

May 26, 2008

Mr. Tim Ernst, Student Body President
UNC Charlotte
9201 University City Boulevard
Charlotte NC 28213

Re: Football @ UNC Charlotte

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your May 7th letter regarding your University's current exploration of a new collegiate football program. I support your students' efforts to create a football team and will gladly convey your position to the Board of Governors, but I need your help with a few key items to be an effective advocate for this issue.

Although my term on the Board doesn't begin until July 1st, my observation of previous policy debates this year is that opposition to this or similar programs – or, more accurately, stated opposition – centers around 3 key arguments: **1)** expanded athletic programs detract from the University's educational mission; **2)** the increased cost from these programs restrict college access to financially-challenged students; and **3)** students should only pay for a program in proportion to their ability to benefit from it.

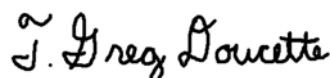
The first and third arguments are partly addressed in your letter (enhanced alumni support and school identity, and a multi-year phase-in of the athletics fee increase), but I would greatly appreciate any supporting documents you could give me; a Google search through the UNC Charlotte website was little help in finding a copy of the Football Advisory Committee's final report or anything similar.

Please also strongly encourage your ASG delegation to draft a resolution in support of your school's position. "Local legislation" was a key piece of the Doucette-Yopp platform, and this football issue is perfectly suited to that particular reform.

Finally, please keep me posted on any official position by your Board of Trustees or if any new reports are available relating to the accessibility argument. The more data I can have in-hand before my term officially begins, the easier it will be for me to persuade members of the Board.

Thanks again, and I'm looking forward to working with you on this in the months ahead!

With warm regards,



T. Greg Doucette
President-elect, UNC Association of Student Governments

<http://students.ncsu.edu/>