


October 23, 2019

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees 

FROM: Scott A. Jordan  
Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

RE: Delegation of Signature Authority for Athletic Competition Contracts

RECOMMENDATION:

The University administration recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the resolution below authorizing the Director of the Division of Athletics to sign certain University contracts in which the University's athletic teams agree to participate in competitions with the athletic teams of other institutions of higher education.

BACKGROUND:

By Resolution dated February 18, 2010, the Board of Trustees authorized the President to sign University contracts and to delegate in writing his or her signing authority to other University administrators in accordance with certain standards established by the Board of Trustees. These standards require, among other things, that the Board of Trustees approve in advance any University contract, or amendments thereof, having a value of \$1,000,000 or more (or \$5,000,000.00 or more if a research related contract).

The University's Division of Athletics regularly enters into contracts for the participation of the University's athletic teams in competitions with the athletic teams of other institutions of higher education. These contracts principally are intended to confirm the date of the scheduled competition and to allocate rights relating to the broadcasting and sale of tickets for the game.

For certain competitions, the home team will pay the visiting team compensation to travel to and participate in the competition. That compensation can exceed \$1,000,000, but will generally not exceed \$5,000,000. The University's move to the Big East Conference, and the change in conference affiliation of the University's football program to independent status, requires the Division of Athletics to respond quickly to invitations of other institutions of higher education to schedule competitions involving the University's football team.

In order to respond quickly to such invitations, the University requests authority for the Director of the Division of Athletics to sign such contracts, including amendments thereof, when the University is being compensated in an amount equal to \$1,000,000 or greater, but less than \$5,000,000, without prior approval of the Board of Trustees, provided the President approves each such contract, and all such contracts are presented to the Board of Trustees as an informational item after execution.

RESOLUTION:

In furtherance of the foregoing, the University recommends the Board of Trustees of the University approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Director of the Division of Athletics shall have all authority necessary to sign University contracts, including amendments thereof, in which the University is being compensated an amount equal to \$1,000,000 or greater, but less than \$5,000,000, for its athletic teams to participate in competitions with the athletic teams of other institutions of higher education, without prior approval of the Board of Trustees; provided all such contracts are approved by the University's President and are presented to the Board of Trustees as an informational item after execution.