



State University of New York

Memorandum to Presidents

Date: May 3, 1973

Vol. 73 No. 5

From: Office of the Vice Chancellor
for Academic Programs

Subject: Revision of State University Policy
Concerning Conduct of Physical Education,
Recreation, and Athletic Programs

You have recently received copies of the minutes of the April 25 meeting of the Board of Trustees, at which a revised University policy concerning conduct of physical education, recreation, and athletic programs was adopted. A copy of the resolution is attached for your information. It should be pointed out that the resolution was developed by the Central Staff, in consultation with the Council of Presidents, the Undergraduate Program Committee of the Faculty Senate and representatives of Physical Education Directors.

The major effect of the revision will be the elimination, as of the beginning of the 1973-1974 academic year, of the University-wide physical education requirement. This action has possible implications for each campus, for students, particularly incoming freshmen planning their academic programs, for the physical education department, and for catalog revision, should a modification of local requirements be elected. Therefore, I felt it important to bring this Trustee decision to your special attention so that any appropriate action can be taken in good time.

Bruce Dearing
Bruce Dearing

Attachment

cc: Chancellor Boyer

Resolution Adopted Unanimously by the Board of Trustees of State University of
New York at a Meeting held on April 25, 1973

Whereas the Board of Trustees continues to assign importance to physical education as an essential component of the total learning experience in higher education; and

Whereas the curricular requirement of a program of physical education for regular undergraduate students, which was included in the statement of policy governing the conduct of physical education, recreation, and athletic programs at State-operated campuses of the University, adopted by this Board in Resolution 67-386, dated November 9, 1967, is inconsistent with general practice for other elements of the curriculum; and

Whereas the special circumstances which led to the adoption of this policy no longer obtain; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that Resolution 67-386, adopted November 9, 1967, be, and hereby is, amended as follows: (Brackets denote material to be deleted, underlining denotes new material to be added.)

"Resolved that the following State University policy governing the conduct of physical education, recreation, and athletic programs at State-operated campuses of the University be, and hereby is, approved effective at the beginning of the 1968-1969/ 1973-1974 academic year.

It shall be the policy of State University of New York that all regular undergraduate students of the State University must complete a physical education program satisfactory to the Chancellor of the University. This requirement shall generally apply to physically normal, fulltime freshmen and sophomores. physical education programs shall be offered on the same basis as all other academic educational programs. Special programs shall be developed on all campuses to accommodate physically handicapped students and others who in the judgment of professional staff require such programs. The University shall continue to encourage the provision of opportunities for students, including physically handicapped students, to pursue physical education as part of a regular academic program or as part of intramural activities.

State University endorses intramural athletics and recreational programs and shall provide to the extent possible whatever facilities and staff its campuses may request to support such programs and to permit maximum student participation under proper supervision. With consideration for the inherent differences among its various types of campuses, the University intends that its campus-controlled intramural and recreation programs and facilities shall be generally comparable throughout the University system.

State University endorses intercollegiate athletic programs that contribute to its fundamental objective of offering all students the best possible educational and living experiences. However, the University intends that neither its fiscal structure nor its student personnel policies shall be distorted to accommodate such programs. No agency of the University shall provide or honor student subsidies based primarily on a student's athletic ability.

The University shall devote to intercollegiate athletic activities a share of its total financial resources proportionate to the best interests of all students in the three-way program of physical education, recreation, and athletics. [All fees and gate receipts associated with University-controlled intercollegiate athletic contests shall be received into the University Income Fund.]

[Since all of the] University approved activities in recreation and athletics shall be funded in part normally through its state operating and capital construction budgets, but supplementary funds, such as those from [students assessments/ student activity fees or Faculty-Student Association activities, [shall] may be used for such activities [only with the consent of the Chancellor of the University]."