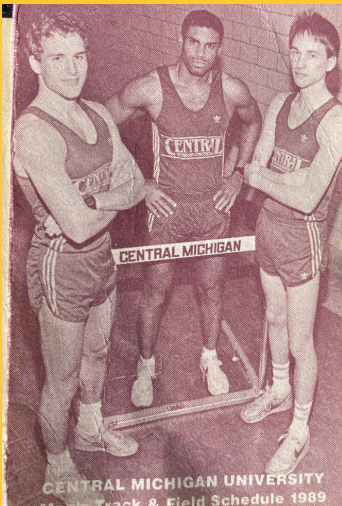




BRING TRACK BACK

Accomplishments

- Bill Boyden Leadership Award recipient - 1989
- Onetime school record holder in 60, 100, and 200m dashes. Captain
- Associate Athletic Director – Academic Services @ Texas Tech University
- Masters of Arts, Guidance and Counseling – CMU
- 25+ years working in academic support



Rodney Lackey

Experience

I have been in athletic administration for 25+ years working in academic support and consider my job a dream job! People ask me if I did not work in academic support what would I want to do, and I can never give them an answer because I have found my dream job. None of this would have been possible if it were not for me earning a track scholarship to attend CMU. Some of my fondest memories from college were from my time as a member of the track program. It gave me the opportunity to meet new people from various backgrounds, travel, compete in the sport I loved, and receive an outstanding education. I also met two of my closest friends to this day during my time at Central as well as Coach Jim Knapp, who outside of my parents I consider to be one of the most influential people in my life. Coach Knapp taught us the importance of always being respectful and appreciative. He instilled in me that I could do whatever I wanted to do as long as I worked hard and treated people the way I wanted to be treated. Values I still live by and instill in my students today! During my time at CMU, the track program had the highest number of black student-athletes outside of football. Over the years the track program has provided the opportunity for many black students to fall in love with the

university as I did and make the decision to attend CMU.

I also know numerous black students who decided to attend Central Michigan after making a recruiting visit to the campus. Many of them were not offered a scholarship but still attended because of how impressed they were with the university. These were people who had they not visited Central on a recruiting trip, much like myself, never would have ended up at CMU. I cannot express how hurt I was to hear CMU dropped the Men's T&F program, because I knew there were now going to be people who would never get to experience the same opportunity I was afforded, not to mention the loss for minority students. In closing, I would hope that the board reconsiders the decision. It is not too late to reconsider reinstating the program. If it were not for me attending CMU and being a member of the T&F team, I would not be the athletic administrator I am today.