

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 19, 2013

Dr. Mark Emmert
President
National Collegiate Athletic Association
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, IN 46206

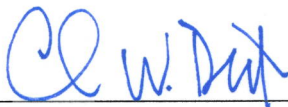
Dear Dr. Emmert:

We are writing in response to your February 7th correspondence to reiterate our request that the NCAA rescind the scholarship restriction included in the sanctions imposed against The Pennsylvania State University. Contrary to your stated position, the reduction of 40 scholarships over the lifetime of the sanctions will actually reduce the total number of scholarships available to student-athletes nationwide. During this four year period, other schools are now not suddenly able to offer more than 25 scholarships per year to student-athletes wishing to play football. Aggregating the total number of scholarships available to those wishing to play football, the entire scholarship pool will see a net loss of 40 scholarships. As such, the scholarship reduction has a definitive effect on innocent student-athletes.

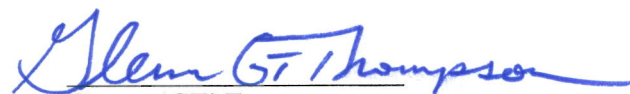
Additionally, this scholarship reduction must be viewed as *punitive* and not a routine sanction imposed by the NCAA. In your February 7th letter you stated the NCAA frequently uses scholarship reductions as a sanction against member institutions. While we agree that this type of sanction may be appropriate in certain instances of program misconduct, the NCAA has always implemented this type of sanction after a complete investigative and disciplinary process conducted by the NCAA's Committee on Infractions. In the instance of scholarship reductions included in the NCAA sanctions against Penn State, these reductions occurred after a series of unprecedented actions taken by your administration. Although Penn State agreed to the findings in the Freeh Report, you presented Penn State with a false-choice in accepting the sanctions. Further, the Committee on Infractions had no involvement in crafting the sanctions or investigating Penn State's alleged misconduct. Denying innocent student-athletes the access to quality higher education at Penn State can be viewed as nothing short of punitive due to the lack of appropriate administrative procedures. Finally, while Penn State student-athletes actually graduate, your organization continually fails to exercise greater oversight towards increasing graduation rates for a significant number of student-athletes at other institutions.

As we have previously said, the reduction in scholarships only harms innocent student-athletes who had nothing to do with Jerry Sandusky's unspeakable crimes. The NCAA should remain committed to its stated goal of providing access to outstanding higher education opportunities. To accomplish this goal, we ask again that you reconsider your current position and restore the scholarships previously reduced as part of the consent decree.

Sincerely,



CHARLES W. DENT
Member of Congress



GLENN 'GT' THOMPSON
Member of Congress