



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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SS-S04-6

At its meeting of May 10, 2004, the Academic Senate passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by James Brent for the Executive Committee.

SENSE-OF-THE-SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUEST TO PRESIDENT YU TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER THE APPROPRIATE ATHLETICS PROGRAM FOR SJSU

- WHEREAS, In an April 17, 2004 letter to the Academic Senators, Interim President Crowley stated with respect to petitions calling for a Senate vote to leave Division 1A: "Each of the alternative possibilities – I AA and I AAA, and possibly Division II or III (and football or no football as options in these two cases) – carries with it the need for careful, comprehensive examination of the financial and other ramifications for the university. There would probably be risk involved in any of these choices. I respectfully suggest that the departure recommended by the petition leaves us uncertain as to where we would be going, how we might get there, and what difficulties we could face along the way."
- WHEREAS, Divisional status in athletics involves matters of conference participation, mix of sports, workforce needs, revenue possibilities, operational costs, recruitment opportunities and more. Changes in divisional status involve matters of changes in employment, transition of athletes who do not want to participate in a different division, changes to achieve gender equity, and possible reductions in the SJSU workforce and grants-in-aid.
- WHEREAS, The 1993 and 2004 Athletics reports prepared by the Senate focused primarily on historical funding data and not the pros and cons of different divisional or conference status or sports mix and did not survey the SJSU community or evaluate different structures to determine what type of athletics program would be best for SJSU;
- WHEREAS, The current SJSU Intercollegiate Athletics program suffers from low community support as evidenced by low attendance and contributions for all sports, lack of interest among students, and a need for too much of its budget to come from the General Fund; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate call upon President Yu to create a task force that will explore the issues and opportunities that presently exist with the SJSU Athletics program, what type of program would provide an appropriate and desired level of campus spirit and support, and what type of program would provide a sense of pride throughout the SJSU community. Thorough evaluation and analysis of different types of programs, at different divisional levels, should be considered. The impact of changes to all parts of the campus should also be explored. The task force should consult widely throughout the SJSU community.

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate call upon President Yu to work with the Senate Executive Committee in summer 2004 to develop the membership and charge for the task force.

Approved: May 10, 2004

Present: Nellen, Rascoe, Lessow-Hurley, Brent, Crowley, Kassing, Donoho, Veregge, McNeil

Absent: Goodman, Shokouh, Pour, Katz, Thames

Vote: 9-0-0

Financial Impact: None