

SoCon announces personnel moves

Written by Phil Perry
Monday, 07 July 2014 16:13

The Southern Conference announced several personnel moves Monday, with Kate Barnett joining the office as director of championships, Katie Burger as the championships/compliance assistant and Davis

Simpson as the media relations assistant.

Barnett and Burger will assume their duties Monday, July 7, while Simpson will join the staff Monday, July 14.

Barnett comes to the SoCon from the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), where she served as an intern for the 2013-14 academic year. Prior to that, Barnett served as a graduate assistant in game operations at Belmont University, where she helped develop game management procedures and policies, establish and implement weather protocol and assist with arena and field setup for each athletic contest. She also served as the Bruins' volleyball operations intern, coordinating team travel and lodging and facilitating bus and hotel contracts.

Prior to her arrival at Belmont, Barnett was a recipient of the NCAA Division III Ethnic Minority and Women's Internship Grant at Ripon College. There, she held a variety of roles, including assisting in educating the staff on NCAA and Midwest Conference compliance guidelines. She

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also compiled the women's basketball budget, served as a co-advisor for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and was an assistant volleyball coach.

Barnett also served internships with the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame and with the Mahoning Valley Scrappers, the Class "A" affiliate of the Cleveland Indians. She graduated from Bluffton University with a bachelor's degree in sport management and business administration.

Burger recently graduated from the University of North Carolina, where she was a member of the Tar Heels' rowing team. Burger was a two-time Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association Scholar-Athlete, earning the honor in 2013 and 2014, and was an All-ACC Academic selection as a junior. Burger double-majored in exercise and sport science and communication studies.

Burger completed a one-year internship for Elite Level Sports Marketing in Chapel Hill, N.C., co-directing the 2013 Best of Brand Awards event and writing promotional materials for the National Wrestling Coaches Association's 2012 All-Star Classic. She also worked summer internships with the United States Rowing Association and the SAS Institute.

Simpson will join the SoCon after spending the previous two years as a graduate assistant at Clemson. There, Simpson was the primary media relations contact for diving and rowing and was the secondary contact for baseball. He also spent 2 1/2 years as a student worker in Clemson's athletic communications office prior to that. He earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies and a master's in human resource development.

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Simpson also completed an internship for the Greenville Drive, the Class "A" affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, and has served as the team's official scorer and operated the manual Green Monster scoreboard in addition to writing press releases for the team's official website. He has also worked as a freelance statistician for Furman and the Southern Conference.