

*approved by  
acclamation  
as amended*

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[1] **Whereas** according to the Athletics Department mission statement, a goal of the Department is to "provide ever competitive among Division I programs."<sup>1</sup>

[2] **Whereas** newly-inducted University of Texas President William Powers stated at his inauguration that he wished public university in the country"<sup>2</sup>.

[3] **Whereas** in a meeting between members of the current UT club gymnastics team and Athletic Director Deloss D the group's efforts.

[4] **Whereas** the University of California—Berkeley, the University of California—Los Angeles, the University of Illinois Michigan, Michigan State University, the University of Minnesota, the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, the O Washington—ten of the University's eleven Official Comparison Schools—possess Division I women's gymnastics team

[5] **Whereas** the University of California—Berkeley, the University of Illinois, the University of Michigan, the University of five of the University's Official Comparison Schools—possess Division I men's gymnastics teams.

[6] **Whereas** Stanford University, the University's main competitor for Sports Illustrated's title of "Best Overall Athletic both men's and a women's gymnastics teams.

[7] **Whereas** the University of Oklahoma, Iowa State University, the University of Missouri, and the University of Nebraska Big XII Conference. Oklahoma and Nebraska have men's teams that compete in the Mountain Pacific Athletic Conference a conference within a sport.

[8] **Whereas** six of the fourteen members of the University of Oklahoma men's gymnastics team—winners of three national hail from the state of Texas, including Jonathan Horton, who placed third overall in 2005 at the Championships as a

[9] **Whereas** the University of Texas club gymnastics women's team has won National Association of Intercollegiate titles each of the past two seasons.

[10] **Whereas** The University of Texas club gymnastics men's team placed second at the 2005 NAIGC National Championships behind Penn State University, whose Division I team won the 2004 NCAA National Championships. Two UT gymnasts the top five in individual all-around.

[11] **Whereas** The University of Texas club gymnastics men's team won each regular season competition this season team won all but one. The women also captured the Texas Gymnastics Conference Championships on March 25, 200

[12] **Whereas** the UT Club Gymnastics men's team score at the March 4<sup>th</sup> Hardin-Simmons University competition was the University's team score at an event on the same date under the same rules. Longhorn Light Townsend's individual all second overall at that same event<sup>4</sup>.

[13] **Whereas** a recent study (LOOKING FOR IT) reported that gymnasts have among the highest GPA and graduation gymnastics team reported team GPAs of 3.32 in 2003-2004 and 3.24 in 2004-2005, the highest among UCLA sports teams consists predominantly of engineering and business majors, and the team GPA exceeds 3.30.

[14] **Whereas** with the recent imposition of academic measures in determining athletic sanctions, the addition of an focus on maintaining high standards could assist the improvement of the Athletic Department's overall image and ac

[15] **Whereas** the state of Texas succeeds on the national and international level among Juniors. Four of the eight members of the National Team hail from the state of Texas. Three of the seven members of the 14-15 year old boys Junior National Team and seven members of the 12-13 year old boys Junior National Team hail from the state of Texas<sup>6</sup>. Texas women are also on the National teams and various NCAA teams.

[16] **Whereas** Philip Onorato and Tim Gentry of Plano, the first- and third-place 14-15 year old finishers respectively at the 2004 National Championships and two of the most heavily-recruited Juniors in the country, have expressed interest in competing for the University of Texas at Austin. Several Junior women gymnasts from Plano, Texas, were also leading members of the 2004 Olympic Team at the 2004 Olympic Trials.

[17] **Whereas** the creation of a gymnastics team at the University has gained widespread support from the national and local gymnastics clubs has spread across the country, and thousands of signatures have been returned, including the signatures of the Retton and Shannon Miller. Prospective coaches have also sent in resumes or expressed interest, from the 2004 Olympic Trials of the Defending-National-Champion Oklahoma Sooners, Mark Williams.

[18] **Whereas** collegiate interest in the sport exists nationwide. The 2005 University of Utah women's gymnastics team, which was a profit last year, reported an average of 11,300 spectators per hosted competition<sup>7</sup>. Attendance nationally averages the highest ever recorded (Utah vs. Cal State Fullerton in 1991)<sup>8</sup>. Texas Women's University, the only scholarship program in the country versus Oklahoma earlier this year<sup>9</sup>.

[19] **Whereas** the University of Alabama set the SEC Single-Season Attendance Record in 2005 (10,570 per meet), a 10% rise<sup>10</sup>.

[20] **Whereas** The University of Texas at Austin women's soccer and volleyball teams average about 900 and 2000,

[21] **Whereas** the cost of running an NCAA gymnastics program is relatively inexpensive. The University of Oklahoma Center for a cost of only \$1 million, and the highest paid coaches in the sport have salaries between \$70-75 thousand per year paid at The University of Texas, currently earns \$104,558 per year<sup>13</sup>.

[22] **Whereas** according to the University of Oklahoma gymnastics 2004 budget (generously provided by the OU athletic department) the men's gymnastics team totaled \$117,312.51, excluding the cost of the coach's salary or the two full scholarships provided for the women's gymnastics team totaled approximately \$110,000<sup>14</sup>.

[23] **Whereas** according to the US Office of Postsecondary Education, the University of Texas at Austin registered over 1000 basketball participant in 2004-2005<sup>15</sup>.

[24] **Whereas** in the fall semester of that same year, the men's basketball team reported a team GPA of 1.91<sup>16</sup>.

[25] **Whereas** The University of Texas at Austin's Athletic Department reported a revenue of \$53.2 million for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. The total cost of athletic scholarships at Texas, including those for football and all other sports, male and female, is approximately \$10 million.

[26] **Whereas** a variety of potential cost-mitigation efforts could be undertaken to reduce the initial cost to the University. The University possess NCAA programs that do not offer scholarships. Other schools employ one coach for both the men's and women's teams from Capital Gymnastics for approximately \$5,000 per year, could continue until on-campus facilities are constructed.

[27] **Whereas** an NCAA Division I gymnastics team would be willing to be a test case for the two-tier system of funding.

[28] **Whereas** the Michael Sims Memorial Scholarship was created in order to encourage top-level gymnasts in the state to become a level club gymnast or a member of a university club team<sup>18</sup>. The President of the Michael Sims Memorial Scholarship is currently in working with the University to set up athletic scholarships for an NCAA team.

[29] **Whereas** Bob Wuornos is currently setting up a \$50 million endowment fund to help with the initial start-up costs and members of the gymnastics community are currently being solicited as potential donors.

[30] **Whereas** Athletic Director Deloss Dodds stated in the aforementioned meeting that "liability is not an issue."

## Comments

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WHEREAS Clements High School in Sugar Land, Texas declined to create a University Interscholastic League gymnastics program in Texas.

WHEREAS it has been said that the University of Texas at Austin is close to Title IX non-compliance. If the University years, the creation of both a men's and women's gymnastics team would maintain this compliance. If not, the fact of larger rosters than men's teams would help to improve the University's compliance and forestall any potential

WHEREAS the cost of implementing both a men's and women's team is minimally more than creating just one of the

WHEREAS the current club gymnastics team members have met with and are in the process of meeting with each of explain the current opportunity to create a successful program at very little cost.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED The University of Texas at Austin Student Government believes that the University has coed gymnastics program at a low cost. SG believes there is a high level of interest and support from the Texas and gymnastics program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED we call on Athletic Director Deloss Dodds, the Men's and Women's Athletics Councils, Pre: Texas Board of Regents to explore the possibility of creating an NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Gymnastics pro:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution will be sent to the offices of Athletic Director Deloss Dodds, President Willi. Women's Athletics Councils, and members of the University of Texas Board of Regents.

*Be it further resolved the Student Government wishes the team  
Footnotes good luck this weekend at their national championship.*

- 1 - [http://www.texassports.com/index.php?s=&change\\_well\\_id=2&url\\_article\\_id=111](http://www.texassports.com/index.php?s=&change_well_id=2&url_article_id=111)
- 2 - <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/media/paper410/news/2006/02/01/TopStories/Changing.Of.The.Guard-15469no...sourcedomain=www.dailytexanonline.com>
- 3 - [http://www.soonersports.com/SportSelect.dbml?SPID=197&DB\\_LANG=C&DB\\_OEM\\_ID=300&SPSID=2629&SPORT\\_TAB\\_SEL=02&DB\\_LANG=C&DB\\_O](http://www.soonersports.com/SportSelect.dbml?SPID=197&DB_LANG=C&DB_OEM_ID=300&SPSID=2629&SPORT_TAB_SEL=02&DB_LANG=C&DB_O)
- 4 - <http://www.owlssports.com/uploads/files/Meet-Results---3306.pdf>
- 5 - <http://www.dailybruin.ucla.edu/news/articles.asp?ID=36248>
- 6 - [www.usa-gymnastics.org/athletes/teams/2004-Mens-JrTeamList.htm](http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/athletes/teams/2004-Mens-JrTeamList.htm)
- 7 - <http://homepage.mac.com/gregmarsden/UtahTraditionofSuccess.htm>
- 8 - <http://homepage.mac.com/gregmarsden/UtahTraditionofSuccess.htm>
- 9 - [http://www.twu.edu/athletics/06\\_Gymnastics/Releases/0129\\_tri.htm](http://www.twu.edu/athletics/06_Gymnastics/Releases/0129_tri.htm)
- 10 - <http://www.rolltide.com/Gymnastics/4578.asp>
- 11 - [http://www.texassports.com/doc\\_lib/000\\_stats/sc/2005/teamstat.htm](http://www.texassports.com/doc_lib/000_stats/sc/2005/teamstat.htm) and [http://www.texassports.com/doc\\_li](http://www.texassports.com/doc_li)
- 12 - [http://www.soonersports.com/ViewArticle.dbml?DB\\_LANG=C&SPSID=2619&SPID=197&DB\\_OEM\\_ID=300&ATC](http://www.soonersports.com/ViewArticle.dbml?DB_LANG=C&SPSID=2619&SPID=197&DB_OEM_ID=300&ATC)
- 13 - <http://quote.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=nifea&&sid=aC2XHZdyzqN8>
- 14 - Copy of budget available by request.
- 15 - [http://www.texassports.com/doc\\_lib/eada\\_2005.pdf](http://www.texassports.com/doc_lib/eada_2005.pdf)
- 16 -
- 17 - <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/media/paper410/news/2006/03/22/TopStories/Athletes.Gpas.Slightly.Lower.Than>
- 17 - <http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/news/story?id=2337810>