Paul Vecchio
Director of Athletics

What's the best part of your job?
I get to watch our student-athletes grow as people during their time at AU, and to watch their experiences in athletics shape their personalities, leadership skills, self-sufficiency and many other transferrable skills that they can use for the rest of their lives. Working with a college population is incredibly rewarding and being able to continue my lifelong love affair with athletics and competition is a bonus!

What is challenging or stressful about the job?
It is a daunting challenge at times, because over 500 student-athletes and my coaches and staff are counting on my leadership to make their experiences as positive as possible. There's a stress there that needs to be managed but also an incredible opportunity to assist and impact others.

What advice do you have for people who want to be an AD?
So many people want to work in athletics because they think it's all fun and games. While there certainly is that element, it typically requires long hours, few days off and the ability to be very flexible because of the demands of the job and the population you work with. Most people who have made a career in college athletics started at the bottom, making little money, working long hours and humbly serving and learning. I consider myself blessed to be doing this kind of work, but there seems to be an initiation process that occurs to get to the best jobs in collegiate athletics and paying your dues is the start. If you don't like working nights and weekends, this probably isn't the job for you!

Follow my career path and how I got to AU!

| BS in Communications, Brockport | Asst. Sports Editor, Ohio newspaper | Sports Writer, Olean Times Herald | Sports Information Director, Alfred U | Associate AD, Univ. Buffalo | Masters in Higher Ed Admin, UB | Current job! |

If you wanted to change positions, what else could you do?
I could work in other sports fields – professional, youth, etc. – be an administrator in the private sector, and pursue other university related positions (student affairs, teaching or counseling), almost any job that deals with creativity, problem solving and interpersonal relationships.

Careers In Student Affairs.
Want more information?
Talk to any S.A. Pro at Alfred!