



# ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® TEAM SELECTED BY CoSIDA

FOR RELEASE:

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## STEFAN BRITS OF FLORIDA STATE, CHRISTINA HILLMAN OF IOWA STATE HEADLINE CoSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® DIVISION I TRACK & FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS

**AUSTIN, Texas** – Florida State University graduate student **Stefan Brits** and Iowa State University senior **Christina Hillman** headline the 2016 Academic All-America® Division I Men's and Women's Track & Field/Cross Country Teams, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Brits, who carries a 4.0 grade-point average as a graduate student in the doctoral chemistry program at Florida State, was selected as the 2015-16 CoSIDA Academic All-American® of the Year for Division I Men's Track & Field/Cross Country. He earned his bachelor's degree in chemical science.

This is the fourth CoSIDA Academic All-America® selection for Brits, a native of Cape Town, South Africa, who will represent his country in the long jump at the Summer Olympics this summer in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He sailed 27-feet, 4-inches to set the ACC Outdoor Track & Field Championships long jump record. It was the top long jump effort in the nation and an Olympic qualifying mark. Brits was a first team Academic All-America® selection in 2015, and third team in both 2013 and 2014.

Hillman, a child, adult & family services major with a sterling 4.0 G.P.A., was named the 2015-16 CoSIDA Academic All-American® of the Year for Division I Women's Track & Field/Cross Country.

Hailing from Dover, Delaware, Hillman is a first-team CoSIDA Academic All-America selection for the second consecutive year. The two-time NCAA shot put champion earned her third career conference title at the 2016 Big 12 Indoor Track & Field Championships last February. A six-time NCAA All-American, Hillman holds both the indoor (59-6 3/4) and outdoor (58-2) shot put records at Iowa State.

Brits leads a group of eight repeat selections to the 2016 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Men's Track & Field/Cross Country first team. **Levi Gipson**, a senior at the University of Nebraska with a 3.96 G.P.A. majoring in nutrition, exercise & health, received his third-straight CoSIDA Academic All-America® first-team honor. The Lincoln, Nebraska, native was a member of the first-place 4x400 meter relay team at the Big Ten Conference Outdoor Track & Field Championships. That 4x400 unit also placed third at the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Two graduate students – Syracuse University's **Martin Hehir** and Northern Arizona University's **Caleb Hoover** -- were also repeat selections. Hehir, a biomedical forensics student, was a 2015 first-team and 2014 second-team Academic All-American®. He placed ninth at the 2015 NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships while maintaining a 3.95 G.P.A. Hoover, who studies biomedical science and human relations with a 3.97 G.P.A., was a first-team Academic All-American® in 2015. He placed 12th in the 3,000 meter steeplechase at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Rice University senior **Evan Karakolis** earned his third CoSIDA Academic All-America® honor after being selected to the first team in 2015 and the second team in 2014. The mechanical engineering student from Scarborough, Ontario, carries a 4.0 G.P.A., and was awarded first-team All-American honors after placing fifth in the javelin at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Another senior, University of South Alabama's **Jan-Louw Kotze**, is a member of the CoSIDA Academic All-America® team for the second-straight season. The exercise science student with a 4.0 G.P.A. from Paarl, South Africa, made the third team in 2015. Kotze recorded his personal best in the shot put (55-0), won the Sun Belt Conference Outdoor Track & Field Championships discus throw, and placed sixth in the discus at the 2016 NCAA Division I Track & Field Championships. He was a five-time all-Sun Belt performer.

**Marshall Moyer**, a Bradley University senior and MBA student from Burlington, Iowa, carried his 4.0 G.P.A. to a second consecutive CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team selection. Moyer was part of Bradley's first Missouri Valley Conference cross country championship with a 35th place finish. He qualified for the NCAA Division I Midwest Region Cross Country Championships.

University of Arkansas senior **Andrew Pisechko** garnered his first selection to the CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team and third appearance overall. Pisechko was selected to the Academic All-America® second team in 2014 and 2015. The accounting major from Webb City, Missouri, maintained a 4.0 G.P.A during an impressive final season in which he took sixth place in the 800 meters at the SEC Indoor Track & Field Championships. Pisechko was the 2014 NCAA Elite 89 Award winner.

The last student-athlete to claim consecutive selections to the CoSIDA Academic All-America® team is University of Minnesota junior multi-athlete **Luca Wieland**, who made the second team in 2015. On top of keeping a 3.55 G.P.A, the Saarbrücken, Germany native repeated as the Big Ten Conference decathlon champion and was a 2016 NCAA Division I Indoor first team All-American in the heptathlon.

Six athletes made their first appearance on the CoSIDA Academic All-American® Division I Men's Track & Field/Cross Country first team including senior **Jonathan Addison** of North Carolina State University, graduate students **Ryan Crouser** from the University of Texas and **Jarrion Lawson** from the University of Arkansas, junior **Sam Prakel** of the University of Oregon, and seniors **Cody Rush** of the University of Nebraska and **Alex Young** of Southeastern Louisiana University.

Three student-athletes selected to the CoSIDA Academic All-American® Division I Men's Track & Field/Cross Country second team earned consecutive honors. **Mason Ferlic**, a senior and aerospace engineering MSE at the University of Michigan, received his third consecutive Academic All-America® honor. The third-team CoSIDA Academic All-American® in 2014 and 2015 maintained a 3.40 G.P.A. in 2016 and took home the Big Ten title in the indoor 5,000 meters and 3,000 meter steeplechase. Ferlic took first place in the 3,000 at the NCAA Division I Track & Field Championships.

Southern Illinois University junior **Kyle Landon**, an accounting student with a 3.72 G.P.A., earned second-team honors after being selected as a third-team Academic All-American® in 2015. Landon won the 2016 Missouri Valley Valley Conference Track & Field Championships in the high jump, along with finishing fourth in the long jump and the triple jump. Landon claimed eighth place and All-American honors in the high jump at the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

**Ben Saarel**, a junior at the University of Colorado, received his second selection to the CoSIDA Academic All-America® team after making the third team in 2015. The engineering physics and computer science major, who carries a 3.96 G.P.A., placed 21st in the NCAA Division I Mountain Region Cross Country Championships 10,000m and 31st in the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships in the same event.

Rounding out the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I men's track & field/cross country second team are **Colin Bennie** of Syracuse University, **Justin Brinkley** of Stanford University, **Cameron Brown** of the University of Tennessee, **Brandon Doughty** of the University of Oklahoma, **Jimmy Evers** of the University of North Dakota, **Christian Heymsfield** of the University of Arkansas, **Hunter Johnston** of the University of Dayton, **Sam Mattis** of the University of Pennsylvania, **Sean McGorty** of Stanford University, **Taylor Smith** of the U.S. Air Force Academy, **Paul Stuart** of the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga and **Adrian Valles** of the University of Cincinnati.

Fifteen athletes received 2016 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Men's Track & Field/Cross country third team honors: **Connor Branick** of South Dakota State University, **Rob Denault** of Villanova University, **Justin Estala** of Oral Roberts University, **Willy Fink** of Eastern Michigan University, **Luke Guigliano** of Bucknell University, **Luis Hanssler** of the University of Memphis, **J.D. LaFayette** of Illinois State University, **Albert Maeder** of the University of Central Arkansas, **Paul O'Donoghue** of High Point University, **Tim Rackers** of the University of Tulsa, **Caleb Rhynard** of Michigan State University, **David Scouten** of Liberty University, **Brian Waterfield** of the College of William and Mary, **Harrison Williams** of Stanford University and **Devin Wright** of Utah State University.

Of the 45 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Men's Track & Field/Cross Country team members, 25 have grade-point averages of 3.90 or higher, including nine who have a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. The CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team combined for a 3.845 G.P.A.

In addition to Hillman, three other first-team athletes repeated as CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Women's Track & Field/Cross Country team members. University of Tennessee senior **Chelsea Blaase**, who holds a 3.62 G.P.A. in kinesiology, earned her second Academic All-America® selection, moving up from the second team. The St. Joseph, Illinois, native won the 10,000 meters and placed second in the 5,000 at the SEC Championships, won both the 3,000 and 5,000 meters at the SEC Indoor Track & Field Championships, and placed fifth in the 10,000 meters at the NCAA Division I Track & Field Championships.

**Alicia Clarke**, a Pawlet, Vermont native and senior at the University of Vermont, garnered her first selection to the CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team after being a member of the 2015 third team. In addition to maintaining a 3.97 G.P.A. in business administration, Clark placed 13th in the 10,000 meters at the 2016 America East Outdoor Track & Field Championships and 10th in the 5,000 at the NEICAAA Indoor Track & Field Championships.

Hailing from Chesterland, Ohio, graduate student **Kelly Williams** of West Virginia made her second consecutive CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team appearance. Pursuing a master's degree in journalism with a 4.0 G.P.A., Williams placed fourth in the mile at the Big 12 Indoor Track & Field Championships.

Eleven student-athletes complete the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Women's Track & Field/cross country first team including **Sophie Connor** of the University of New Mexico, **Laura Rose Donegan** of the University of New Hampshire, **Taylor Ellis-Watson** of the University of Arkansas, **Erin Finn** of the University of Michigan, **Claudia Garcia Jou** of the University of Akron, **Alex Gholston** of the University of Alabama, **Leonita Kallenou** of the University of Georgia, **Keturah Orji** of the University of Georgia, **Robin Reynolds** of the University of Florida, **Molly Seidel** of the University of Notre Dame and **Alice Wright** of the University of New Mexico.

**Katrina Coogan**, a senior and human science major at Georgetown University, is the lone repeat selection to the CoSIDA Academic All-America® second team. With a 3.74 G.P.A., Coogan was a member of the first place 4x800 meter relay team and won the 1,500 meters at the BIG EAST Outdoor Track & Field Championships. She went on to finish 20th in the 5,000 meters at the NCAA Division I Track & Field Championships.

Rounding out the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Women's Track & Field/Cross Country second team are **Quanesha Burks** of the University of Alabama, **Kree Clark** of Jacksonville University, **Catherine Cloetta** of the University of Wyoming, **Sydney Clute** of Indiana University, **Emily de La Bruyere** of Princeton University, **Cornelia Griesche** of Mississippi State University, **Kyra Jefferson** of the university of Florida, **Karis Jochen** of Texas A&M University, **Jess Lehman** of the University of Minnesota, **Ingeborg Loevnes** of Oklahoma State University, **Sarah McMahon** of Bradley University, **Cindy Ofili** of the University of Michigan, **Erika Rucker** of the University of South Carolina and **Dani Winters** of Kansas State University.

The 15 members of the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Women's Track & Field/Cross Country third team are **Elena Barham** of Northwestern University, **Alex Beckman** of the University of Minnesota, **Korie Bennett** of Western Carolina University, **Sarah Collins** of Providence College, **Elise Cranny** of Stanford University, **Paige Kouba** of Harvard University, **Joanna McCoy** of the University of South Alabama, **Jessica Mildes** of Gonzaga University, **Baylee Mires** of the University of Washington, **Jennifer Nakamura** of George Mason University, **Christina Rickert** of High Point University, **Jaide Stepter** of the University of Southern California, **Erin Teschuk** of North Dakota State University, **Kristyn Williams** of Stanford University and **Hannah Wittman** of Belmont University.

**Brits, Hillman Top CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Track & Field/Cross Country Teams – Page 4**

Of the 45 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Women's Track Field/Cross Country team members, 26 have grade-point averages of 3.90 or higher including 14 who have a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. The CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team combined for a 3.852 G.P.A.

To be eligible for Academic All-America® consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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Academic All-America® Committee - Coordinator of Publicity



# 2015-16 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Men's Track & Field/Cross Country Team Division I

## FIRST TEAM

Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Jonathan Addison	North Carolina State	Sr.	Raleigh, N.C.	3.41	Industrial engineering
Stefan Brits (1), (#), (\$)	Florida State	Gr.	Cape Town, South Africa	3.93	Doctoral chemistry; chemical sci. (UG)
Ryan Crouser	Texas	Gr.	Boring, Ore.	3.83	Finance
Levi Gipson (1), (#)	Nebraska	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb.	3.96	Nutrition, exercise & health science
Martin Hehir (1), (2)	Syracuse	Gr.	Washingtonville, N.Y.	3.95	Biomedical forensics
Caleb Hoover (1)	Northern Arizona	Gr.	Joplin, Mo.	3.97	Biomedical science / human relations
Evan Karakolis (1), (2)	Rice	Sr.	Scarborough, Ontario	4.00	Mechanical engineering
Jan-Louw Kotze (3)	South Alabama	Sr.	Paarl, South Africa	4.00	Exercise science
Jarrion Lawson	Arkansas	Gr.	Texarkana, Texas	3.41	MBA
Marshall Moyer (1), (3)	Bradley	Sr.	Burlington, Iowa	4.00	Biochemistry
Andrew Pisechko (2), (@)	Arkansas	Sr.	Webb City, Mo.	4.00	Accounting
Sam Praker	Oregon	Jr.	Versailles, Ohio	3.95	Biochemistry
Cody Rush	Nebraska	Sr.	Grand Island, Neb.	3.93	Nutrition science
Luca Wieland (2)	Minnesota	Jr.	Saarbrücken, Germany	3.55	Entrepreneurial management
Alex Young	Southeastern Louisiana	Sr.	Nashville, Tenn.	3.82	Kinesiology

## SECOND TEAM

Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Colin Bennie	Syracuse	So.	Princeton, Mass.	3.81	Political science
Justin Brinkley	Stanford	Sr.	Kingwood, Texas	3.82	Communication
Cameron Brown	Tennessee	Sr.	Brentwood, Tenn.	3.64	Marketing
Brandon Doughty	Oklahoma	Gr.	Charles Town, W. Va.	3.80	Administrative leadership (G); MDS (UG)
Jimmy Evers	North Dakota	Sr.	Grand Forks, N.D.	3.95	Physics
Mason Ferlic (2), (\$)	Michigan	Sr.	Mounds Park, Minn.	3.40	Aerospace engineering MSE
Christian Heymsfield	Arkansas	Jr.	Elkins, Ark.	4.00	Biological engineering
Hunter Johnston	Dayton	Jr.	Saegertown, Pa.	4.00	Mechanical engineering
Kyle Landon (3)	Southern Illinois	Jr.	Chester, Ill.	3.72	Accounting
Sam Mattis	Penn	Sr.	East Brunswick, N.J.	3.42	Operations information & decisions
Sean McGorty	Stanford	Jr.	Fairfax, Va.	3.47	Management science & engineering
Ben Saarel (3)	Colorado	Jr.	Salt Lake City, Utah	3.96	Engineering physics / computer science
Taylor Smith	U.S. Air Force Academy	Jr.	Clovis, Calif.	3.39	Economics / management
Paul Stuart	Chattanooga	Sr.	Chattanooga, Tenn.	4.00	Business / accounting
Adrian Valles	Cincinnati	So.	Pamplona, Spain	3.96	Industrial management

## THIRD TEAM

Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Connor Branick	South Dakota State	Sr.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	3.98	Biotechnology
Rob Denault	Villanova	Sr.	Aurora, Ontario	3.56	Marketing / MIS
Justin Estala	Oral Roberts	Jr.	Paris, Ark.	3.84	Sports management
Willy Fink	Eastern Michigan	Gr.	Maumee, Ohio	3.87	Biology (UG) / chemistry (G)
Luke Guigliano	Bucknell	Sr.	Sparta, N.J.	3.97	Mechanical engineering
Luis Hanssler	Memphis	Sr.	Ratingen, Germany	3.89	International business
J.D. LaFayette	Illinois State	So.	Normal, Ill.	4.00	Computer science
Albert Maeder	Central Arkansas	Sr.	Norman, Okla.	4.00	Biology
Paul O'Donoghue	High Point	Sr.	Franklin, Mass.	3.90	Mathematics
Tim Rackers	Tulsa	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo.	3.95	Mechanical engineering / Spanish
Caleb Rhynard	Michigan State	Sr.	Shepherd, Mich.	3.95	Kinesiology
David Scouten	Liberty	Sr.	Brooklyn, Mich.	3.95	Criminal justice & accounting
Brian Waterfield	William & Mary	Gr.	Chesapeake, Va.	3.39	Master's of accounting (G) / finance (UG)
Harrison Williams	Stanford	So.	Memphis, Tenn.	3.39	Undeclared
Devin Wright	Utah State	Jr.	Monticello, Utah	3.94	Biology

**CoSIDA Academic All-American® of the Year:** Stefan Brits, Florida State

- (1) = 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team
- (2) = 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-America® second team
- (3) = 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-America® third team
- (#) = 2014 CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team
- (@) = 2014 CoSIDA Academic All-America® second team
- (\$ ) = 2013 CoSIDA Academic All-America® third team



# 2015-16 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Women's Track & Field/Cross Country Team Division I

## FIRST TEAM

Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Chelsea Blaase (2)	Tennessee	Sr.	St. Joseph, Ill.	3.62	Kinesiology
Alicia Clark (3)	Vermont	Sr.	Pawlet, Vt.	3.97	Business administration
Sophie Connor	New Mexico	Gr.	Hertfordshire, England	4.04	Business administration
Laura Rose Donegan	New Hampshire	Sr.	Melbourne, Australia	4.00	Political science
Taylor Ellis-Watson	Arkansas	Gr.	Philadelphia, Pa.	3.78	Clinical & mental health counseling
Erin Finn	Michigan	Jr.	West Bloomfield, Mich.	3.96	Biochemistry
Claudia Garcia Jou	Akron	Sr.	Barcelona, Spain	4.00	Physical education
Alex Gholston	Alabama	Jr.	Town Creek, Ala.	4.00	English
Christina Hillman (1)	Iowa State	Sr.	Dover, Del.	4.00	Child, adult & family services
Leontia Kallenou	Georgia	Sr.	Nicosia, Cyprus	3.37	Consumer economics
Keturah Orji	Georgia	So.	Mount Olive, N.J.	3.96	Financial planning
Robin Reynolds	Florida	Sr.	Miami, Fla.	3.56	Criminology
Molly Seidel	Notre Dame	Sr.	Hartland, Wis.	3.53	Anthropology & environmental sciences
Kelly Williams (1)	West Virginia	Gr.	Chesterland, Ohio	4.00	Master of science in journalism
Alice Wright	New Mexico	Jr.	Worcester, England	4.00	Liberal arts

## SECOND TEAM

Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Quanesha Burks	Alabama	Jr.	Hartselle, Ala.	3.50	Elementary education
Kree Clark	Jacksonville	Sr.	Conyers, Ga.	3.88	Accounting
Catherine Cloetta	Wyoming	Sr.	Jackson, Wyo.	4.00	Chemistry / physiology
Sydney Clute	Indiana	Sr.	Greenwood, Ind.	3.93	Business (marketing)
Katrina Coogan (3)	Georgetown	Sr.	Exeter, N.H.	3.74	Human science
Emily de La Bruyere	Princeton	Sr.	New York, N.Y.	3.82	Woodrow Wilson School
Cornelia Griesche	Mississippi State	Sr.	Ingolstadt, Germany	4.00	Economics
Kyra Jefferson	Florida	Sr.	Detroit, Mich.	3.42	Recreation, parks & tourism
Karis Jochen	Texas A&M	Jr.	College Station, Texas	3.94	Business honors
Jess Lehman	Minnesota	Gr.	Dickinson, N.D.	3.48	Elementary edu. (UG) / special edu. (G)
Ingeborg Loevnes	Oklahoma State	Sr.	Oslo, Norway	4.00	University studies / premedical sci.
Sarah McMahon	Bradley	Gr.	Colfax, Wis.	4.00	English
Cindy Ofili	Michigan	Sr.	Ypsilanti, Mich.	3.31	Elementary education AB ed.
Erika Rucker	South Carolina	Sr.	Flowery Branch, Ga.	3.90	Biological sciences
Dani Winters	Kansas State	Sr.	Plainville, Kan.	3.92	Communication studies

## THIRD TEAM

Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Elena Barham	Northwestern	Sr.	Madison, Wis.	3.91	Political science / philosophy
Alex Beckman	Minnesota	Gr.	Apple Valley, Minn.	3.89	Nursing (int. therapies & healing prac.)
Korie Bennett	Western Carolina	Gr.	Hubert, N.C.	3.95	Communication & sciences disorders
Sarah Collins	Providence	Sr.	Basel, Switzerland	3.71	Biology
Elise Cranny	Stanford	So.	Longmont, Colo.	3.92	Undeclared
Paige Kouba	Harvard	Sr.	Eugene, Ore.	3.96	Organismic & evolutionary biology
Joanna McCoy	South Alabama	Sr.	Miami, Fla.	4.00	Nursing
Jessica Mildes	Gonzaga	Sr.	Chattaroy, Wash.	4.00	Accounting
Baylee Mires	Washington	Sr.	Spokane, Wash.	3.58	Early childhood & family studies
Jennifer Nakamura	George Mason	Gr.	Fresno, Calif.	4.00	Psychology
Christine Rickert	High Point	Sr.	Lancaster, Pa.	3.94	Int'l relations / political sci. / Spanish
Jaide Stepter	Southern California	Sr.	Tucson, Ariz.	3.84	Communications
Erin Teschuk	North Dakota State	Sr.	Winnipeg, Manitoba	3.68	Psychology
Kristyn Williams	Stanford	Sr.	Grand Prairie, Texas	3.60	Human biology
Hannah Wittman	Belmont	Sr.	Lindenhurst, Ill.	3.82	Accounting

**CoSIDA Academic All-American® of the Year:** Christina Hillman, Iowa State

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- (2) = 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-America® second team
- (3) = 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-America® third team