

4-23-2004

SR-03-04-44 AC

Marshall University

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Recommended Citation

Marshall University, "SR-03-04-44 AC" (2004). *Recommendations*. 512.
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ATHLETIC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SR-03-04-44 AC

Recommends that Marshall University's Faculty Senate join the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA). COIA is a group advocating for reform in intercollegiate athletics. The scope of reform the COIA seeks would affect five broad categories. These five categories, not meant to be exhaustive, include:

1. **Academics.** This includes issues of initial and continuing eligibility; admissions and student academic standards; etcetera.
2. **Student Welfare.** This includes issues of scholarship policies; academic advising and other forms of student support; equity concerning matters such as gender and race; athletics scheduling; training expectations and time limits; athletes' engagement in campus life; etcetera.
3. **Finances and Scale.** This includes the cost structure of athletic departments; financial planning, reporting, and monitoring; competitive equity within conferences; etcetera.
4. **Commercialization.** This concerns responses to financial imperatives that may lead dependency on corporate and media funding, requiring various forms of commercial behavior that may conflict with academic missions and/or values; etcetera.
5. **Governance.** This includes shared governance roles on individual campuses over such matters as academic standards and support for student athletes, athletic personnel decisions, supervision of financial planning; etcetera.

RATIONALE:

The COIA works with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), the Association of Governing Boards (AGB, a national organization representing college and university trustees), and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NCAA) to promote serious and comprehensive reform of intercollegiate sports, so as to preserve and enhance the contributions athletics can make to academic life. There are no expenses related to joining the COIA.

By the Faculty Senate joining the COIA, Marshall University's faculty voice can contribute ideas towards a successful long-term outcome for comprehensive reform and to work with other university faculty committed to ensuring that athletics enhances rather than undermines the academic mission.

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT:

APPROVED

BY SENATE:

Larry Stiebler

DATE:

4/23/2009

DISAPPROVED

BY SENATE:

DATE:

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED:  DATE: 4/28/09

DISAPPROVED: _____ DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

