Sense of the Senate Resolution on the Proposed Academic Center for Intercollegiate Athletics
Faculty Senate
Executive Committee and Finance & Facilities Committee
Approved—May 2, 2016

Whereas the Faculty Senate passed a resolution on November 10, 2014 calling upon
the University “to strive to integrate the academic support, study space, and
recreational facilities for student-athletes with those for other OHIO students” (See
Appendix); and

Whereas that resolution cited the Senate’s endorsement of the principles of the
Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), which include a rejection of “policies
that isolate athletes from the general student body”; and

Whereas the University’s administration intends to seek expenditure approval for
the Sook Academic Center, a facility that violates the academic principle of that
resolution, at the June 2016 Board of Trustees meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate reaffirms its commitment to its November 2014
resolution; and

Be it further resolved that the Senate calls upon the University administration to
abandon this project and, if it does not, the Faculty Senate then urges the Board of
Trustees to withhold its approval.
APPENDIX

Sense of the Senate Resolution on the Proposed Academic Center for Intercollegiate Student-Athletes
Faculty Senate
Executive Committee & Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee
November 10, 2014—For Second Reading

Whereas the faculty of Ohio University value the personal and academic success of all our students; and

Whereas the planned capital improvements for FY 2015-2020 include $329 million in new expenses for repair or replacement of the crumbling academic facilities that have been identified as the greatest impairment to the university’s core academic mission; and

Whereas the published Capital Improvement Plan associates only $15.3 million of that with planned private giving; and

Whereas new academic support initiatives, including free tutoring for a record-breaking number of first-year, first-generation students, are straining the capacity of the existing facilities that are open to all students, while the FY 2015 General Fee committee concluded that the ICA Academic Learning Center, already larger than the Academic Advancement Center, “now is heavily used for student-athletes who are required to use the center and does not attract heavy traffic on a regular basis”; and

Whereas the OHIO Faculty Senate has previously endorsed the principles of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), which include a rejection of “policies that isolate athletes from the general student body,”

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to all donors who invest in OHIO students’ success; and

Be it further resolved that the Senate encourages the President and the Advancement Office to work with academic leaders, including deans and faculty, as well as through existing strategic planning procedures, to align private giving for academic facilities with OHIO’s academic needs; and

Be it further resolved that the University strive to integrate the academic support, study space, and recreational facilities for student-athletes with those for other OHIO students.