

RESOLUTION ON SPORTS MIX AND CONFERENCE AFFILIATION
OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS AT
HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
(#05-01/02-EX)

WHEREAS, The current sports mix of intercollegiate athletics at Humboldt State University includes:

MEN'S - cross country
track and field
soccer
basketball
football

WOMEN'S - cross country
track and field
basketball
rowing
soccer
softball
volleyball

; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt State University Intercollegiate Athletics currently participates in the NCAA Division II, and the Great Northwest Athletic Conference for all sports except football (which participates in a scheduling association, Columbia Football Association) and rowing (which is independent); and

WHEREAS, The relationship between mission and current choice of sports mix, conference, and division has not been clearly articulated; and

WHEREAS, Potential cost savings may accrue from rethinking our current sports mix, conference, and/or division affiliation; and

WHEREAS, The achievement of our highest priority considerations of safety, gender equity, and equitable treatment among sports provided in an environment where learning is the highest priority for our student athletes, may be significantly enhanced by making different choices regarding sports mix, conference, and division affiliation; and

WHEREAS, The question of which sports mix is inherently the most appropriate for Humboldt State University is complicated by enrollment issues, gender equity issues, resources, facilities and budget, division and conference rules; and

WHEREAS, Changes in the Athletic Program are equivalent to changes in an academic program; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommend that any significant changes in the Athletic Program including the question of appropriate sports mix (adding or dropping any sports) and the appropriate conference and division affiliations be considered in the context of a departmental self study; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommend that any proposals to drop or add sports be treated appropriately through the same processes of consultation by which proposals to add academic majors or close majors are treated, in which the program faculty (coaches) conduct the self study, and the appropriate administrator (Athletic Director) receives and reviews the self study and provides resource information for the resource review conducted by the Office for Academic Affairs in preparation for deliberations by the Joint Council; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommend that the coaching faculty use the self study to consider whether the current sports mix in the current conference and division can be maintained without budget augmentation, while maintaining the first priorities of safety, gender equity, and equitable treatment among sports in an environment in which learning is the highest priority; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommend that the proposed self study be completed early enough in Spring 2002 to allow for the implementation of any significant changes beginning in Fall 2002.