

Friday, June 2, 2017

To the WSU Board of Trustees, Interim President Curtis McCray, and incoming President Cheryl Schrader:

We, the undersigned faculty, are writing to express our objection to the proposed FY18 budget announced on May 19. It calls for a \$1.6 million increase in budgeted spending for intercollegiate athletics but cuts to every other major spending unit, including \$9.5 million in cuts to the seven core colleges and \$1 million in cuts to the library (not to mention \$3.9 million additional cuts to BSoM and SoPP).

Indeed, when the Board of Trustees hired Dr. McCray as interim President, “maintaining [WSU’s] core athletics programs at a NCAA Division I level” appeared in the *first sentence* of the *first item* in the list of his duties specified in his contract.

Putting athletics on a par with academics and thus before the needs of our students is disgraceful and a gross strategic blunder! It continues the misplaced priorities that have characterized WSU spending in recent years and, along with gross mismanagement, led to the present fiscal crisis.

Under normal circumstances, it would be rational to give intercollegiate athletics a realistic budget, in line with the overspending that annually has occurred. But, in this fiscal crisis, it is inexplicable—even absurd. Spending on intercollegiate athletics has typically totaled about \$10 million per year; in contrast, ticket sales have generated about \$300 thousand per year. Even if one includes donations and other sources, the revenue generated by athletics has been about \$2 million per year—most of which is offset by the subsidies that the university must provide to the Nutter Center because athletic events generate such little revenue.

There is no evidence that intercollegiate athletics is of much interest to most of our students. After all, through their fees, they pay for two “free” tickets to each basketball game, but student attendance is chronically and woefully low. Likewise, all the empty seats at athletic events and the minuscule revenue generated by athletics demonstrate that there is little community support for our teams either.

Students come to Wright State looking for a quality education at an affordable price so that they can have rewarding careers rather than McJobs. Taxpayers expect and need the research of our faculty and students to benefit our communities and foster economic development. None of these objectives are advanced by increasing spending on intercollegiate athletics.

In closing, then, we call upon you to totally eliminate the increase budgeted for intercollegiate athletics. Instead, we propose that this \$1.6 million be devoted to scholarships. That change in the proposed budget would help to stabilize enrollments and to restore our badly tarnished reputation in the community.

Martin Kich  
Aaron Wolpert  
Abinash Agrawal  
Adrian Corbett  
Alan Chesen  
Allen Hunt  
Alpana Sharma  
Amelia Hubbard  
Amir Zadeh  
Amit Sharma  
Amit Sheth  
Andrea Harris  
Andrew Strombeck  
Angela Johnson  
Angie Clayton  
Ann Farrell  
Ann Stalter  
Annette Canfield  
Annette Oxindine  
Anthony Evans  
Arnab Shaw  
Arvind Elangovan  
Audrey McGowin  
Awad Halabi  
Barbara Fowler  
Barbara Hopkins  
Barbara Hull  
Barbara Kraszpulska  
Basil Naah  
Betsy Witt  
Bin Wang  
Brady Allen  
Brandy Foster  
Brenda Young  
Bruce Cromer  
Bruce Laforce  
Byron Crews  
Carl Sabo  
Carlos Costa  
Carol Herringer  
Carol Mejia-Laperle  
Carol Morgan  
Caroline Cao  
Caroline Hillard  
Carolyn Stoermer  
Catherine Crowley

Chad Campbell  
Charis Elliott  
Charles Gulas  
Chinonye Chukwu  
Chris Barton  
Christine Sitko  
Christine Wilson  
Christopher Beck  
Christopher Deweese  
Christopher Oldstone-Moore  
Chuck Ciampaglio  
Cynthia Marshall  
D Miyasaki  
Damaris Serrano  
Dan Halm  
Daniel Slilaty  
Daniel Zehringer  
Danielle Rante  
Dave Benson  
Dave Hochstein  
David Bukovinsky  
David Castellano  
David Hall  
David Seitz  
Deborah Crusan  
Dennis Loranger  
Detrice Barry  
Dorothy Alvarez  
Doug Keown  
Doyle Watts  
Drew Swanson  
Elliot Gaines  
Eric Rowley  
Erik Banks  
Erik Potts  
Frank Eguaroje  
Franklin Cox  
Geoffrey Owens  
George Huang  
Gina Oswald  
Gregory Kozlowski  
Gretchen Mcnamara  
Guozhu Dong  
Haili Du  
Hank Dahlman  
Hannah Chai  
Heeyoung Shin

Hope Jennings  
Huma Bashir  
Ioana Pavel  
Ion Juvina  
Irena Joseph  
J Bernstein  
J Weinzimmer  
Jackson Leung  
James Carter  
James Menart  
James Schwartz  
James Tipps  
Jeannette Marchand  
Jennifer Kaminski  
Jerry Clark  
Jerry Nelms  
Jessica Barnett  
Jill Lindsey  
Jim Adamitis  
John Conteh  
John Dickinson  
John Gallagher  
John Haught  
John Kurokawa  
John Martin  
Jonas Thoms  
Jonathan Varhola  
Joseph Cavanaugh  
Josh Ash  
Josh Francis  
Joshua Stomel  
Judson Murray  
Judy Jagger-Mescher  
Judy Ribak  
Karen Lahm  
Karen Meyer  
Kathryn Meyer  
Katie Hossler  
Kefu Xue  
Keke Chen  
Kelly Battles  
Kevin Duffy  
Kim Vito  
Kimberly Warrick  
Kristine Scordo  
Kuppuswamy Arumugam

Kwang-Jin Cho  
Labib Rouhana  
Lafleur Small  
Lance Greene  
Larry Weinstein  
Lary Sanders  
Laurel Monnig  
Len Kenyon  
Leslie Neyland  
Liam Anderson  
Linda Farmer  
Lindsey Martin  
Lisa Kenyon  
Lynne Kelley  
Maher Amer  
Marian Kazimierczuk  
Marie Thompson  
Marjorie Hess  
Marjorie Mclellan  
Mark Verman  
Marlene Stuber  
Marlese Durr  
Martha Antolik  
Mary Coyle  
Matthew Benjamin  
Megan Faragher  
Megan Rua  
Mei Tian  
Meilin Liu  
Melissa Spirek  
Michelle Cipriano  
Michelle Metzner  
Michelle Reed  
Michelle Smith  
Mindy Fulks  
Mindy McNutt  
Misty Richmond  
Nancy Garner  
Nathan Bowling  
Nicole Richter  
Noeleen Mcilvenna  
Oliver Stoutner  
Pam Knauertlavarnwa  
Pamela Tsang  
Pascal Hitzler  
Paula Bubulya

Peggy Kelly  
Penny Park  
Pramod Kantha  
Pratik Parikh  
Qingbo Huang  
Quan Zhong  
Rachel Sturm  
Raghavan Srinivasan  
Rebecca Edwards  
Rebecca Teed  
Rick Volkers  
Robert Ritzi  
Robert Rubin  
Ron Butcher  
Rory Roberts  
Roy Vice  
Sarah Mcginley  
Sarah Tebbens  
Scott Bruce  
Scott Geisel  
Scott Watamaniuk  
Sean Pollock  
Shannon Vaughn  
Sharon Heilmann  
Sharon Jones  
Shelley Jagow  
Sheng Li  
Shengrong Cai  
Sheri Stover  
Sherri Sutter  
Shreya Bhandari  
Shulin Ju  
Sirisha Naidu  
Stacey Hundley  
Stefan Chinov  
Stephanie Davis  
Stephanie Dickey  
Stephanie Triplett  
Steven Higgins  
Stuart Mcdowell  
Subhashini Ganapathy  
Susan Carrafiello  
Suzanne Franco  
Tanvi Banerjee  
Tara Hill  
Tarun Goswami

Teressa McWilliams  
Theresa Myadze  
Thomas Lukowicz  
Thomas Rooney  
Thomas Wischgoll  
Tk Prasad  
Tracy Brewer  
Tracy Longley-Cook  
Travis Clark  
Tyler Green  
Valerie Stoker  
Vance Saunders  
Vikram Sethi  
Volker Bahn  
Weiwen Long  
Weizhen Wang  
William Romine  
William Slattery  
Yong Pei  
Yongjun Choi  
Zdravka Todorova  
Zhiqiang Wu