

## Meet the Coaching Staff

The Stevens Top 30 Women's Soccer Camp coaching staff is scheduled to include:

### Laura Williamson

**Title:** Camp Director and Assistant Coach

**Experience:** Second Season

**Alma Mater:** Colby College '07, Smith '09

**Email:** [laura.williamson@stevens.edu](mailto:laura.williamson@stevens.edu)



Laura Williamson will be entering her second season as the top assistant for the Stevens women's soccer program this fall. Williamson was a two-sport star at Colby College in Waterville, Maine and assisted at Smith College in 2008 where she also earned her Master's degree.

During her time at Smith, Williamson played an integral part in planning and executing daily practices as well as strategic and tactical game preparation. She also was responsible for scheduling and implementing all travel plans in addition to her recruiting and administrative responsibilities.

Williamson graduated from Colby as the all-time leader in goals and points and was a two-sport captain (women's soccer, women's basketball). A 2007 CoSIDA Academic All-American, the Manchester, Conn. native was an All-NESCAC performer her entire career (2003-2006). She was named the NESCAC Rookie of the Year in 2003 and received the Marjorie D. Bither Award which is given each year at Colby to the senior female student-athlete who demonstrated outstanding athletic ability, academic achievement, and leadership skills throughout her four years at the prestigious institution.

Williamson holds the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Goalkeeper Diploma. She worked in the Massachusetts Olympic Development Program in 2009, and served as an Administrative Fellow in the Smith Sports Information Department in from 2007-2009.

Williamson graduated from Colby in May of 2007 with a B.A. in English. She earned her M.S. in Exercise and Sport Studies in May of 2009 from Smith.

### Jeff Parker

**Title:** Assistant Director and Head Coach

**Experience:** 11th Season

**Alma Mater:** Texas Tech University '91, '93

**Email:** [jeff.parker@stevens.edu](mailto:jeff.parker@stevens.edu)



Jeff Parker just completed his tenth year on the sidelines as head coach of the Stevens Institute of Technology women's soccer

program. During that time, Parker has managed to turn a middle-of-the-road program into a national contender. In fact, Parker's tenure at Stevens has included seven Skyline Conference titles (one for each season that the Ducks were in the league), five-consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, and three Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Tournament invites that resulted in a pair of ECAC Metro Championships in 2007 and 2008.

Stevens has registered a 139-55-13 overall record and a 59-8-1 conference ledger with Parker at the helm. His Duck teams have posted a 0.703 winning percentage.

Parker holds certifications from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and the United States Soccer Federation. He has completed courses from the United European Football Association, the Czech Football Association, and the Football Association of Ireland. He was named the Skyline Conference Coach of the Year in both 2000 and 2001. Parker has also served on the New Jersey NSCAA Staff and recently concluded his four-year term of service on the NCAA Division III Women's Soccer Committee, the last two as the National Chair.

The San Antonio, Texas native has blended those experiences, as well as five years coaching at the NCAA Division I level at Georgetown University and Saint Peter's College and a three-year stint of living and playing in England, into a unique blend of philosophies, tactics, and style.

"It's a player's game," Parker said. "I try to help them to work together, be unselfish, play sound defensively, and to play as a unit. Life is complicated enough, soccer doesn't have to be."

Parker currently resides in Nutley, N.J., with his wife, Leena.

## **Gretchen Lear**

**Title:** Assistant Coach

**Experience:** Fifth Season

**Alma Mater:** North Carolina State University '03



Former North Carolina State University standout goalkeeper Gretchen Lear will begin her fifth season as the goalkeeper coach and trainer with the Stevens Institute of Technology women's soccer program in 2010. Previously, Lear served as a volunteer assistant coach at her alma mater while in graduate school from 2003-04.

During her time at Stevens, Lear has helped the Ducks to a combined record of 51-24-7 and had trained three goalkeepers who have earned All-Conference honors.

A four-year letter-winner with the Wolfpack soccer program, Lear received numerous on-the-field honors while completing her bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. As a senior, she served as team captain and was named a CoSIDA Academic All-American. Lear remains the only women's soccer student-athlete at N.C. State to earn that

prestigious award.

In addition, Lear was named a school scholar-athlete all eight semesters as an undergraduate. She was also one of the Top-10 scholar-athletes at N.C. State for her final two years.

Perhaps Lear's top accomplishment on the field came in 2002 when she was the winning goalkeeper for the Wolfpack in their first victory over then top-ranked North Carolina. Lear was a two-time Atlantic Coast Conference Player of the Week and was honored on SoccerBuzz.com's national team of the week twice.

A native of Springfield, Va., Lear is a structural engineer at the New York firm of Robert Silman Associates.

### **John Sasieta**

**Title:** Assistant Coach

**Experience:** Fifth Season

**Alma Mater:** Kean College '97



John Sasieta will be entering his sixth season as an assistant coach with the Stevens Institute of Technology women's soccer program in 2010. Since joining the Ducks in 2005, Sasieta has made a large impact as the technical director.

Throughout the years, Sasieta has coached various boys and girls clubs in the Union County area. He is also a trainer for Victory Soccer Academy.

Sasieta is a founding member of the U.S. Parma Men's Over-30 team, which competes in the Garden State Soccer League. Sasieta was also a member of the U.S. Parma Men's Premier team as well as various club teams in Kenilworth and Harrison. While at Union High School, he helped the Farmers claim the Union County championship in 1990.

In 1997, Sasieta earned his bachelor's degree in Marketing & Management from then-Kean College. He currently works as a Retail Sales & Services Coach for Wachovia Bank in Manhattan.

### **Valerie Barnhart**

**Title:** Volunteer Assistant Coach

**Experience:** Second Season

**Alma Mater:** Stevens Institute of Technology '05

Valerie Barnhart enters her second season with the Stevens Institute of Technology after joining the women's soccer coaching staff in 2008. Barnhart, a 2006 graduate of Stevens with a B.S. in Computer Science, was a standout athlete at Stevens. She lettered in soccer, lacrosse, field hockey and equestrian from 2001-06.



Barnhart was a member of the women's soccer team from 2001-04 as she helped to

lead the squad to conference titles in 2003 and 2004. In addition, all four years she saw the squad reach postseason play. In 2001 the women's soccer team was an Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association Mid-Atlantic Region Semifinalist. The following three years, the squad was an NCAA New York Region semifinalist.

Barnhart is still the career leader for goals (87) and points (207) and is second all-time in assists for a career with 33. She was a three-time first-team National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-Northeast region selection from 2002-04.

Barnhart was a member of the Stevens Co-Op program, which extends a student's academic career to five years instead of the traditional four. She exhausted her four years of soccer, however tested her skills at field hockey in 2005. She recorded 13 goals in 17 games played. She currently leads in career points per game with an average of 1.88 (32 points, 17 games).

Aside from her stellar athletic accomplishments, Barnhart is a Business Systems Analyst with the Chartis Insurance in Jersey City, N.J. She resides in Hoboken, N.J.