Team) **Geraint Davies** (Second Team) Mitch Johnson (Second Team) Tom Marshall (Second Team) Sam Masters (Second Team) **Daniel LePage** (Third Team) Paulo Pinheiro (Third Team)

Softball Samantha Cobb (First Team)

Aimee Creger (First Team) Caitlin Everett (First Team) Lacey Middlebrooks (First Team) Jill Barrett (Second Team) Shelby Blanton (Second Team) Kelly Chapman (Second Team)

Women's Rowing Heather Brooks (First Team)

Women's Golf Kristina Merkle (First Team)

Marita Engzelius (Second Team) Kamryn Ruffin (Third Team)

Men's Indoor Track & Field Julian Frazier (First Team-Distance Medley; Second Team-4x400 Meter Relay)

Tom Marshall (First Team-3,000 Meter Run; Distance Medley) Bill Martin (First Team-Distance Medley)

Chris O'Hare (First Team-800 Meter Run; Mile Run) Danny Thater (First Team-Distance Medlev)

Justin Duncan (Second Team-Mile Run)

David Fritter (Second Team-4x400 Meter Relay) Alex Sementelli (Second Team-

4x400 Meter Relay) Justin Smith (Second Team-4x400 Meter Relay)

Carl Stones (Second Team-Meter Run; Third Team-3,000 Meter Run) Dennis Hodapp (Third Team-

5.000 Meter Run)

Men's Outdoor Track & Field Chris O'Hare (First Team-800 Meter Run; 1,500 Meter Run)

Carl Stones (First Team-3,000 Meter Steeplechase) Geraint Davies (Second Team-

5,000 Meter Run; Third Team-10,000 Meter Run) Justin Duncan (Second Tam-

800 Meter Run; 1,500 Meter Run) Paulo Pinheiro (Second Team-10,000 Meter Run)

Mitch Johnson (Third Team-5,000 Meter Run) Alex Sementelli

(Third Team-Decathlon) **Brian Tabb** (Third Team-800 Meter Run)

Women's Indoor Track & Field Brianna Steel

(First Team-Pentathlon) Paula Whiting (First Team-Mile Run; 3,000 Meter Run)

Melanie Cleland (Second Team-Distance Medley) Melanie Hughes

(Second Team-Distance Medley) Sarah Macpherson (Second Team-Distance Medley)

Caroline Shuster (Second Team-Distance Medley; Third Team-4x400 Meter Relay)

Katherine Camp (Third Team-4x400 Meter Relay) Lenora Guion-Firmin (Third Team-4x400 Meter Relay)

Jennifer Mace (Third Team-400 Meter Run; 4x400 Meter Relay)

Women's Outdoor Track & Field

Paula Whiting (First Team-1,500 Meter Run; 5,000 Meter Run)

ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS

Chris O'Hare, Men's Track & Field (First Team-Indoor; Second Team-Outdoor)

Damaris Johnson, Football (AP, Second Team) **Tyler Henderson,** Volleyball

(AVCA, Second Team) Aimee Creger, Softball (NFCA, Third Team) Shawn Jackson, Football

(Phil Steele's Freshman All-American) Jordan Clampitt, Volleyball

(AVCA, Honorable Mention) Marco Nelson, Football

(Football Writers Association of America Freshman All-American: Phil Steele's Freshman All-American)

Paula Whiting, Women's Track & Field



