

## Questions forwarded to the Athletics Committee by the Budget Committee

### Questions on Response to the Faculty Senate Regarding Intercollegiate Athletics at Eastern Kentucky University from the Faculty Senate Budget Committee

1. Why has the Athletics budget deficit increased if “revenue from outside sources has increased significantly”?
2. Now that coaches that were half time are now full time, why hasn't the number of coaches declined to reflect this. For example, if a sport had 10 half time coaches why did it not convert to 5 full time coaches instead of 10 full time coaches?
3. Are revenue sports being scheduled to maximize revenue/fan attendance, especially for away games out of the OVC? For example, the nonconference home schedule for men's basketball seems especially weak this year (Mt. St. Joseph??, Kentucky Christian College??, Ohio Wesleyan??)
4. Do all sports contribute equally to academic accomplishments as discussed on page 21?
5. How does attendance at home ECU games compare to that of other OVC schools?
6. How can athletics and academics work better, especially with regard to missed classes or when an athlete must schedule a late afternoon class which conflicts with practices?
7. What are the ideas for new revenues and closing the athletic budget's dependence on E&G funds?
8. There is a concern about the impact of athletics on academic achievement of athletes, especially for missing classes. The change from alternate Fridays has some students missing many classes of one course, not for practice, but for games or travel for games. The report doesn't address what could be done to help with this situation. Furthermore, would the committee suggest how athletics and academics could work together to solve this, as well as other academic/athletic problems?
9. The report states that, “The Student-Athlete Success Center employs 4-6 tutors for a 300-student-athlete population,” and that, “The Center is jointly funded by the NCAA Academic Enhancement fund and the Student Success Institute.” What percentage of the financial support for the Student-Athlete Success Center is provided by the Student Success Institute?  
“Athletics has been working with a campus-wide mentoring program to provide mentors to all freshmen student athletes.” How much funding support is provided by Athletics for the mentoring program?

10. It seems that a large amount of resources are being expended for a small segment of our student population, (2% of students receive 30% of scholarships). Resources and space is being used for the general student body and to support student athletes. Is this not redundant? Why can't the Student Success Institute service all students? Why do the student athletes need a special program, The Student-Athlete Success Center? If it is not convenient for them, did anybody think that the times may not be convenient to many members of the student body as well? Why can't the student athletes use the same campus-wide mentoring program service that the general student population uses? Does Athletics have any plans to promote a more just distribution of resources?
11. This report does not address any kind of a specific development plan. What are the goals of Athletics and how does the Athletic Programs intend to address them? Do the goals of Athletics include specific proposals for decreasing the percentage of university funding? There is a concern that E&G funding will actually go up with a new football coach, (salary and total package/expectations), more coaches moving out of teaching, women's team expansion, etc.
12. Athletics is striving for gender equity to be in compliance with Title IX and should be commended for it!! But in a time when the university is facing major cuts in academic faculty and possibly programs, it seems ludicrous for athletics to draft a plan to increase the number of women's sports with the tentative funding to come from the University funds. Why can't some men's sports be dropped to try to meet expectations of Title IX and when funding allows, add men's and women's sports to the Athletic Program?
13. Are we not comparing apples and oranges when comparing scholarship athletes and the general student body? What about comparing scholarship athletes with other scholarship students when dealing with the GPA comparisons, (especially when a comparison to the general student body may be inflated because of past open admissions policies)?
14. Why were student-athletes who do not receive athletics' aid not included in the calculations for graduation?
15. The Mission Statement of ECU Intercollegiate Athletics states one of the goals is, "To conduct a fiscally sound and prudent athletics program worthy of being subsidized by institutional general funds..." Would it not be more prudent to have a goal to lesson the dependence of Intercollegiate Athletics at ECU on the general funds of the university?