November 11, 2011

Dr. Wallace D. Loh
President
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

Dear President Loh:

Enclosed please find the report of the President’s Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. As you charged us in July 2011, the Commission has outlined recommendations that we believe will ensure the future financial sustainability of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics needed to promote excellence in the academic and athletic success of our student athletes. Guided by a paramount commitment to all of our student athletes as well as the need to restore financial solvency in the Athletic Department, the Commission considered a wide range of options to increase revenues and decrease costs.

The Commission understands very clearly that the recommendation to reduce the number of varsity sports will be disappointing to the student athletes, parents, families, coaches and supporters of those programs. Therefore, the recommendation to reduce the number of varsity sports is made reluctantly and regrettfully and with great anguish. However, the Commission believes that these recommendations will provide our student athletes with the tools needed to succeed academically and athletically and, as a result, enable Maryland athletics to compete at championship levels.

The seventeen members of the President’s Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics appreciate your confidence in asking us to work on this very difficult assignment. Through long hours of careful deliberations, the Commission members carried out the task with professionalism and compassion for the affected student athletes, coaches and supporters. We would also like to thank Athletic Director Kevin Anderson and his staff for their cooperation and support.

We would be pleased to answer any questions you may have regarding the attached report.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Clement and Barry Gossett
Co-Chairs, President’s Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics