



2019-20 NADIIAA One-time Activity Project Award Nominations

NADIIAA: One-time Activity or Project Award Nomination Form

Institution: Aurora University

Conference Affiliation/Independent: Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference

Please Provide a Brief Overall Description of the Activity/Project:

Description: Over 200 student-athletes gather last year for our Morning of Service. For several hours, they collected native prairie seeds for redistribution to restore native prairies to the Fox Valley Area.

Community or Population Served by the Project/Activity: Kane County Forest Preserve. The seed harvesting directly benefited the forest preserve, however, it benefits the greater fox valley area as more native prairies can be grown for all residents to enjoy.

Objective: The objective of the project was to work with the campus community on it's morning of service to support the non-profits in the greater Aurora area. AU helped 13 different organizations with projects for Morning of Service. SA's were placed at the Forest Preserve because they were looking for able bodied volunteers who could spend several hours harvesting seeds in the preserve's prairies with the goal of restoring prairies in the area.

How has this project impacted campus or local community or target audience: The forest preserve was impressed with the number of seeds that the SA's were able to harvest. The work is laborious and they were thankful for the efforts of the SA's. In terms of impact the seeds will help to regrow some of species of local grasses in the prairie that are essential to supporting life in the ecosystem such as insects that depend on the plant species.

Student-Athlete Group(s) Involved in the Project/Activity: Student-athletes from almost all of our 22 varsity teams participated in the event. With the exception of the fall sports teams playing the day of the event, all other teams were represented.

Approximate Number of Student-Athletes Participating in the Project/Activity:

200 SA's, which is nearly 1/3 of our athletic population.

Dates or Duration of the Project/Activity (e.g., days, weeks, months):

9/22/18

Additional Information via Website URL

<https://www.auspartanmedia.com/2018/10/10/aurora-university-students-volunteer-in-record-numbers-for-morning-of-service/>