



Office of the President

RESOLUTION

concerning

CONTINUATION OF DIVISION I CLASSIFICATION
WITHIN THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA)
for
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

May 3, 1991

WHEREAS, President John Shumaker has completed an extensive review of Central's intercollegiate athletics program with the Athletic Board of Control and Awards, the University Planning and Budget committees, the Alumni Association Board and ten separate regional groups of interested alumni, and

WHEREAS, President Shumaker has kept the Board's Executive Committee informed of the self-study over the past year, and

WHEREAS, President Shumaker has concluded that,

- a. Academic integrity, gender parity, competitiveness, fiscal responsibility, and balance between athletics and other student support programs will continue to exist within the Division I classification;
- b. Programmatic operational costs between comparable Division I and Division III athletics programs are minimal at Central;
- c. The real difference between Divisions I and III for Central is the cost of athletic grants-in-aid and Central can meet these costs through NCAA Division I revenue, increased revenue generating activities available in Division I, and prudent fiscal management of the athletics budget;
- d. Central will steadily reduce current reliance on STIF and bookstore income to fund grants-in-aid;
- e. Through prudent budget management, Central will be able to reallocate current resources to other Auxiliary Fund activities currently in need of increased financial assistance, and

WHEREAS, President Shumaker has reported that in the coming months he and his colleagues will assess the nineteen sports Central currently offers with a distinct possibility that a reduction in sport offerings will occur, and




WHEREAS,

At some future date in accordance with Board Resolution #91-6, President Shumaker expects to recommend to the Trustees the reclassification of football to Division I-AAA, be it

RESOLVED,

That the Board of Trustees approves President Shumaker's recommendation that Central Connecticut State University continue its Division I classification within the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

A Certified True Copy,


Dallas K. Beal, President



Central Connecticut State University

A Campus of the Connecticut State University


1615 Stanley Street P.O.Box 4010 • New Britain, CT 06050 - 4010

Office of the President
(203) 827-7203

April 30, 1991

MEMORANDUM

To: Dallas K. Beal, President
Connecticut State University

From: John W. Shumaker 
President

Subj: Recommendation in favor of Division I

RECEIVED
APR 30 1991
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT
STATE UNIVERSITY

I have completed an extensive review of the Division I classification of our intercollegiate athletics program (Division II football) and formally recommend to the Board of Trustees that Central Connecticut State University continue its Division I classification within the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

The extended process of review of Division I on our campus has included consultation with the Athletic Board of Control and Awards, the University Planning and Budget committees, a great many students and student leaders, the Alumni Association board, and ten separate regional groups of interested alumni. The process has also included an exhaustive self-study of intercollegiate athletics and voluntary campus participation in the NCAA's new certification project, one which the University just successfully completed.

This process was guided by the conviction that intercollegiate athletics at Central Connecticut State University must be characterized by academic integrity, gender parity, competitiveness, fiscal responsibility, and balance between athletics and other student support programs.

I conclude that:

- * academic integrity, gender parity, competitiveness, fiscal responsibility, and balance between athletics and other student support programs will continue to exist within the Division I classification;
- * for our campus, the programmatic operational costs between comparable Division I and Division III athletics programs is minimal;
- * the real difference between Divisions I and III for us is the costs of athletics grants-in-aid and that we can meet these costs through NCAA Division I revenue, increased revenue generating activities available in Division I, and prudent fiscal management of the athletics budget;
- * we will steadily reduce our current reliance on STIF and bookstore income to fund grants-in-aid;
- * through prudent budget management, we will be able to reallocate current resources to other campus activities currently in need of increased financial assistance.



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In the coming months my colleagues and I will assess the nineteen sports we currently offer. A reduction in sport offerings is a distinct possibility. Also, I expect to recommend to the Trustees the re-classification of Football to Division I-AAA (need-based aid only and other cost containment features) when that classification is established by the NCAA. This may happen at the January 1992 NCAA convention.

Over the course of this extended scrutiny of Division I, I have been immensely impressed by the patience of the Board of Trustees and its willingness to keep an open mind on the subject. I extend to the Trustees my sincere thanks for their support and their assistance in helping us at Central Connecticut State University to focus on the key issues involved.

JWS/lmf

cc: Professor Baiera

Dr. Davidson

Shumaker to recommend University remain in NCAA Division I; outlines conclusions at press conference



During a press conference, BOT Chairperson Lawrence J. Davidson and President John Shumaker take questions regarding the recommendation that the University remain in Division I. Also participating were (at table from left) Alumni Association President Michael D'Amato, Athletic Director Judith Davidson, and CSU President Dallas K. Beal.

At a morning press conference on April 11, University President John W. Shumaker announced that, after an exhaustive self-study and consultation process, he will recommend to the Board of Trustees that Central Connecticut State University should remain in NCAA Division I. The following is excerpted from the text of Shumaker's announcement:

"During my first visit to Central Connecticut State University in April of 1987, and on a great many occasions in the months and years since then, colleagues, alumni, and friends have discussed with me the history and ramifications of the University's reclassification to Division I in 1986. Some agreed with the move; others disagreed. But most of them, whatever their position on Division I, agreed that the process of reclassification was flawed . . . because the reclassification was made without appropriate and proper consultation with the Board of Trustees and, indeed, with insufficient consultation on the campus itself. To far too many colleagues, the Division I announcement came as a surprise.

"Since I assumed the presidency . . . in August of 1987, I have initiated an extensive process of consultation and review of intercollegiate athletics. I have insisted that Central Connecticut State University revisit the Division I decision *de novo* and, in a sense, reconsider it. This review process has included: close consultation with the Trustees; an exhaustive self-study of intercollegiate athletics completed in April of 1990 under the leadership of Dr. Judith Davidson [athletic director]; voluntary campus participation in the NCAA's new certification project, which the University just successfully completed; consultation with the Athletic Board of Control and Awards, the University Budget and Planning committees, the athletic coaches and administrators, my own Executive Committee and the Cabinet, students in various organizations and groups including the leadership of the Student Government Association, and the Alumni Association board as well as ten separate regional groups of interested alumni.

"We have carefully considered a number of controversial yet viable options, and I have concluded that our choices boil down to remaining at Division I or making a drastic change to Division III. I have concluded that Central Connecticut State University should remain in Division I, and I shall forward that recommendation to the Connecticut State University Board of Trustees for

consideration at its meeting of May 3, 1991. In arriving at this decision my colleagues and I have been guided by the conviction that intercollegiate athletics at the University must be characterized by academic integrity, gender parity, competitiveness, fiscal responsibility, and balance between athletics and other student support programs.

"One more issue for concern is the budget for athletics. The state of Connecticut, as everyone knows, faces severe budgetary difficulties. My decision on whether to remain in Division I, of course, must be made, in large part, on whether the intercollegiate athletics program drains University resources and diminishes our ability to provide quality services to our general student body. We must maintain a proper balance between athletics and other student support programs.

"Vice President Mitchell, Dr. Davidson, and many others looked at this matter very closely for me. Careful budgetary analysis indicates that the PROGRAMMATIC costs of the various sports we sponsor do not differ very much, whatever our classification. A team needs a coach, athletics training services, and they both need sufficient operational budgets regardless of our level of NCAA competition. In today's economic climate, this point is crucial. Once again, programmatic costs do not differ substantially for Division I as compared to Division III.

"The question then is, can you fund grant-in-aid with non-State money? The answer is 'yes'; it is 'yes' because we can generate sufficient revenue to fund the grants-in-aid required by the NCAA for Division I institutions. I am confident of that because I am confident that Dr. Davidson and others will generate sufficient revenue to fund the grants-in-aid.

"There have been a large number of rumors regarding the future of our football program. I want to put those rumors to rest. Our football program is not being dropped nor is it being reclassified to Division III. In January the NCAA convention adopted a resolution which calls for submission of a proposal — to use NCAA terminology — establishing Division I-AAA football. This proposal will be considered at the 1992 NCAA convention. I expect it to pass. And when it does, I will recommend to the trustees that football be re-classified to Division I-AAA, our NCAA classification in all other sports."