

AS PASSED BY FACULTY SENATE

12-03-01

Whereas, the Faculty Senate has a primary concern to enhance the quality of academic programs and to further the overall mission of the University;

Whereas, the contribution of Athletics to the University is acknowledged and supported;

Whereas, the role and financing of Athletics in universities appear to be in a period of flux, as evidenced by comments by Gordon Davies, president of the Council of Postsecondary Education for Kentucky, who has expressed concern about state general fund revenues and student tuition being used to support intercollegiate athletics and further evidenced by the action of many Faculty Senates to review the role of athletics;

Whereas, Eastern's Athletic Department has experienced major restructuring both within itself and with its relationship with the larger University structure;

Whereas, the University Athletics Committee, which has broad representation and is mandated by the NCAA for the oversight of athletics have done studies in the past which consider the role of athletics at ECU and is willing to work with the Faculty Senate to do a study now;

Be it moved that the Faculty Senate request the University Athletics Committee to conduct a study of the role of athletics at Eastern Kentucky University. This study might include, but not be limited to:

1. Exploring and defining the appropriate role of athletics at comprehensive regional universities.
2. Comparing Athletics at ECU to this, including, but not limited to
 - a. Review of trends of revenue/expenditures
 - b. Exploration of value added and contribution of Athletics to the mission of the University
 - c. Exploration of the impact of organizationally removing intercollegiate athletics from an academic unit on furthering Athletics' ability to contribute to the overall mission of the University
3. Making recommendations, as appropriate, and report to the Faculty Senate by its April meeting.

In conducting this study, the Committee is further requested to compare Athletics at ECU to other Kentucky regional, comprehensive universities, OVC schools, and its benchmarks.