

INTRODUCTION/CHARGE

In June of 2006, University of Minnesota, Crookston's (UMC) Chancellor, Charles H. Casey established an Athletic Review Committee to study the status of the intercollegiate athletic program on campus. The charge to the committee was to analyze the following information:

- Academic success of UMC student athletes, including recruiting, retention and graduation rates
 - Competitive success of UMC athletic programs
 - Impact of athletics on student enrollment at UMC with special consideration for students of color on campus
 - Overall financial support for athletics at UMC compared with peer institutions, including numbers of coaches and support staff, operating expenses, etc.
 - Scholarship support for UMC student athletes
 - Outside fundraising support for UMC athletic programs
 - Strengths and challenges of alternative divisions or conferences
 - Community involvement with UMC athletics
 - Compliance with NCAA policies
 - Overall visibility of the UMC athletic program and impact on the mission of UMC
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Report Objectives/Purpose:

To show what athletics in general, bring to a university (the role of athletics).

To examine where we are currently and where we need to be in order to be more competitive.

To analyze three different options for UMC which include the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II, Division III, and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and how they would compliment the university.

UMC Athletic Department's Mission:

To serve as a window to the University in an environment of integrity and equity that enables student athletes to achieve excellence in their academic and athletic pursuits.

UMC Athletic Department's Core Values:

- *Pride*: a confident, humble pride that has its genesis in discipline, unity, and accomplishment
- *Personal integrity in words and deeds*: enables Golden Eagle Athletics to develop a culture that optimizes educational opportunities for student-athletes and a valued working environment for employees.
- *Respect for human dignity*: Every individual, regardless of the magnitude of their accomplishments, warrants respect and honor.
- *Honoring Excellence*: Pursuit of excellence in all areas of life: academic, athletic, personal, and social.
- *Vision*: Become a 'model' athletic program for small public universities in the country.