

RESOLUTION E04-25

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ATHLETICS EXPANSION AND MOVE FROM NAIA TO NCAA DIVISION II

WHEREAS, according to the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, the President must provide leadership in establishing a vision and goals to guide the University in fulfilling its mission; and

WHEREAS, the President's comprehensive enterprise growth initiative for Shawnee State University is now underway to raise the awareness and profile of Shawnee State University in the region, to increase undergraduate enrollment, and to expand and improve campus housing populations, residential life, and campus life;

WHEREAS, intercollegiate athletics significantly contribute to student recruitment, success, and completion, and are a critical element of vibrant campus life, profile, and visibility; and

WHEREAS, Shawnee State University has a decades-long record of success and accomplishment in varsity athletics, and a year of comprehensive study has determined that athletic expansion is a significant opportunity for enrollment growth at this particular time;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Shawnee State University supports the university's membership in the Mountain East Conference, and its movement of the athletics program from NAIA to NCAA Division II, including a commitment to launch a varsity football program by the 2028-2029 academic year.

(June 27, 2025)