

4-12-1990

SR-89-90-118 (SF)

Marshall University

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Recommendation  
FROM THE SENATE FLOOR

SR-89-90-118 (SF)

To approve the attached statement as the second commitment of the  
Marshall University Mission Statement.

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT:

APPROVED BY SENATE: Kathryn Chelise DATE: 4/12/90

DISAPPROVED BY SENATE: Kathryn Chelise DATE: 4/26/90

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

To: Kathy  
From: Dave  
I assume there is  
no need for me to  
sign this.

On April 12, 1990 at a special meeting of the Faculty Senate, called upon  
written petition of 36 Faculty members, the Senate approved this  
recommendation by a vote of 15 to 8. At the next regularly scheduled  
meeting, April 26, 1990, a motion passed to reconsider this recommendation.  
It was reconsidered and defeated.

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A second commitment of Marshall University is the uncompromising pursuit of excellence in revenue enhancing sports. The universal belief that collegiate athletics will be the catalyst to revitalize the economic development of the Huntington region is the heart and soul of this mission statement component. The economic development aspect of this goal has been outlined unequivocally by the state legislature; supported by higher education Boards past and present; and championed by leaders of our community. Pre-eminence in athletics produces that intangible, yet highly desired byproduct of regional--even national--recognition, producing an institutional pride and visibility that translates into increased alumni giving and providing a powerful tool in academic, as well as athletic, recruiting.

Rationale for the proposed mission component:

More than \$50 million in capital construction projects has already been allocated to achieving this goal, and the emphasis placed upon the hiring of eminently qualified personnel to bring about the success of this mission component has no parallel in any other segment of the university community. The two elements leave no illusions as to the high level of priority placed on this aspect of our mission.

[If we were building a \$30 million center for excellence in, say, the engineering sciences and high tech robotics....or if you wish a \$30 million center for international business, economics, political sciences, and law....we would most certainly project that endeavor as a major university mission. And yet, our unabashed desire to compete in the athletic arena on a national scale receives no mention in our mission statement. This is a staggering oversight; an oversight addressed by the added mission statement component proposed above.]

We act as if we're ashamed of our priorities. We need not be. They have been formulated after years of forethought, careful planning, and the examining of alternatives. Now that those priorities--those values--have been hammered into reality by our decision makers we should get on with the placement of those values among the other seven values of our mission statement draft (see attached synopsis of mission components). Otherwise the BOT will have in its possession an incomplete MU Mission Statement. And if the mission statement is incomplete the BOT cannot make those informed decisions so necessary to providing the proper allocations to our university as we move into this new decade.

There is another compelling argument for the inclusion of athletics in our mission statement. To not include athletics is tantamount to segregating this unit from the rest of the institution. This gives the appearance that athletics is a rogue unit, with its own private agenda, operating outside the sphere of university influence. And this appearance is the antithesis of the new national sentiment projected by the NCAA and public opinion, which is that university presidents must regain control over their athletic departments.

April 2nd 1990

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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

(commitments approved by the Faculty Senate, October 26, 1990)

The first and most basic commitment of Marshall University is to undergraduate education.

A second commitment of Marshall University is the enhancement of graduate education.

Third, Marshall University is committed to expanding the body of human knowledge and achievement through research and creative arts activities.

A fourth characteristic of Marshall University is its commitment to society through public service.

A fifth commitment of Marshall University is to academic freedom and shared governance.

A sixth commitment of this university is to encourage diversity in its student body, its faculty and staff, and its educational programs.

Finally, Marshall University is committed to assuring the integrity of the curriculum through the maintenance of rigorous standards and high expectations for student learning and performance.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

(additional commitment to be proposed at the Special Faculty Senate Meeting, April 12, 1990)

*(proposed changes in italics)*

The first and most basic commitment of Marshall University is to undergraduate education.

A second *commitment of Marshall University is the uncompromising pursuit of excellence in revenue enhancing sports.*

A third commitment of Marshall University is the enhancement of graduate education.

Fourth, Marshall University is committed to expanding the body of human knowledge and achievement through research and creative arts activities.

A fifth characteristic of Marshall University is its commitment to society through public service.

A sixth commitment of Marshall University is to academic freedom and shared governance.

A seventh commitment of this university is to encourage diversity in its student body, its faculty and staff, and its educational programs.

Finally, Marshall University is committed to assuring the integrity of the curriculum through the maintenance of rigorous standards and high expectations for student learning and performance.

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