



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

May 5, 2015

Professor Robert Kyr
Senate President
University Senate

Dear President Kyr and senators:

I am writing in response to *Senate Resolution 14/15-52* regarding the *ASUO-Athletics Tickets Agreement*.

The University of Oregon is committed to financial responsibility and stability. As a public institution, we must continue to work to promote access to higher education. It's important that we strive to keep tuition and fees as low as possible for our students. I expect all our departments and units to work towards this goal. At the same time, the university must ensure that our financial practices conform to best practices, are comparable to our peers and remain financially sustainable.

As I have stated in my previous senate response to US13/14-31, I am confident that the current budgeting model of the Department of Athletics meets our financial and institutional goals. The athletics department provides many benefits to the institution, students, alumni and state.

Additionally, I believe the athletics department ticket agreement with ASUO provides students with a good value that is comparable or better than our peers. The growth of the incidental fee that the athletic department receives from the ASUO has not kept pace with the market value of tickets. It is also not realistic to suggest that this on-going funding source from student fees for tickets can simply be shifted and sustained through fundraising. For these reasons, I cannot support this senate resolution.

I do support the ASUO's desire to seek the best value for the students it represents. I encourage our athletics department and ASUO to continue to work together so that students can continue to enjoy and benefit from athletic events at the University of Oregon.

Sincerely,



Scott Coltrane
Interim President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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