

Marlene (Linny) Fowler Service Award

Lehigh Athletics Department Awards

LEHIGH ATHLETICS SERVICE AWARD – *Established in 2004, this award recognizes the top graduating student-athlete (male or female) for making a difference in the world in which we live—Lehigh Athletics, Lehigh University and/or the community.*

The winner is selected by the Athletics Department Awards Committee from nominations submitted by a Lehigh Intercollegiate team with the head coach's approval, and other department staff.

2008-09 Finalists: (Winner in bold)

Ashley Pritchard (Rowing) – A member of Lehigh's Community Service Office for four years and Lehigh's award-winning C.O.A.C.H. Program for three, Ashley Pritchard has devoted a large portion of her time to helping others inside and outside the University's walls. Pritchard won the University's Election for Cancer Research earlier this year and also founded Lehigh's annual Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. During her time at Lehigh, she has led groups of students to homework clubs, Boys and Girls Clubs and homeless shelters on a weekly basis and she played a large role in the development of the Wonderful World of Sports, a day centered around Lehigh students interacting with children from the community in a number of activities.

Lisa Sweeney (Softball) – In addition to her athletic prowess, Lisa Sweeney has not shied away from helping others in anyway she can during her time at Lehigh. Sweeney has served on the Student-Athlete Council, and the Student-Athlete Executive Council since 2007, and has participated in Lehigh's award-winning C.O.A.C.H. program since 2006, serving as the Co-Chair for the last two years. Sweeney also served as an intern in the John A. Cable Center for Athletics Leadership this academic year, while also participating in the Naval Academy Leadership Conference.

Brendan Van Ackeren (Football) – Brendan Van Ackeren has been the Secretary of the Student-Athlete Executive Council for the last two years, and in that role he oversaw several student-athlete organizations, including the award-winning C.O.A.C.H. program, Social and Events Committee and Alumni Relations. A Student-Athlete Mentor (SAM) representative from 2006-08, Brendan has also been a Peer Educator for the last year, and in 2008 he served as a tour guide for a Board of Trustees meeting. Van Ackeren has also been actively involved in Lehigh's C.O.A.C.H. program all four years he has been at Lehigh, traveling to local elementary and middle schools to speak with students regarding various topics.

Previous Finalists (Winner in Bold):

2008 **Stuart Baxter (Men's Lacrosse)**, Calvin John Smiley (Swimming), Bryan White (Men's Basketball)
2007 Betsy Balaguer (Swimming), **Mel Lepko (Field Hockey)**, Julie Sterrett (Softball)
2006 Mark Borda (Football), **Mitch Gilfillan (Basketball)**, Linda Hendrixson (Swimming)
2005 **Jessica DePalo (Women's Basketball)**, Ty Esler (Tennis), Sabrina Slater (Rowing)
2004 Suzanne Aronowitz (Lacrosse), **Dave Crockett (Football)**, Jill Kober (Volleyball)