

College Admission Process

(Educational Session for Parents, Swimmers, Coaches)

Back by popular demand, we will again be hosting an educational session at this year's YMCA Short Course Nationals on the college admission process. Our 2011 YMCA National Coach-of-the-Year, Glenn Neufeld of the Upper Main Line YMCA, will be moderating a discussion forum with four college coaches as they talk about the admissions process from their varying perspectives as the coaches of successful swimming programs at four very different institutions of higher education.

The event will be held at the Pavilion located on the complex grounds just east of the pool on Monday from 2:45PM until 4:15PM. Everyone is invited

Glenn Neufeld, Upper Main Line YMCA - Moderator

Glenn has been at UMLY for 14 years where he has guided his team to many Top 5 finishes at YMCA Nationals and coached many individual and relay national champions. He was the 2011 YMCA national coach of the year and won coach of the meet honors at YMCA Nationals in 2009 and 2012. He has also served as an assistant at the University of Alabama and worked in college counseling while coaching at the Peddie School in the 1990's. He did his graduate work in Higher Education and Counseling at Virginia Tech and in Organizational Dynamics at the University of Pennsylvania. He has a unique blend of experience in coaching and education and will moderate the discussion.

Jim Henry, Yale University

Jim Henry finished his second season as the Robert J.H. Kiphuth Head Coach of women's swimming and diving at Yale in 2013-14.

Before arriving in New haven, Henry spent six years at Texas, the first five as an assistant coach before being promoted to associate head coach following the 2010-11 season. Henry, a former Texas swimming captain and All-American, returned to his alma mater after leading the University of Denver swimming programs from 2004-06. He guided Denver to back-to-back runner-up honors at the Sun Belt Conference Championships in 2005 and 2006. Both the Denver men's and women's teams registered team grade-point averages which ranked among the nation's top 10 swimming programs in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

Prior to his three-year tenure at Denver, Henry served as assistant men's swimming coach and recruiting coordinator at SMU from 1999-2003. Before getting into collegiate coaching, Henry was the aquatics director and head swimming coach for the Allen (Texas) Independent School District in 1998-99 and the aquatics director and head swim coach at The Peddie School in Hightstown, N.J. (from 1995-98). Peddie finished fourth at the 1997 U.S. Nationals and was second at the U.S. Open that year. Henry led Peddie to the 1998 Junior National Team Championship and developed 31 high school All-Americans as well.

Braden Holloway, North Carolina State University

In just three seasons at NC State, Holloway's teams have enjoyed great success. This season, he guided the NC State men's squad to a second place finish at the ACC Championships highlighted by some spectacular relays from both his men and women's teams. The 2012-13 campaign saw Holloway earn ACC Men's Coach of the Year honors, as the men capped the season with a top-15 finish at the NCAA Championships.

Prior to returning to his alma mater, Holloway spent seven seasons on the coaching staff at Virginia Tech, serving as associate head coach the last two seasons. Before arriving in Blacksburg, Holloway was an assistant coach at The University of the South from 2003-04. A two-time Academic All-American, Holloway graduated from State in 2001 with a degree in parks, recreation and tourism management, serving as the commencement speaker for the College of Natural Resources. He completed his master's degree in education at Virginia Tech in the summer of 2007.

Erin Hurley, Grinnell College

Coach Hurley has been at Grinnell College for 19 years. A 1989 graduate of the University of Nebraska, she was a three-time Big Eight Conference Champion and a four-time NCAA-All American. Hurley earned an M.A. in physical education (sport psychology) at the University of Iowa where she served as a graduate assistant coach. From 1993-95, she was the men's and women's swim coach and aquatics director at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Since her arrival at Grinnell, Hurley has been voted MWC Women's Coach of the Year twice (2004 and 2006), MWC Men's Coach of the Year three times (2005, 2009 and 2011), MWC Coach of the Year three times (1999, 2002, and 2003), and MWC Co-Coach of the Year in 1998. Hurley's women's team has won 13 consecutive Midwest Conference titles (1999-2011), while the men's squad has captured ten straight MWC titles (2002-2011). Both teams continue to be honored by the College Swim Coaches Association for excellence in academics.

Rick Simpson, Villanova University

Coach Simpson is in his 14th year with the Wildcats in 2013-14 and was recently named the Big East coach of the year for 2014 where his women's team won the conference championship. Simpson's success at international recruiting has brought in numerous talented swimmers from around the world. The women's team currently has one swimmer each from England, Germany, Finland and Israel. Villanova swimmers have also gone on to international success during his tenure. In 2011 and 2013, Simpson served as an assistant coach for South Africa at the World University Games. Rick takes pride in guiding his athletes to success not only on the pool deck but in the classroom as well. He has had a number of athletes make the NCAA Championship meet and represent their countries in international competition.

Prior to being named the Villanova head coach, Simpson spent three years at Seton Hall as the head coach of both the men's and women's teams. Simpson graduated from Rutgers in 1990 and spent three years as an assistant coach and interim head coach at his alma mater. He has also been on the coaching staff at West Point and for Team Foxcatcher at the US National Championships.