



Executive Summary

University Response to NCAA's Amended Notice of Allegations

August 2, 2016

The Next Step in the Journey

Carolina's response to the NCAA's Amended Notice of Allegations (ANOA) is an important event in a painful six-year chapter of the University's history. We have accepted responsibility for what happened in our past and made numerous apologies to our campus community, to the citizens of North Carolina, and to all those who care about the institution. We have taken strong action steps to hold individuals accountable and to implement more than 70 wide-ranging initiatives to ensure confidence in our future.

The nature and scope of the academic irregularities that were discovered in 2011 are well documented in public reports from numerous internal and external investigations, and we voluntarily reported the irregularities to the NCAA and the University's academic accrediting agency, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Since the academic irregularities were discovered, the University has worked tirelessly to implement expansive actions and initiatives in undergraduate admissions, academic advising, academic oversight, institutional compliance and other areas to reduce the likelihood of recurrence and ensure integrity. SACSCOC, which oversees academic standards, conducted two comprehensive reviews of the University's reforms and initiatives and, in June 2016, removed the University from a year-long probation and maintained its accreditation.

It would be easy to think then the University's response to the ANOA is a discussion of all that has been widely reported since 2011. It is not.

The question before the NCAA Committee on Infractions is not whether the University or those affiliated with it failed to meet the appropriately high expectations set by the institution itself, its accreditor or others. The question is whether the matters raised by the ANOA meet the jurisdictional, procedural and substantive requirements of the NCAA constitution and bylaws—rules that govern athletics, not academic quality and oversight. The University has taken extraordinary steps to uphold its academic standards, and SACSCOC has affirmed our compliance with those standards. Therefore, our response to the ANOA is narrow in scope, focusing on allegations and issues specific to the NCAA.

The Response

Our response to the ANOA addresses the scope of the NCAA's regulatory authority as stated in its bylaws. This case involves core institutional issues—academic issues—not covered by the NCAA's bylaws. It also looks at issues regarding fairness and consistency and the NCAA's statute of limitations.

The response reviews the NCAA's decision about Carolina in 2012 and explains how, by rule, that decision is final and binding. Finally, the document addresses each specific allegation and presents Carolina's response point by point.

We are asking the Committee on Infractions for a fair and impartial judgment on each specific allegation based solely on the governing bylaws of the NCAA—not on factors outside those bylaws.

Moving Forward

The University has worked with the NCAA and embraces the NCAA principle that the enforcement program is a cooperative undertaking of all members to properly regulate intercollegiate athletics. Similarly, we worked in full cooperation with SACSCOC to demonstrate our compliance with the association's academic standards.

Throughout this entire process we have been committed to transparency, and all of our reviews, reports, actions and initiatives are posted on <http://carolinacommitment.unc.edu>.

While the past several years have been difficult, the necessary scrutiny and self-examination has put us in a better place. Carolina is moving forward a stronger University.