

**Proposition:** 01-10/11A

**Date Submitted:** 8/23/2010

**Sponsors:** Weisiger (A&S), Boje (Business), Miller (Library), Reyes (Education), Walker (A&S), Hubbell (A&S)

**Proposed Committee Assignment:**

**Assigned Committee:** Long Range Planning 9/9/10

**Title: A Memorial Calling for Plan to Eliminate Funding for the Athletic Program with Base Funds (I&G and F&A)**

Whereas NMSU is facing budget cuts from the New Mexico legislature,

And Whereas, in many departments, faculty lines have been frozen or eliminated,

And Whereas, the Library has experienced materials price increases beyond standard inflation rates without corresponding increases in its base budget,

And Whereas cuts in faculty and library resources threaten NMSU's central mission of teaching and research, as stated in "Living the Vision,"

And Whereas the "Living the Vision" Goal 5 calls for NMSU "to be an excellent steward of all resources" and to "appropriately allocate resources for instruction, research, service, and administration," as approved by the Board of Regents in September 2009,

And Whereas \$4.1 million in support of the intercollegiate athletic program is budgeted from the Instructional and General Fund (I&G) and the Facilities and Administrative Funds (F&A), according to the NMSU operating budget for 2010-2011 (see attached),

And Whereas the total allocation to the intercollegiate athletic program from the I&G and F&A has not changed from the 2009-2010 budget (see attached),

And Whereas I&G expenditures for student services to student athletes has dropped from \$104,734 in FY 2009-2010 to \$34,472 in FY 2010-2011,

Therefore, The faculty recommends that the University President develop a clear 5-year plan for putting the Athletics Department on a self-supporting basis, and implement the following:

- (i) By 2015, the Athletics Budget shall receive no base funds from I&G and F&A, except for athletic scholarships, tuition waivers, student work-study, tutoring, and other activities directly related to instruction.

- (ii) Beginning with FY2010-11, any annual support to the Athletics Budget from I&G and/or F&A funds shall be carefully reviewed and approved by the University Budget Committee.
- (iii) The Athletic Budget shall be revised to allocate funds for student services for student athletes at its former, higher level,
- (iv) The Athletic Budget and the Athletic Business Plan shall be developed with processes and procedures that are accountable and transparent, and shall be posted on the NMSU website,
- (v) The administration shall periodically commission an independent audit, paid for with fund from the Athletic Program budget (other than I&G and F&A funds)
- (vi) The Athletics Budget shall receive support from student fees only as voted by the student body.