

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS PROGRAMS IN THE CSU

***PREAMBLE:** The following set of principles and guidelines is intended to be minimal and generic, rather than exhaustive. We are aware that all CSU campuses have their own athletics policies, whether or not they are codified, and that for some campuses the principles listed below may merely reflect ordinary policy and practice, while other campuses may wish to enact policies more stringent and detailed than those suggested by this list. We are also aware that many of these principles are presently included in NCAA regulations. While we welcome the strengthening of NCAA rules for participation and hope that they will be maintained, we believe that the primary responsibility for the integrity of athletics programs rests with our institutions.*

Institutional Principles

1. The faculty is responsible for the curriculum and for protection of academic standards.
2. Academic and Athletics administrators should ground all regulatory procedures in the primacy of academic values.
3. CSU campus athletics committees should be primarily composed of faculty representatives and they should be appointed by the campus academic senates.
4. Faculty representatives appointed by campus presidents to athletic governance organizations, such as the NCAA and regional athletics consortia, should be endorsed by their academic senates.
5. Presidents should be fully committed to the principle of gender equity.
6. Graduation rates of student-athletes should be comparable to those of other students.
7. Each campus should develop the means by which to make certain that student-athletes understand that their primary obligation to themselves and to the University is to be students. Students should understand that representing their campus by participation in intercollegiate athletic competition is a privilege, one contingent upon satisfactory academic performance, upon steady progress toward a baccalaureate degree, and upon social conduct which reflects the values of the University.
8. All prospective student-athletes should have a reasonable prospect of graduating and should normally meet regular admissions standards. Such judgments should be made by admissions officers.

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9. Student-athletes should be admitted as "special admits" on the same basis as all other applicants for special admission and be constrained by the same requirements for satisfactory progress.
10. California Community College and junior college transfer students should meet the standards for transfer required of all other students.
11. Freshman students whose high school course of study renders them academically ineligible or partially ineligible for competition under NCAA rules specifying units, course patterns, and GPA should (1) sit out a year and (2) meet the normal requirements for eligibility before competing.
12. Students who are invited for campus visits should be informed that all scholarship offers are contingent upon their meeting academic standards appropriate for admission.

Guidelines

13. Using procedures modelled after those of academic governance, presidents should commit themselves to an annual review of their athletics programs in areas pertaining to policy (including admissions, academic progress, graduation rates, ICA budgets, and such gender equity issues as distribution of resources, schedules, facilities, travel arrangements, coaching, and participation). These reviews should be published in a substantive annual report to the campus senate and subsequently made available to the entire campus community.
14. Student-athletes should not be counselled or permitted to enroll in courses simply to maintain eligibility, but should be counselled into courses of study which lead to a major and a degree.
15. In order to enjoy the privilege of participation, student-athletes should demonstrate satisfactory progress toward a degree.
16. Satisfactory progress should be determined at least on an annual basis.

REPORT OF THE
KNIGHT FOUNDATION
*Commission On
Intercollegiate Athletics*
March, 1991

A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Preamble: This institution is committed to a philosophy of firm institutional control of athletics, to the unquestioned academic and financial integrity of our athletics program, and to the accountability of the athletics department to the values and goals befitting higher education. In support of that commitment, the board, officers, faculty and staff of this institution have examined and agreed to the following general principles as a guide to our participation in intercollegiate athletics:

- I. The educational values, practices and mission of this institution determine the standards by which we conduct our intercollegiate athletics program.
 - II. The responsibility and authority for the administration of the athletics department, including all basic policies, personnel and finances, are vested in the president.
 - III. The welfare, health and safety of student-athletes are primary concerns of athletics administration on this campus. This institution will provide student-athletes with the opportunity for academic experiences as close as possible to the experiences of their classmates.
 - IV. Every student-athlete — male and female, majority and minority, in all sports — will receive equitable and fair treatment.
 - V. The admission of student-athletes — including junior college transfers — will be based on their showing reasonable promise of being successful in a course of study leading to an academic degree. That judgment will be made by admissions officials.
 - VI. Continuing eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics will be based on students being able to demonstrate each academic term that they will graduate within five years of their enrolling. Students who do not pass this test will not play.
 - VII. Student-athletes, in each sport, will be graduated in at least the same proportion as non-athletes who have spent comparable time as full-time students.
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VIII. All funds raised and spent in connection with intercollegiate athletics programs will be channeled through the institution's general treasury, not through independent groups, whether internal or external. The athletics department budget will be developed and monitored in accordance with general budgeting procedures on campus.

IX. All athletics-related income from non-university sources for coaches and athletics administrators will be reviewed and approved by the university. In cases where the income involves the university's functions, facilities or name, contracts will be negotiated with the institution.

X. We will conduct annual academic and fiscal audits of the athletics program. Moreover, we intend to seek NCAA certification that our athletics program complies with the principles herein. We will promptly correct any deficiencies and will conduct our athletics program in a manner worthy of this distinction.

We believe these ten principles represent a statement around which our institutions and the NCAA can rally. It is our hope that this statement of principles will be incorporated into the Association's developing certification program. The Commission believes that the success of the NCAA certification program must be judged on the degree to which it advances these principles as the fundamental ends of intercollegiate programs. Ideally, institutions will agree to schedule only those colleges and universities that have passed all aspects of the certification process. Institutions that refuse to correct deficiencies will find themselves isolated by the vast majority of athletics administrators who support intercollegiate athletics as an honorable tradition in college life.

The members of the Knight Foundation Commission are convinced, as we know most members of the public and of the athletic and academic worlds are convinced, that changes are clearly required in intercollegiate athletics. Making these changes will require courage, determination and perseverance on the part of us all. That courage, determination and perseverance must be summoned. Without them, we cannot move forward. But with them and the "one-plus-three" model we cannot be held back. The combination makes it possible to keep faith with our student-athletes, with our institutions, and with the public that wants the best for them both.

AAUP Statement on Intercollegiate Athletics

Preface

Concern about pervasive abuses in intercollegiate athletics is widespread both in higher education and in the community at large.

We solicit comments both on the substance of this statement of the problem, and on the format that would make it appropriate for adoption by faculty senates and similar bodies as an expression of desired policy for their institutions.

Introduction

On many campuses the conduct of intercollegiate athletic programs poses serious and direct conflicts with desired academic standards and goals. The pressure to field winning teams has led to widely publicized scandals concerning the recruitment, exploitation, and academic failures of many athletes.

Expenditures on athletics may distort institutional budgets and can reduce resources available for academic functions. Within some academic programs faculty members have been pressured to give preferential treatment to athletes. Coaches and athletic directors are themselves often trapped in the relentless competitive and financial pressures of the current system, and many would welcome reform.

Not all institutions have problems with athletics of the same type or to the same degree. Nevertheless, we believe that all colleges and universities would benefit from the adoption of a national set of standards that would protect athletes from exploitation and get expenditures and administration of athletic programs under the regular governance procedures of the institution.

We urge faculty participation in the cause of reform. We urge our administrators to enter into national efforts to establish new standards through the NCAA or other regulatory agencies. We specifically endorse the following proposed reforms and ask faculty colleagues, administrators, and athletic department staff throughout the country to join with us in working to implement them on their campuses, in their athletic conferences, through the NCAA, and nationally:

ADMISSION AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS

1. Institutions should not use admission standards for athletes that are not comparable to those for other students.

2. A committee elected by the faculty should monitor the compliance with policy relating to admission, the progress toward graduation, and the integrity of the course of study of students who engage in intercol-

legiate athletics. This committee should report annually to the faculty on admissions, on progress toward graduation, and on graduation rates of athletes by sport. Further, the committee should be charged with seeking appropriate review of cases in which it appears that faculty members or administrators have abused academic integrity in order to promote athletic programs.

AVOIDANCE OF EXPLOITATION

3. Students who are athletes need time for their academic work. Participation in intercollegiate athletics in the first year of college is ill-advised. Athletes should have at least one day a week without athletic obligations. Overnight absences on weekday evenings should be kept to a maximum of one per week, with rare exceptions. The number of events per season should be periodically reviewed by the faculty. Student athletes should be integrated with other students in housing, food service, tutoring, and other areas of campus life.

FINANCIAL AID

4. Financial aid standards for athletes should be comparable to those for other students. The aid should be administered by the financial aid office of the institution. The assessment of financial need may take account of time demands on athletes which may preclude or limit employment during the academic year. Continuation of aid to students who drop out of athletic competition or complete their athletic eligibility should be conditioned only on their remaining academically and financially qualified.

FINANCING ATHLETICS: GOVERNANCE

5. Financial operations of the department of athletics, including all revenues received from outside groups, should be under the full and direct control of the central administration of the campus. Complete budgets of the athletic department for the coming year and actual expenditures and revenues for the past year should be published in full detail. Annual budgets, as well as long-term plans should be approved under the regular governance procedures of the campus, with input from elected faculty representatives.

6. Particular scrutiny should be given to use of the institution's general operating funds to support the athletic department. Institutions should establish regulations governing the use of and fees for university facilities by private businesses, such as sum-

mer athletic camps. Fees charged to coaches should be assessed on the same basis as those charged to faculty and other staff engaged in private businesses on campus. Published budgets should include an accounting of maintenance expenses for sports facilities, activities of booster groups, payments by outsiders for appearances by coaches and other athletic staff, payments by sports apparel companies, and sources of scholarship funds.

7. Elected faculty representatives should comprise a majority of the campus committee which formulates campus athletic policy, and such a committee should be chaired by an elected faculty member.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

8. Paid-for trips to games, and other special benefits for faculty, administrators, or members of governing boards involved in the oversight of athletics, whether offered by the university or by outside groups, create conflicts of interest and should be eliminated.

IMPLEMENTATION

9. In order to avoid the obstacles to unilateral reform efforts, the faculty believes its chief administrative officer should join with counterparts in other institutions to pursue these reforms and report annually to the academic community on the progress of such efforts.

10. Beginning five years from adoption of these principles at an institution, athletic events should be scheduled only with institutions, and within conferences and associations, that commit themselves to the implementation of these principles.

Institutions should redouble their efforts to enroll and support academically able students from disadvantaged backgrounds regardless of their athletic ability. Athletic programs never should have been considered as a major way of supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds in institutions of higher education. If these recommendations are adopted, athletes who lack academic skills or interests will no longer be enrolled, and some of those excluded will be from such backgrounds. In the interest of such athletes, institutions and the NCAA should avoid regulations that interfere with the formation of other channels of entry for these athletes into professional athletics.

Adopted by the AAUP National Council,
June 13, 1991