



SEPTEMBER 2020

## FROM THE CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIR

### WE'VE BEEN WINNING A LOT LATELY, BUT IT WAS NO ACCIDENT - IT WAS BY DESIGN!

When I recently sat down to talk with Earl Hilton, A&T's athletics director, I asked him what has been the driving force behind that improvement. He said, "We had a plan that had three primary components: hire **great coaches**, recruit talented **student-athletes** and win championships, and improve **facilities**."

Your support and contributions have helped to ensure we have steadfastly executed against the plan. Winning championships has become routine, student-athletes are performing in the classroom, financial support is rising (**annual donor contributions topped \$1 million for the first time last year**) and university enrollment and applications have gone up every year. That's another benefit of a winning athletics program – prospective students recognize and want to be a part of a winning institution.

We have done a lot, but there is more to be done, specifically as it relates to upgrading our facilities, and we need your ongoing support. Improving our facilities is essential to the recruitment and retention of our great coaches and top-tier athletes. It all goes hand in hand.



### AGGIE ATHLETICS FACTS AND FIGURES

- 1 Over the past **five** years, A&T became the dominant force in Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference athletics by earning more collective championships than any other university - **29** - and winning **half** or nearly half of the total championships in **2017**, **2018** and on pace to do it again in **2019** but for COVID-19.
- 2 We won **four out of five** Celebration Bowls to become the HBCU national champs in football.
- 3 Aggie athletics turned out **68** All Americans across all sports.
- 4 A&T won conference championships in football, women's basketball, baseball, men's and women's track and field, bowling and men's cross country - again, **29** in all since 2015.
- 5 Aggies Tarik Cohen, Brandon Parker, Darryl Johnson, Tony McRae, Chris Belcher, Kayla White, Leon Hunter, Ronald Jackson and Ibrahim Sylla all turned pro in the past five years.

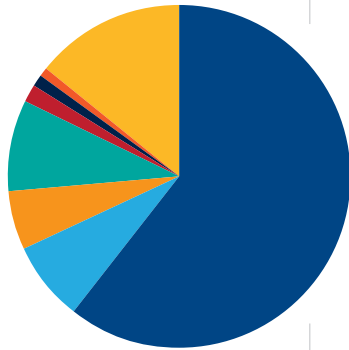
- 6 This year, A&T has a total of **260** student-athletes with **195** on full-ride scholarships.
- 7 Our student-athletes perform on the field and in the classroom. Last year, **37** had GPAs of **3.75 or higher**, **72** student-athletes had GPAs between **3.25 and 3.74** and **nine** out of **13** teams had GPAs of **3.0** or better.
- 8 On average, student-athletes spend **38 to 40** hours per week, including travel, participating in their sport during their athletic season. That is nearly a full-time job on top of studying, which is their primary job. Our student-athletes are phenomenal!
- 9 The graduation rate for our student-athletes is **79%**.





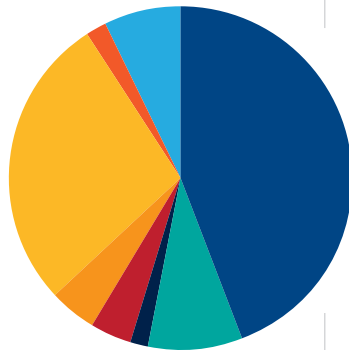
## REVENUE

Student Fees	\$8.7
University Support	2.0
Ticket Sales	1.2
NCAA/MEAC	1.1
Game Guarantees	.8
AAF	.25
Vending	.15
Sponsorships	.15



## EXPENSES

Salaries/Benefits	\$6.4
Scholarships/Books	4.0
Travel	1.3
Other	1.04
Current Services	.65
Equipment/Uniforms	.58
Game Expenses	.27
Recruiting	.23



**TOTAL: \$14.4M**

- 10 A&T's athletics budget is roughly **\$14 million** annually. Remember, state funds cannot be used to support athletics, so that money comes from student fees, alumni, friends and corporations.
- 11 In 2019, we raised **\$1 million** from alumni and friends for the first time in our history. **THANK YOU!**
- 12 In 2019 **1,133** alumni (**2%**) gave to Aggie athletics.
- 13 Our estimates suggest we will need **\$18 million to \$20 million per year** by **2025** to ensure we run the **Big South** and can compete with any FCS school in the country.
- 14 Because of COVID-19, all fall sports have been canceled for 2020 and with it the Greatest Homecoming on Earth. This year, would you consider donating whatever amount you were going to spend on homecoming toward Aggie athletics? This would allow us to take a giant step forward across all of our athletics programs. Our student-athletes deserve it. I will lead by example.

**WE'VE BEEN WINNING A LOT LATELY. LET'S KEEP ON WINNING.**

CHANCELLOR MARTIN SAYS, "EXCELLENCE IS NOT CHEAP." HE'S RIGHT. WE ARE DOING GREAT THINGS WITH A LITTLE. IMAGINE WHAT WE WILL DO WITH MORE! **WHATEVER YOU WERE GOING TO SPEND ON HOMECOMING IN 2020, DONATE THAT AMOUNT TO AGGIE ATHLETICS THIS YEAR. I'M ASKING ALL AGGIES TO BE ALL IN. WHAT ABOUT YOU?**

Sincerely,  
Willie A. Deese '77

P.S. - Look out, **Big South**: A new sheriff is coming to town - and we do championships!







# DID YOU KNOW?



**Coach Duane Ross** has coached 20 different athletes to first-team All American honors

**Coach Ross** has coached a total of 43 different athletes to All American honors

**Coach Sam Washington** has the best two year start of any head football coach 19-5 in school history

**Coach Tarrell Robinson** has the highest winning percentage in school history 161-89 (.644)



**Kayla White** was named the 2019 NCAA Indoor Women's Track Athlete of the Year

**Aggies baseball and women's basketball** have defeated Power 5 programs in the last 2 years—Clemson, Boston College and South Carolina

**Jah-Maine Martin** led the nation in yards per carry (7.73) and rushing touchdowns (23) in 2019



Volleyball player **Edie Brewer** was named MEAC co-player of the year in 2019

**Kameron Langley** led the nation in assists per game and total assists in 2019-20

**Men's golf, men's cross country and women's cross country** rank in the top 10 percent in the nation in Academic Progress Rate

