Movable items concerning the cost of CCSU athletic program.

In the Knight Commission report, “Restoring the Balance: Dollars, Values, and the Future of College Sports”, they write:

“This report sets forth reforms that are achievable and that, if implemented, will create a foundation upon which future reforms can build. Our blueprint for restoring educational values and priorities begins with strengthening accountability for intercollegiate athletics in three ways:

1. Requiring greater transparency and the reporting of better measures to compare athletics spending to academic spending
2. Rewarding practices that make academic values a priority
3. Treating college athletes as students first and foremost—not as professionals”

Therefore, as a result of UPBC deliberations, I believe the following motions should be moved.

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**Motion 1:**

[Transparency and Reporting]

“Concerning the reporting of financial data related to CCSU’s athletic program”

The UPBC believes that data related to our athletic program should be readily available to the campus and local community. Therefore, the UPBC recommends the administration circulate an annual report for the athletic program. Since there is already an existing Board of Trustee policy that requires the same thing, Policy BR#96-070 “Policy on Intercollegiate Athletics for Connecticut State University Institutions” [Item 6], the UPBC suggest the University circulate this report to the Senate, UPBC, and SGA as well as publish it on the CCSU website.

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**Motion 2:**

[Transparency and Reporting]

“Concerning the increase in spending in athletics per FTE athlete when compared to spending in academics per FTE student”

The UPBC believes that the rate of increase in spending on CCSU’s athletic program per FTE student athlete shall not rise faster than the spending in academics per FTE student. Therefore, the UPBC recommends the administration work out a feasible equation that determines these ratios and present
them in the annual report to the BOT required by Board Policy BR#96-070 “Policy on Intercollegiate Athletics for Connecticut State University Institutions” [Item 6].

Motion #3:

[Transparency and Reporting]

“Concerning the use of student tuition and general fees from the University’s general fund and their use in balancing the expenses of CCSU’s athletic program as direct administrative support”

The UPBC believes that students have the right to know that their tuition and fee monies are being used to balance the annual budget of CCSU’s athletic program. Therefore, the UPBC recommends the administration (i) report what percentage of the University’s general fund comes from student tuition and fees; (ii) report the amount of money used as revenue for the athletic program as direct administrative support and used item (i) to determine the cost to students; and (iii) report a breakdown of athletic student aid such that it is clear how much is based upon need and how much is not [in order to comply with item 9* in BR#96-070]. All of these items can also be folded into the annual report to the BOT required by Board Policy BR#6-070 “Policy on Intercollegiate Athletics for Connecticut State University Institutions” [Item 6].

(Item 9 in BR#96-070: Funds used in support of grants-in-aid to athletes (not based on financial need) shall not be drawn from student tuition, student fees, state appropriations, or federal funds.)

Motion #4:

[Rewarding Practices]

“Concerning the absence of the athletic program in CCSU’s strategic plan”

The UPBC believes that the athletic program is of value to the University. Therefore, the UPBC moves the Senate form an ad hoc committee to suggest objective(s) related to stating CCSU’s commitment and objectives for the athletic program. This committee must report back to the UPBC by March 5th, 2012. The committee shall consist of the following voting members: 3 members of the UPBC, 3 members of the UAB, and 3 members of the Senate. The following non-voting, ex-officio members shall be invited to participate: The FAR (if not one of the 9 voting members), the UA, the Provost, and the CFO or representatives
Motion #5:

[Rewarding Practices]

“Concerning the absence of the athletic program in CCSU’s strategic plan”

The UPBC believes that the athletic program is of value to the University and applauds the strong efforts behind the recent increase in revenue to support the program that relieves the need for direct administrative support to balance the athletic program budget. However, the direct administrative support and overall operating cost of the athletic program both continue to grow steadily. Therefore, the UPBC requests that the Senate asks the President to charge a Presidential ad hoc committee. This ad hoc committee should investigate long-term planning strategies for revenue generation in athletics as well as possible cost-saving actions. This committee should have adequate representation from the UPBC, UAB, and Faculty Senate and should report by the end of the academic year—holding at least one open public forum.