

Proposition: 13-09/10

Date Submitted: 3/4/2010

Sponsor: Weisiger (A&S), Brown (A&S), Hubbell (A&S)

Proposed Committee Assignment:

Assigned Committee:

Title: A Memorial Calling for NMSU to Stop Funding the Athletic Program with Instruction and General Funds

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

And Whereas, in many departments, permanent budget cuts of as little as 6% may necessitate the termination of college faculty,

And Whereas such cuts in the faculty would threaten NMSU's central mission of teaching and research,

And Whereas a substantial amount of the intercollegiate athletic program's revenues come from Direct Institutional Support, according to the NCAA Financial Reports Database,

And Whereas the decision to become a member of the Western Athletic Conference significantly increased the costs of the intercollegiate athletic program,

Therefore, The faculty recommends that the University President considers evaluating the benefits of placing the Athletics Department on a *more* self-supporting basis, and implement the following:

- (i) The Athletics Budget shall receive no base funds from the instruction and general fund (I&G). Any annual cash support to the Athletics Budget from the general education fund shall be approved by an Athletics Oversight Committee and the faculty senate and through the normal budgeting procedure.
- (ii) The Athletic Budget shall be integrated with the academic budget and follow the same processes and procedures, and shall be posted on the University website; and,
- (iii) The Athletics Budget shall receive support from student fees only as voted by the student body.