



February 7, 2013

Mark A. Emmert  
President

P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206  
Telephone: 317/917-6222

Shipping/Overnight Address:  
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

The Honorable Glenn Thompson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
124 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Thompson:

Thank you for your letter dated January 28, 2013, and the request to restore scholarships to the Pennsylvania State University Athletics program. We share a common interest in our commitment to promoting the academic success of student-athletes and the welfare of student-athletes remains a priority in all cases when sanctions are being considered. We certainly agree on the importance of student-athletes having opportunity, as more than 430,000 NCAA student-athletes compete annually in intercollegiate athletics.

As you know, reduction in the number of athletic scholarships is a significant, yet not uncommon sanction imposed by the NCAA. The intent of the action is to sanction the member university and not to deprive students of a chance for a college education. No student-athlete at Penn State lost a scholarship, and every student-athlete in the future is eligible for athletic scholarships at Penn State or other member institutions. And, of course, nothing restricts the ability of Penn State University to award need-based scholarships to those who could not otherwise attend college. Thus, while the reduction in athletic scholarships may impact the Penn State football program as intended, it actually has no effect on innocent student-athletes.

With respect to your specific request regarding Penn State, the scholarship reductions are part of the consent decree that is currently the source of pending litigation. Given this lawsuit, we trust that you understand that the NCAA is not in a position to discuss these matters at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Emmert".

Mark Emmert

ME: hn

National Collegiate Athletic Association

*An association of over 1,300 members serving the student-athlete*  
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer