### Faculty Football Survey
Results Overview

#### 1. Do you support the addition of an NCAA Division I football program at U.S.A.?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, unconditionally</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, with reservations</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, under any circumstances</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know/Don't Care</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2. The University Administration has estimated that the expense for the new football program would be approximately $5 million per year, and that the revenues needed to cover this expense would come from student fees ($3.5 million), ticket sales, alumni and major donations ($1 million to $1.5 million), with minimum amount from the university’s general operating budget. Given this proposed budget, do you support the addition of a football program at U.S.A.?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>43</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know/Don't Care</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### 3. In the University Administration’s estimation, the proposed football and marching band programs could add approximately 500 additional students to the university’s student body. At this time, the only additional faculty lines recommended to accommodate the additional students is for the Department of Music and the Athletics Department. No additional faculty lines have been proposed for other academic programs to accommodate the increase in number of students in survey/introductory courses, such as English, Communication, Sciences, etc. Given this, do you support the addition of a football program at U.S.A.?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>543</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know/Don't Care</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4. Do you believe that the addition of football would have a positive or negative affect on academic programs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Don't Know/Don't Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### 5. Do you believe that the addition of football and the marching band program will have an overall benefit to the University?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know/Don't Care</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Faculty Football Survey

Results Overview: Open Ended Responses
Filter: No filter applied (367 Response(s) Returned)

Return to Results Overview

6. Additional comments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Football is generally a prostitution of academic institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>My answer to most of these questions depends, ultimately, on how good the football team is. If the team eventually becomes good and well known, this is great for the university. If it is a perennial cellar dweller, it will not have a positive effect on the university.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I have a freshman attending here at South and feel this is a good school. I do wish that she could experience the school spirit that goes along with college football. I do not believe that football programs should be cut. I do feel that football here at South would be a great asset to Mobile and be a great addition to this university.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>I do support the football proposal, but am concerned that somehow with the cost incurred, employee salaries could be affected. If this were to happen, I would not support the decision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>It is about time you add some School Spirit to South. I am a graduate from this great College and if there was a need for anything at the school when I was there it was a Football Team and a Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>We don't need a football team at this time. Let's reduce student fees and get more low income students enrolled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>We have far more important issues that need to be addressed than considering a football program. It will not be a good idea when you have state employees who do not make enough compared to the junior colleges in this state. So you are asking us whether it's a good idea, absolutely not. Besides, we have two great collegiate football teams already in this state, Alabama and Auburn, and that's the end of it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>I think it's very silly to get a football team. Students already have to pay more than enough fees just in general, and usually for things that the majority don't even use. Why make them pay even more money for a team that a lot of them aren't going to go see play and that they don't really want in the first place? I really and truly don't see the point in it, especially if all the things above are true. Classes are already overcrowded, it would be a huge money drain on already cash-strapped students, and it's just really not needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>One reason students come to USA is the &quot;reasonable&quot; tuition when compared to other universities. Additional fees for football will most likely keep students from entering USA and more importantly and disturbing, making it impossible to return because the cost of an education here at USA continues to go up very often. It is a sad day when we close a medically needed division yet there is money for football!!! It is sad to see that football takes a higher priority over decent raises for faculty and staff to keep up with the cost of living!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>I think the cost of the program needs to be promoted for students who are taking exclusively online classes that cannot be taken on campus. Also, Master &amp; Post master graduates may need some consideration on the fees because there is rarely any help for tuition assistance and we are the ones working full time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>So when the cost is 15 million instead of 5 million, where will the money come from?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>My major concern regarding football are these: 1) Have students really considered the financial implications of student fee increases? 2) That the addition of a football &amp; band program in no way negatively effect the academic budget or scholarship opportunities for non-athletes, or music students interested in areas other than band.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>It's way overdue, but needs to be utilized wisely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>I think it is time! I would really like to see us try and get in CUSA. I think that should be a priority, because more people would come to games and provide support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>We need to support a local team as well as the other two teams here in Alabama.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>It is a crock and will drain resources from all over USA. I regret that the faculty has not made its position clearer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>The school needs this program to help draw more community support!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dead weeds don't grow! Let's get off our but and make something happen around here.

The addition of football is great but it should be accompanied by upgrades in academic programs. The facilities in Chemistry, for example, are inadequate to the increased burdens from the new pharmacy program and from increases in football. We shouldn't sacrifice academic quality on the altar of sport.

Rationale for program is flawed, e.g., how will this "enhance campus life" when Ladd-Peabody stadium is across town? Better yet, where's the so-called student support when only 17% of students have signed the petition in favor of football? USA doesn't have enough money now to pay for its faculty and degree programs, and student & faculty access to technology and other resources continues to be limited. Outside support & funding for the University has been at its lowest in recent years (thanks to J. Bustia), but now that funds will have to be taken from the General Fund to support this lost prospect, i.e., football, we'll have to "rob Peter to pay Paul." It's a net loss for everyone: existing athletic programs, students, donors and faculty, alike. Finally, from a competitive standpoint, one can't help but ask, aren't there enough -- far superior -- well-established football programs in the state and region already? Everyone I speak to off campus -- many of whom are alumni of the University -- laugh at the prospect of fans attending USA football games on a Saturday afternoon rather than watching Auburn, Alabama, LSU, FSU, Georgia, etc. play on TV.

P.S. Thanks for asking for faculty input, at this late date, and conveniently on the last day of class, when everyone is "slammed." Besides, it's already been announced in The Vanguard that G. Mouton will be recommending that football be added. Such pretense, such deception...

3.5 million $ from student fees -- no. Plus takes away from academic focus. Yes, I teach English--in your question 4, it's "effect," not "affect"...
did question writer go to school with football program?

I think it's a great move for the university. A football team and a marching band will bring in more students.

How will students get to Ladd?
How many prospective season tickets have been sold?
How many students would leave or not come based on the additional expenses?

A large part of intercollegiate athletics is subsidized by external sources of revenue nowadays, so in order to sponsor a new sports team the university will have to increase the athletic department staff and draw upon creative ticketing schemes, sponsorships, etc. otherwise the money will have to come in the form of institutional support so there is a concern from a faculty perspective. As for the estimates provided in this survey and other information about USA football they are extremely spurious, e.g., 500 additional students (50 scholarship players, 100 band members, 10 sports medicine staff; would be about 200 students total) studies have traditionally shown even football program success does not increase matriculation to schools so beyond the 1st year I find it hard to believe 500 additional students will come to USA because we have football. Also, the donations raised for football would merely be the result of donor fund displacement or funds that would have gone to the general school donor area anyway. While I am for adding football for intangible reasons (excitement and social interaction) the way it affects us from a monetary perspective is it makes no financial sense. Whether that effects the way we operate as a place of higher learning depends on those making budgetary decisions in the years to come.

The fact that I am a Mobileian, as well as an Alumni of USA, I think it would be great. On the otherhand, knowing our fan base in Mobile I question adding any other sports.

Look at our Basketball program. Do we even get half of our students to attend games? no

Mobileians tend to support a winner. This fact alone, is supported when the 1989's our Basketball program was doing so well. It was not till that point, did we get the participation that was needed. Once we lost our Coach, and the Conference lost teams, the attendance went back down again.

Some folks believed that by having a facility on campus that would make a difference. I agree it was needed, but did it make enough of a difference?
I often wondered why we as Mobileians produce so many great athletes, but yet we don't support a lot of teams in our area.
I served for a few years on the Sports Commission, and I wondered this question over and over. I have heard because we have beaches etc., but that in my opinion, should be a factor.

Have we ever really tried to get the students to attend games? Do we make them aware there is a game that night. Does anyone go through the Dorms, and make a big hoopla.

IT IS TIME TO CATCH UP WITH OTHER UNIVERSITIES!

Can't believe it's taken this long! Hooray!

I hope we can work together to make the student body, faculty, alumni, and community realize the importance of patience with the program. We live in a world of immediate gratification, and the football program will need time to get off the ground. The first team won't be the most talented. The first season will be a losing one. But as a native of Mobile, a USA alumnus, and now faculty member, I am happy to support Jaguar Football.

I don't think you could buy such great national coverage and advertisements for less than 5 million a year. I would willingly support a football program at South because I feel it would be a great investment.

We need MANY things more than football at this time.

I know football has been good for other universities in our state, such as Alabama, Auburn, and Troy.

If this proposal is adopted, I think that in order to demonstrate to all that this will not "interfere" with academic finances, any donations from sources outside of the University should have a percentage allocated to the academics. This is essentially a guarantee that money will not be drawn away from the main mission of this university-academics. It might also make those who donate more invested in the academic quality of this institution. 50/50% would be ideal. 70/30% would be acceptable. This policy must be in place before any monies are accepted. If donors don't agree, then it is clear that they do not understand the essential mission of the University.

It has to be done with recruiting high quality players and coaches to get it right at the beginning. A badly ranked football team is not good at all. So can we get star players and coaches as Auburn, OSU, USC, LSU???: This is the key.
We still have so many academic needs that are not met. I would like us to first address these issues then maybe at a later time - 10 years from now - if we can raise the academic standards, we might want to consider a football team.

Football team may add additional revenue to University; however, I have seen an overall degradation of academic standards at every University I have been at to allow marginal student athletes to maintain their eligibility to play. It is shocking how few student athletes actually graduate with a useful degree. Certainly, football would bring attention to USA but it may not bring the type of recognition we seek to have. Also, burdening the students (and their parents) with an increased student activity fee which will benefit only the athletic department is inappropriate. If we are to field a football team, it needs to be self-sufficient financially rather than being an added financial burden on the Students—especially those who neither want nor need a football team to meet their academic goals.

I am very excited about the possibility of football at USA. I believe the addition of football will encourage more local students not only to attend the University of South Alabama but become involved in University life. Football? Absolutely!! Go Jags!!

cost to students proposed is unreasonable

The University already has outstanding financial issues (academic and facility concerns). I do not believe it wise to take on further costs, especially at a cost to the students and to under-funded programs already on campus.

The University has done a good job with basketball and other sports keeping them in perspective. If it can do the same with football, it'll be a positive for USA.

Division I football corrupts, NCAA enforcers, no matter how hard they try, cannot stop it. Even the idea of Division I football already corrupted USA — QCB talk about it paying for itself, apparent falsehoods about widespread student support based on 2000 signatures on a petition, willingness to exploit present and future students with a sizable increase in student fees (perhaps $1200 a year, a considerable sum for the many USA students who work to put their way through school); loose talk about attracting more funding for the general fund and more students (careful surveys have documented otherwise), talk about people turning out in large numbers at Ladd-Peebles Stadium (despite problems of parking, access, and pervasive rust!!); nonsensical belief that many people tied to Auburn and Alabama will fund a USA program. As the kids would say, "Get real."

Since I had to sit on a lopsided chair in my office for 2 years because new furniture was not in the budget—NO I don't support spending money on a sports program—especially not at the expense of academic programs and the non-athlete students. Additionally, adding extra workload for the faculty teaching survey/Intro courses will impair their ability to pursue other scholarly activity such as research, curriculum development, etc and thusly have a negative impact on their careers/opportunity for promotion/tenure.

Build it and they will come

Having not only the student bodies support but the community support is going to be a major factor... we need to find a creative way to get them to LOVE USA!! Also, additional faculty and the creation of more classes is so important.

I THINK THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD SUPPORT THE FOOTBALL TEAM. IT WOULD GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING THE GAME OTHER THAN ON TELEVISION. I HOPE THIS PROPOSAL GO THROUGH

Some of the questions were a little too cut and dried. Lots of gray area. Certainly with additional 500 students (some presumably paying tuition) additional faculty lines should be looked at. But final decision should be based on current capacity and the anticipated increase. Football will undoubtedly increase notoriety of USA, and it should help school spirit. Eventually an on-campus stadium will be needed.

For USA to compete with other universities I believe this is definitely needed.

I think that the football program would be great. However, I don't like raising the student fees by 200 to 300 per semester. Maybe the funding could come from somewhere else. And, I don't think any other scholarship program or medical facilities should suffer.

Football fans in Alabama are of only two mind sets: red or blue. It would take 15 years to change that to red, white and blue. South at this time has a sailing team that is ranked in the top 15 in the nation; a female sailor in the top ten, a team that this year beat Navy in their own backyard. Very little money is spent on this activity and almost no university acknowledgement or support is given to their efforts. If it were not for outside help we would not have a team at all.

Norman Foster 465-7624 TECOM

All pros and cons considered, this will attract students, generate revenue and give the University the "college" feel it is currently lacking. It's a great investment in the future of the university.

I intend to support the football program by purchasing season tickets.

Question #3: answer is no UNLESS there is a plan for the possible shortfall should ticket sales do not go as planned, etc. Question #4: It will be negative unless contingency plans are well made for the academic impact as well, like faculty lines for sciences, developmental studies, English, etc. Question #5. Again the answer is NO unless there is detailed planning before the program is established, perhaps a committee of devil's advocates to point out all pitfalls so that we could avoid them. I have not heard anything about other related items either. I think the success of the football team will partially depend on a stadium on campus, a state of the art stadium with a 100,000 seating capacity. Who is going to pay for that?

Football is a vital part of a student's life during their college years and will bring a much needed boost to campus life and involvement at South Alabama.

I do not believe that the majority of the University's student body, being from other cultures, would not support a football team and that the part of the student body that are from surrounding areas already support other state universities, and would not compromise support for a new, smaller team.

There are issues with USA's Arts & Sciences course work that need to be resolved before the university commits so much money to football and a marching band. I'm staff at the university and never have nor am I interested in attending "games". The fact that a portion of monies I spend to attend college go to other things that I'm not involved in bother me immensely and so - NO - I do not support a football team or marching band.

Although the over all expense of getting a football team and a marching band started here at the University is estimated in the millions, I feel the proceeds coming in from the games will repay you one hundred fold. So you must be open minded and look at the whole picture not just the over all expense but what it can do for the University in the long run.

I think that financially, academics need to come first. Many of the buildings on this campus are outdated and could benefit quite significantly from that kind of money. Space is a huge issue, especially in the departments performing scientific research. We are here to make sure that students get an education so that they can contribute to society in a successful manner, and I strongly feel that academics need to come first. I worry
It would be a financial drain on limited resources.

When the University can fully support its academic programs, then it would be expected that new sports programs could be considered.

5,000,000 could be spent in many other ways!!!

I leave it for the next generation...-_-!

I believe that the football and marching band would be beneficial to the University and increase the way the University is seen; a plus for us to get the best scholars and ballers.

It is hard to support the football program when the University is in dire need of academic investment. To give our students the attention they need and to help them develop their professional skills we really must have smaller classes and more full-time faculty. We desperately need a better funded writing program and a better funded special student services department, better classroom technology, maps for classrooms, and all the lists goes on. I do appreciate what an NCAA Division 1 football program can offer USA and the Gulf Coast as a whole. But the question is, does a football team enhance a University's reputation when its graduates still can not write? How can we justify spending student fees on building a football program when their education comes up short?

The $3.5 million fee assessment is absolutely unfair. 100% of satutors will be paying for the pleasure of 10%. A student referendum needs to be held—could be done via e-mail very easily.

Go Jaguars!

The basketball programs, and softball and baseball programs have not yet reached their potential. If these programs were to achieve national attention, it would do this University a world of good as far as attracting students and money. They also require much less investment. If you can not excel in these how do you ever expect to excel in football. I would never understand why men's soccer was dropped given all the soccer that is going on in the Mobile area which continues to grow.

Even at this early stage, it is extremely important to think about the future for a football program. Would a stadium be constructed (hopefully yes)? If so, where and when? Hopefully, it would be built either on or very near to the main campus. If, as stated above, a football and band program adds to the enrollment, a clear plan should be in place as to how to best accommodate this increase (additional faculty, additional student housing, etc.) It is extremely important to have a long-range strategic plan for a football program. This plan should be fully integrated into the long-range strategic plan for the entire university.

I don't support raising tuition/fees to support the addition of a football team.

I believe in the beginning there may be some growing pains, however the long term benefits to the University would be worth it.

I feel that the staff would support football if they were allowed to purchase discounted season tickets for themselves and for their immediate family.

There is a positive benefit only if the program is done well. A poor program will reflect negatively on the University. Do the program well or not at all.

I feel like a football team would be great for the atmosphere at USA. It will give it a good spirit. The student's would really enjoy the games, and so would the faculty and staff.

There are many issues have their pros and cons. On this issue, however, there are no pros whatsoever. USA is not Tuscaloosa or Auburn or even Troy State. The majority of the students at these schools live on campus and sometimes are willing to attend campus events. USA, on the other hand, is for the most part a commuter school. Once students leave for the day, they do not ordinarily return. Look at the Mitchell Center and attendance at basketball games. For example.

Unfortunately, most people do not realize USA has some very high academic expectations (e.g., the foreign language requirement for all A&S majors and football players traditionally have not been the best students by national standards). I think the addition of football could flood parts of the campus with students who are unable to meet the academic standards expected of others.

Isn't this survey a bit rhetorical? Given the results of faculty surveys on this subject in years past, I cannot help but feel that the Administration purposefully neglected to consult USA faculty on this issue. So here are my opinions...not that they'll count for much.

For the most part my student athletes have been very good, but there are those who struggle and for some bizarre reason they take math classes when they know that they will miss up to 6 Fridays. I would hope that the additional resources given to the athletics programs will include better advising. I would also hope to never hear that the training facilities and locker rooms are more technologically enhanced than the average USA classroom, if professors have to muddle through with chalk, so can the coaches. If they have a problem with this, send them to a classroom so that they can see why their program exists in the first place.

Given the sale of tickets for basketball & baseball, the University's estimates of ticket revenue seem highly unlikely. This is particularly true given that there is little-to-no competition from SEC football and baseball. In contrast, the football program will face substantial competition for tickets from SEC teams given the large number of area residents who travel one or more weekends to see SEC teams--travel that is unlikely to be deterred by the exciting prospect of watching a start-up Sun Belt Conference football team.

This survey does not mention the estimated increase of tuition per student.

I think it is completely inaccurate to say that all the money would have to come from student fees and donations. Student fees should not incur any cost. I think this is just a way for administration to discourage faculty from voting pro-football. Ticket sales & promotions should cover any cost for the program. Student fees should be used to build parking garages.

Ultimately there is no question with an increase in enrollment we would need an increase in instructors. There first has to be a tangible enrollment increase so that the administration can understand the necessity of adding instructors in areas such as English, Communications, Science, etc. Courses will also have to be offered at more traditional times so that a football team of 100 players can all practice at the same time without mid to late afternoon classes causing a major scheduling nightmare. There will clearly be bridges to cross once Div. 1 football is added, but the long-term benefit to the university from adding these traditional programs clearly outweighs the impending headaches.

My primary concerns are two-fold: Current athletic events are not well-attended so I am skeptical of actual support for such an expensive sport. Secondly, I am concerned that athletic expenses will drain money from academic programs.

Academics could be affected if students allow football activities to interfere with their studies. But overall, I think the addition of the programs will be more positive as it allows for many different activities that bring the student body together and thus enhance the "college experience." I know several students that have elected to attend school elsewhere based on the expectation of the "overall" experience. Another way to enhance this "overall" college experience is to work to have a smaller ratio of commuters to resident students.
I anticipate that the university will raise student fees significantly, beyond what the administration has already acknowledged. My other concern is that the games will, overall, have poor attendance. Students say that they want an NCAA D1 team, but most will not actively support the program.

Go Jags!

Football will raise the profile of USA. USA's academics can benefit from the exposure.

#3 question should have another optional response as #1 does...Yes, with reservations.

#4, I would say I don't know, not that I don't care. In the long run, having a football team may draw a better quality of student to USA. I think it is hard to predict the outcome. I am certain that there will be the need to hire additional faculty, but perhaps they can be done on an adjunct basis until we know the impact of this endeavor.

I don't think that students will want to pay $100-200 a semester in extra fees to support football and I don't think that it is fair to ask them to.

I feel it would be a beneficial for students who are not able to go away to college financially, that wish to presure a career in football or dance/music.

The football program can only be as successful as developing a campus life with residence halls and a significant number of students participating in campus life. This will be difficult because we have traditionally been a commuter campus. We will have to go out of our way to keep the students involved and on campus.

This is a fantastic idea. I know many people express reservations due to the argument of athletics vs. academics. A football team will likely attract many more students to the program. It will also help funds. I work in the College of Medicine and every weekend the medical students all leave to give their money to other universities to watch them play football. Why can't we do the same?

Go Jags!

Look at UAB and where they are at with their football program after many years.

This is an unwise use of University resources. I do not believe it would help in recruiting students, particularly good students. Our campus environment is the better for not being skewed toward athletics.

I think it is naive of the administration to truly count the eggs of 1 to 1.5 million in donations from alumni and donors without at least 50% of that already committed! We have begun a first ever ambitious development fund to assist with capital and academic projects and I would hate to see that compromised by asking for money for football. I also believe that the administration MUST add the faculty lines to support additional students!

unconditional support...

I am not opposed to the University having a football team, but I have no interest in attending the games or buying tickets.

Believe a football team would increase name recognition but fear attendance will be low and problematic with dear allegiances by most of the alumni to Auburn or Univ. of Al.

One of the reasons I came to U.S.A. was because it did not have a football team. I deeply regret the administration's decision to add football.

I think ticket sales, clothing and other Merchandise should be thought about as additional income.

Don't take away monies from current programs. Make football self sustaining.

As long as it does not cost the poor college student more money for tuition, etc. because of football. Ticket sales and alumni support, and donations are fine, but tuition increases would not be fair to students who can barely afford it already plus, what if they don't really care about football? They may not "mind" having the football here, but not for it enough to suffer for it. If they are not themselves athletes, then they should not have to pay for it. If they attend games, then they will be glad to pay for tickets and souvenirs and food while there. But the student who really wants nothing to do with it, while not against it, should not have to pay.

I think a football program at USA would be an unnecessary distraction to the academic mission.

I'd prefer to see the Transplant Department continue at USA rather than a frivolous football program. Saving lives versus playing ball - what choice.

Having seen the deleterious effects of football programs at other major and larger schools esp in NE, the cutbacks that are necessary in other programs to keep football aloft and the coddling of football players academically, I cannot in good conscience vote favorably. I would hope that USA would instead continue to bolster the academics.

Given the lack of support of the basketball program, how will it be any better for a football team? Also, we have a deficiency of classroom space and need renovations to many existing buildings, plus many students are stretched financially as it is, without adding additional fees to their expenses.

How well are other athletic programs supported by the students/faculty and general public?

We should aspire to become a research university/medical college of the first rank.

The same people who are pushing for a football program now will, in a few years, push for a winning football program. This will require firing the current coach (with a healthy severance package) and hiring a new (much more expensive) coach. After repeating this a few times, when our team still does not meet Alabama football standards, it will be decided that our lousy stadium is why we don't have better players and more fan support. So we will build a huge expensive stadium, significantly larger than the never-full current one. Projections of alumni and major donor support never pan out, and collateral expenses are always huge. I am waiting for the football supporters to find a single instance of a school more or less on line with ours which started a program under similar circumstances where the program was actually genuinely beneficial to the university as a whole.

I say go for it. I believe that the administration in the Admin building should have a 15% salary reduction so they can appreciate student concerns about a huge fee increase. This won't happen. We will just stick it to the students, as usual.

having an NCAA-D1 team would increase the exposure for more students to be aware of the program we have here and want to attend. It takes time to establish a program that would appeal to a new student. If you want the programs...all of them to grow, you have to start somewhere

Division I football provides needed visibility of our institution with the general public and especially our alumni.

Question 4 really should have had a response of 'minimal positive or negative impact'.

I have no faith in the University's ability to promote itself and it's positives within the community. A football program, especially in light of the
conference USA plays in, will be equally as unsupported by Administration (and subsequently by the community as well).

116  The NCAA football season greatly boosts human spirit.

117  I like to focus more on the education of our students. This money could do more for our educational programs. This state already has two major football teams, I don’t see the need for another one.

118  Too much money is spent on football and the focus of the university changes when football is added.

119  Finally!

120  Students continually complain about the amount and number of fees put on courses. Can you imagine the jump in the Athletic fee.

121  I’m all for the program as long as academic programs do not suffer due to funds being routed to support football.

122  I think that it will be a wonderful idea.

123  I generally support football and trust the administration’s judgment if they think we can afford to pay for it. My only reservation is this: what if in five years time it turns out to be a big drain economically? What if the hoped-for benefits do not materialize? What if academic programs are negatively impacted by football? I am not sure that anyone will have the courage to eliminate football once it is started.

124  We have increased our enrollment as much as can be expected with the programs we have currently. In order to continue to grow, this university needs to start building a sense of tradition and school spirit. Let’s be realistic, those things don’t come from having great academic programs along. We need a football program.

125  The University’s administration never listens to the people who actually do their work for them, or pays their salary. All they care about is how they can make themselves richer and more powerful. This is a commuter school. It is not Alabama and Auburn. The University needs to quit wasting money trying to pretend it is something it is not and focus on more important issues.

126  I would really like to see a commitment to increasing lines in all fields to accommodate the anticipated increase in enrollment.

127  High quality students are not attracted to USA by football

128  The addition of a football program should be viewed, and used, as an opportunity to improve academics. However, this will ONLY work if the administration adequately plans for the addition of new faculty and provide meaningful opportunities to compete for federal research dollars. It is not possible to attract or retain excellent academic faculty by providing a salary of $20,000 per year; when teaching more than 1 course a semester.

129  Other colleges in Alabama have a football team. I think it would be great. What about using Ladd stadium?

130  I do not support having students cover 3.5 million (approx. $250/student) each year for a football program. If the university was able to generate these funds without raising student fees then I would have less reservations about a football program.

131  Football is Americas favorite game. this will be a good thing for USA.

132  GO JAGS

133  How can the University Administration support a bid for such an expensive venture given the fact that some departments don’t have enough instructors (due to lack of lines) to adequately cover all of the undergraduate courses that we are expected to teach? While I favor the addition of a football program due to the potential sense of community it could bring to the school, I do not favor such an addition at the expense of our academic program. If the administration can find ways (through fees / giving etc) to support football, why not find more ways to support the faculty, or students?

134  My sole purpose for supporting the addition of NCAA football is to benefit the University as a whole. I believe this will be accomplished in time by adding students population to the campus. I do believe however that other academic programs should be increased as needed to support need on the above mentioned courses. Thank you.

135  My focus is academic teaching and getting published. A football program is outside my event horizon. I have two basketball players in 400 level class and they have not contributed as class members and have performed below average.

136  I believe that the decision is being rushed. Students did not get a chance to vote on something that may cost them an additional $300 per year. That is not fair. A ‘poll’ is an inappropriate way to decide whether or not the students are for football, especially at the expense to them.

137  When profitable the program should expect to share revenues with academic departments so we can all grow in effectiveness.

138  I do feel that the addition of these programs would give students more week-end activities and hopefully move us away from being a predominately ‘suitcase’ University.

139  Budget is the real issue. I hate for students to bear the cost of this program and wonder what other universities do and how we compare financially now in tuition fees without a football program. Football is a great university activity in that it brings many university communities together. Of course, the existing basketball program is well known and maybe all we need for now.

140  What happens to the money invested if it does not work/go over as planned-who suffers the loss?

141  I have grown weary of the pros and cons of implementing a football program. I think the potential benefits probably outweigh the risks, i.e., accepting border-line students because they can run, hit, and catch/divert attention of university administrators more towards issues involving athletics, and upset fans when teams fail to leave up to unrealistic expectations. Despite these concerns, we should move ahead and put the issue to bed for now.

142  A football program at USA has the added disadvantage of competing with the bigger state schools (Alabama and Auburn) for fan support. In the likely scenario of USA football being held on a Saturday when Alabama and Auburn are playing on television, I believe the average student and Mobile citizen will choose to watch Bama or Auburn play than to travel to Ladd and watch USA play. With this in mind, the football program I believe will actually cause USA to lose money every year.

143  I believe the proposed football program will also positively effect our entire city, and surrounding areas.

Many of your questions did not have the choice of "no effect or neutral effect". For example, I believe that football will have no effect on academic programs but that wasn't a choice.

It's obvious that starting a program with a new class of student-athletes will bring a need for many new things. Other football playing institutions have successfully dealt with these issues (need for tutors, faculty that teach the courses that the players tend to take, etc). The $500 projected new students who would attend South, would ultimately arrive here anyway if the University continues to grow as it has been. Thus, new faculty...
For me, the deciding issue on football was that this seems to be a student initiative rather than a pushing from the athletic department or the Administration. If the students support the program the way the majority of their spokespersons say they will, I think we have to give them the attempt to succeed or fail on football's merits. Lastly, given that most high schools throughout the nation field a football team and don't have large amounts of financial resources, the proposed budget for football at South seems reasonable so long as the students carry their end of the bargain.

Cost will exceed $1,000,000. To stay competitive in this area, you do not need to hire a coach that cannot deliver. Please be real in your budgeting unless you want a champagne party at a beer price.

Why not save university resources that serve the public good. There are programs in jeopardy in the college of medicine (even profitable ones). Yet we are talking millions for a football program. If it seems that priorities are out of order. Also, if you add more students, you need more faculty for every part of the curriculum. These new students will all need English, math, even PE...common sense, no?

Football would be the worst decision USA could make. Dr. Whiddon would turn over in his grave!!!

Frankly, why doesn't the administration take the money allocated towards football and spend it on the academic programs within the university. I'm squeezed for lab space in a building whose air conditioning system was installed during the Harding administration and you want to spend money on folks who can barely read and write to toss a ball around? We have that already! If you want football turn on the TV.

The administration needs to consider how to staff tutoring programs for student-athletes. That will address my major concerns.

I have very mixed feelings about adding a football program. I am concerned that it will take resources away from the academic and existing student programs...

The programs in place, more than make a statement about USA and a football program could in time take away from that.

We need to look into the issue of safety—whether universities with football teams report higher incidences of violent crimes than those without, whether those crimes can be connected to football (committed by players or at football-related events), and whether universities implementing football teams report higher crime rates than before. Some major universities collect and disseminate campus safety reports among their student bodies; those that do so should have this information available and we should attempt to request it before taking this step.

It is time to add football. The positives exceed the negatives.

I believe that decisions on student activities belong to the students not the faculty. If some alumni want to support students then their opinion also matters. I have not problem with football but the students and to a smaller extent the alumni need to want it.

Bring back Men's Soccer program. It does not require the overhead of football and marching bands.

Why are you asking faculty? The decision to have football team has already been made. Sounds like an afterthought to ask the people who actually work with our students—the teachers.

DO NOT GO DIVISION 1 AT THIS TIME.

Read Dr. Richmond Brown's study

I think it is an exciting idea, and I would like the University to at least try it and see what happens.

I think that the public relations aspect as well as the draw for students who opt to go somewhere other than USA due to their desire for the "whole college experience" (which in Alabama translates football) would definitely be a positive move for the university if fiscally sound.

I believe that adding football will be positive for the student body and the campus life, even though it might take several years before it gets to that point. I hope we add it:

I believe that addition of a football team will boost alumni support; and that there should be incentive for alumni such as an alumni association lounge, discounted tickets & for special football-associated events (tailgating, etc)

I believe departments/colleges/university will (in time) add faculty as needed to cover any additional sections of introductory courses (just as with general enrollment increases). The downside is that any added faculty will almost always be hired after the growth has occurred (which would be true for growth in almost any area).

In general, I believe band is the reason to have football.

The expense should not be passed on to the students. I would prefer to see energy and money put into research and higher learning.

For question 2: I believe the cost of the program has been underestimated, and I believe the current revenue stream has been overestimated. I support the idea of a football program, but this budget seems hasty and wildly incorrect.

My response is "Don't know/Do care" and I think it may be short-sighted to consider all potential 500 students arriving with a football program channeled into Music and Athletics as they will have to take other courses and electives.

I have little faith that sufficient money will be available from the sources described. Inevitably, the shortfall will come out of academic budgets. If I put similar amounts of money into improving our academics programs, and especially into providing more individual academic support services to our students, we would enhance our reputation and attract more students at least as much as would a football team.

Football has had a negative impact on such respected schools as UAB or USF. It will add to the positive reputation and I believe will increase our enrollment significantly. We will still maintain the high academic standards and admission requirements.

For it. I think a football team would be one of the greatest things that could happen for USA.

Football is sport that many people enjoy outside of the basketball program.

I am against this because the majority of the financial support will come from the students themselves, and I know that all students were not given an opportunity like this one to voice their opinion. If the true majority of students want to pay higher fees and have football, I would support it. Many students have told me that they were pressured to sign the football petition or were not given the information that their fees would go up to support the football program.

I believe the additional cost to the students is not worth this new venture and I firmly believe that other divisions of the University will suffer even 20 years down the road. This is a huge mistake and should not take place.

A football program brings a whole different atmosphere to a university. It is fun and profitable. I say go for it.
The cost to the students, the majority of who do not support football, would be too high.

If we want to grow and gain in national reputation for our academics, there is no better source of advertisement for building name recognition than NCAA Division football.

Wish that the university would support the hospital and medical education with the same enthusiasm as you have for this ridiculous athletic adventure.

While college football is fun to watch, I know this town and it will not support USA football anymore than it supports any other USA sport or for that matter, even the Mobile Bay Bears. If you are not #1 or even more so if you are not in the SEC, a lot of Mobile citizens will not look on USA football as anything more than a waste of newspaper space that could be devoted to Auburn and Alabama programs. We are going to lose a lot of money trying to put together a football program even with the student fee increases because there will be no better support for USA football season tickets now than there was a few years ago. We are not going to get extra funding from the state to make up for the shortfall so the academic programs will suffer. USA was losing so much money a few years ago from football, that accreditation came into question. I believe. I think starting football on the basis of people saying they will support it, but not putting up any money to prove support is a real mistake.

This will take complete support from the community, without that it should not be started.

In the long run, the football program will pay for other sports programs and will increase alumni interest in the University in general.

For a long time now, the university leadership has been out of touch with the realities of what any good university needs. This football campaign is yet another occurrence of this. While I cannot ignore the expected positive effects of adding an NCAA football program, all the more can I not ignore the depletion of resources, which would be directed to other science programs and to general research activities at this university. If USA is to continue delivering high-quality education to its students, overall research capabilities must be improved. Unfortunately, this is a fact that has consistently escaped our central leadership, who have never shown any appreciation for the value of research outside of the medical field. And since this same leadership has consistently ignored the concerns of faculty members, I believe the opinion of faculty on this issue will also be ignored as well.

We should focus on doing well what we are already doing now, football is a distraction.

Addition of a football team and a marching band would increase our visibility and standing in the community.

The only concern is that IF the university is going into football, that it do so 100% be a winner. If the University makes a commitment and is willing to spend money, and become a winner, the program will pay dividends for years to come. Increased endowments, donations, positive cash flow to offset other sports and recreational programs. It has to be done right. The devil is in the details. Please don’t make the commitment and spend money IF it’s going to be a 2nd rate program, that type of program will be a money losing proposition in Alabama.

The free publicity that could come to the medical centers at USA would be positive. Already having many established college football programs in Alabama, could be a negative. Wait and see.

I think that it is wrong to add the expense of a football program when the medical facilities, staff, and students suffer everyday by the lack of university support. There is minimal support for the baseball and basketball programs - and they are winners! put $5,000,000 into the medical facilities and I think you would be helping the standing of the university in the community much more.

I believe there’s not enough support at basketball games, so what will be the difference in the football games. Most of the Mobile community support Auburn or Alabama and they’re not going to give up those teams to support USA. Better yet, put some of that money in trying to recover the transplant center where people’s lives means more than a football team. What more important to the University football or lives? This really needs to be looked into a little further.

I feel that the addition of a marching band and a football team will peak the interest of more students to USA. We have a nice campus and a great academic program, to have this kind of sports program added will be a big plus.

I would look into how Troy University established and developed their program. Can USA afford to hire their key people?

I like football and marching bands. I think that such a program would contribute to community and school spirit. BUT, I don’t believe that we have the community support, student body, or expertise to develop a program that will ever make money. We’ll also come to a point that we’ll be told that the only way to rescue our sinking program is to build a stadium on campus. It will end up losing even more money.

With all the local talent that is in Mobile it could turn out to be very successful and it would keep the talent here in Mobile.

I do not believe that student fees should increase to support this program (at the expense of other programs/needs of the University.

As both an employee and a student here, I believe the Universities focus should be on the strength of academic programs. I do not feel that the addition of a football team will accomplish this. Overall it is my feeling that it will bring some students to the university. However, I also feel that some students, because of the increased prices and reduction in quality of our academic programs, will choose to go elsewhere.

So, while the number of students will stay the same, or perhaps have a slight increase due to the football program, I feel that the penalties to our academic programs in terms of cost does not justify a football program.

Advanced ticket sales leave the impression that there is little enthusiasm for the idea. People say they think that we should have a football team, but when asked if they will buy season tickets they say no. Somehow this escapes people. Auburn and Alabama draw the thousands of ticket buyers away from Mobile most weekends in the fall. Interesting comment in the newspaper today - kill the transplant program, start a football team. Although an oversimplification, thoughtful comment.

I do have concerns about the lack of additional teaching lines in introductory courses. If the additional student population occurs this will put a strain on those currently in place.

There is better use for student fees, such as academics and health care. If property brain-washed, students may want football, but who said that students are experts in money-management? Under President Mouton’s term, USA is slowly and steadily down-grading into a 4-yr undergraduate college. The student enrollment numbers may be a matter of pride for him, but we care more about quality. Football is just another foot in the quality grave.

Whoever worded this survey, seems to have the Old mentality of running a University System. It extends beyond Academics. It entails, community needs, student athletics and allows for entrepreneurship city wide. We should not be so narrow in our thinking processes.

It would have been nice to have a survey with actual input, but unfortunately polling is who already decided. Doesn’t help now.

I couldn’t care less about this third rate school.

I think it is totally unfair to women students and non-sports-fan students to require them to pay for something aimed at advancing the interests of young men and wealthy alumni. Furthermore, given the lack of support for basketball and other sports I don’t see how it could possibly pay.
for itself, much less make a profit. Look how pro and semipro sports have not been supported by Mobilians in the past. People are too hung up on being Auburn or Alabama fans.

Until the student body can fully support the Jaguar Basketball team I don't see why they would support football.

The fundamental issue is not whether USA has a football program or not but rather what role athletics plays in the overall life of the student body and its relationship to the mission of the University.

Do it. In this crazy part of the country, it's one of the best ways to garner true support from the state and beyond, and to be recognized as a "true" university. And it might be a key way to tap into the rich talent base of musicians and athletes that move away from the area to schools that offer programs, and therefore keep this human capital in Mobile, hopefully to later start careers here.

Alabama has 2 great football programs. South should distinguish itself for academics—that way it would stand out from its Alabama competition.

EXTREMELY bad idea. Don't do it. Stay out of the darkness.......

I would be more supportive if the major expenses were covered by ticket sales and/or donations that were specifically prompted by the addition of this program. In that case, this expansion of the university's activities would be very welcome. Otherwise, even if lots of students have signed a petition, unless they are 51% of the student body, it seems unfair for them to impose a tuition increase on those who just want our academic programs. Also, adding students without adding faculty lines would have a negative effect on academic programs (although I would support using a tuition increase to pay for the extra faculty lines).

Football at USA is a terrible idea. We should focus on building academics and leave the football to schools with existing programs. USA is still, largely, a commuter college. The 300 extra students that MAY attend will not offset the tremendous cost and inconvenience of accommodating such a program.

I have been at universities with (Stanford) football and universities that cancelled football (UC Santa Barbara). It is a very heavy burden. In conversations with faculty at UAB, Jackson State, Troy State, all wished their schools were not involved due to the siphoning of money away from academic programs and the lowering of admission standards in order to recruit players. I have season tickets to USA basketball games. Last year a game (USA vs Houston Baptist) was not broadcast live on the local radio (105.5 FM), pre-empted for the New Orleans Saints football game. During the Coors Classic a couple of years ago, the station was broadcasting Southern game live, but cut to a taped show about Auburn sports. In other words, currently USA can't get priority for its games in the local media, how does it expect to develop a fan base? In Mobile, can buy sport's logos for Auburn, Alabama and Pac 10 schools, but not South. Apparently former Pres. Whiddon signed a contract with the bookstore restricting the sale of South's logo clothing to that one outlet. Based on how South's athletic program is currently conducted, I am not confident that football will benefit the academic programs here.

Universities have football teams

play ball!!!!

Football makes a great deal of sense to create a better overall student and community experience. However a marching band seems to be less an attractor and rather a hold over from a bygone era. If we have both line, but football alone and relying on alternative forms of halftime entertainment would be acceptable.

Let's do it! This would be a big plus for the university. Excitement, visibility, etc.

I support football only on the condition that NOTHING is taken out of operating budget for it, and that sufficient enhancement of academic programs be made to accommodate the students.

This survey is a bit late given that the USA Board of Trustees is voting on football in 2 days time.

Real budget increases to the departments have not occurred in over 20 years. We want to spend 5 million per year on this?

USA HAS A GREAT BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL PROGRAM. STUDENTS DO NOT NEED INCREASES IN FEES.

This is long overdue. Sometimes you have to step out on faith !!!!! Go Jags !!!

Fund research in the arts and sciences let the other universities march and play. Keep first things first. No Football!!!

I've long felt that football would benefit the University.

If there were no additional costs to students and or their parents I would consider otherwise. If it is or would be such a benefit and would add more students, then it should not cause a raise in fees, etc.

The difference between questions 4 and 5 is not clear.

I am 100% in support of the addition of football to the university! I am excited about the idea and what it brings to students, alumni, and the community as a whole. I also look forward to being a long-term supporter of the sport. Go Jags!!!

There is obviously much work to be done, in preparation for a football program, primarily in academic staffing. But a serious consideration needs to be given to parking. I would say that a parking deck is needed at our current situation, and with a constant influx of additional students, and then supportive fans a parking deck is going to be needed desperately. Also, strong consideration needs to be given to how, and cost of the communications plant (networking, video feed, press box connectivity, wireless) being installed, and supported by the Computer Center.

We already have 2 competitive university football teams in Alabama. Keep USA solid as an academic oriented higher learning institute and leave the jocks and bands at Auburn and Alabama.

I believe that it would be one of the best ideas ever and would benefit all of Mobile!

Football would heighten the visibility of the University. Hiring quality people to run the football program is important, just like anything else. Funding is a problem. Academic efforts also need funding. Minimization of Univ $$$ to football is needed so that academic needs can be met. I'm not sure the proposed budget is the best way to go about raising the $5, but it does minimize Univ contribution. Go Jags!

Addition of this expensive football program can only degrade university academic standards with the pressures that will inevitably be placed on faculty to assign grades based on maintaining athletic eligibility rather than actual academic achievement.

A football program will bring more applicants to our school; thus, we will be able to select a better pool from the freshmen group

I submitted the "don't know/ don't care" response, because I really don't know. However, I do care about the University of South Alabama and its future. So, there really wasn't a choice that fit my particular outlook.

You have not included the additional salaries of head coach and assistants. EG., Sabin's salary at UA is said to be $4 mill/year! Not reasonable
Go for it

My major reservation would be the $3.5 mil estimated from "student fees". That seems a little steep. However smaller universities are able to support excellent football teams and the revenue generated is a major asset. Having a marching band would be an asset to our music program. It's just the initial budgeting to get it started that is a concern.

USA should concentrate more on academic programs, collaboration with industry, encourage faculty to obtain outside funding etc. Rest of the extra-curricular activities and sponsorship for such programs will automatically follow.

Don't know and Don't care are two different things—poor choice of options

I do not believe football will have any impact on academic programs, unless resources for academics get shifted to football.

If the University can raise that kind of money for football, why is it that the employees get such a small raise each year? The employees are what is keeping the University going. They should reap the benefits.

The survey has some issues. For example, "Yes, with reservations" does not really fit the way I would express it. More like, "No, but I could be persuaded." I am ambivalent concerning football here at USA. I came from Penn State where football is the most important aspect of the university despite the fact that they have a world class program in my field. I do not think that football itself is negative, only how it is implemented. This student population does not seem to care much about football or any of the currently existing sports programs for that matter. We are a commuter campus, so the increase for campus life would likely be negligible. If the end result will be higher fees for students and a greater strain on the donors and alumni, then why should we do it? Football does not seem to be a potential source of revenue, so why bring it in? If my class does not have enough student support, my department cancels it. This is an economic concern. Perhaps this should be a consideration for the sports programs as well. When asking my classes about this issue, most of them stated that if they had wanted to go to a big football school they would have gone to Barre or Auburn. Some felt that it would damage the focus on academics that seems evident to them by the absence of a football program. I tend to agree with this latter concern. Rather than compete with programs such as Auburn for football minds, I believe we would be better served by focusing on academics and raising that bar.

It would be nice if the questions had the option of a comment afterward. For instance, #3 I put yes, but obviously, more faculty would need to be hired to accommodate these students.

If football is approved, please set up a separate major for the athletes. When the athletes we now have attend classes with other students, they are frequently a negative factor and sometimes downright disruptive.

Budget unrealistic. Probably will cost in the neighborhood of $8 million a year. Need more local/alumni support pledged before undertake.

It is my belief that way too much emphasis is placed on athletic programs at the collegiate level. I would prefer the focus of this Institution to remain on academics.

I don't believe a Div I program can be successful with a $5 million budget.

I think it is time, as enrollment is increasing we need to grow in this area also.

I think there is already enough focus on football in the area. With new industry coming, the focus should be on academics.

Please, please no.

When can I purchase season's tickets?

Do you have a stadium for them to play in?

I am an alum of Penn State. Football can be beneficial if it is profitable enough (e.g. PSU) to contribute financially rather than COST money that should be used toward academics. Coach Pelini built a wing of the PSU Library and supported a number of programs with the Penn State football profits. HOWEVER, I do NOT think USA will EVER have such a program. Most Alabama fans are fans of Alabama or Auburn and are unlikely to "adopt" USA as their team anytime soon!

As usual USA is planning to "build the airplane while flying it." I do NOT think students should have to pay extra fees to support football. My students complain already about the high cost of fees. We also already need more faculty lines to support the number of students we have. In the COE faculty are assigned unpaid "extra" courses to teach by making them 0 credit and attaching them to another course that is credit. I suspect that this may be going on in other colleges as well. This is UNFAIR. Having more students without adding more paid faculty is unacceptable. I doubt USA faculty will be listened to in this matter. Perhaps if we had a union....

Investigate the installation of metal bleacher seats in the track oval, and the scheduling of games on campus. Bigger draw games could be downtown.

I believe this survey is biased based on how the questions have been presented? b.i.e. #3. Who said when University would not increase the faculty if the increase in students occurs? Would you agree that might be putting the cartage before the horse?

I'm concerned about the cost to students in the form of fees. I would hope that the football program will become self supporting in a few years.

Answer to #4 should be: Not Sure

I totally support the above mentioned.

I do not feel that we have any evidence that the student body as a whole will support athletics of any kind with attendance. Without attendance at the games, I do not see how the program can remain within the projected costs. I think that an additional 500 students, many of whom will be on scholarship, together with the cost of coaching staff and music staff will not be carried by the football program alone. I also feel that even 500 additional students will require additional staff in introductory courses. Many introductory courses fill up before all the freshmen can select those required for graduation and many of these are taught by adjunct faculty. I think the football program would slow development of academic programs.

I cannot believe that the Faculty Senate would endorse and promote the addition of football WITHOUT first going to the entire faculty for their views. Additionally, this questionnaire, although sent by faculty senate, is query by the administration not the faculty senate. And this questionnaire is too little, too late. Hence, in this matter, the faculty did NOT represent the faculty or seek their advice/opinions. Shame on you and the administration!

I was against this for the longest time. I really didn't think that Mobilians would break their allegiances to Auburn and Alabama, and I still don't think that they will. In spite of that, it just feels like it's time to do it.

We need a new president.
I believe that the football program will detract from the academic mission of the university, although there will certainly be some benefit to the music and athletic departments. Although there will initially be no financial impact on the university's general operating budget, I'm not sure that this will always be the case. There are too many uncertainties. And because of the Auburn and Alabama programs, I think it will take a long time for us to be competitive in Division 1.

I think it has moved way to quickly, with only minimal evidence of student support, and without a clear plan or feasibility. I'm vehemently opposed. Thanks for the opportunity to share.

Tuition fee keeps increasing every year. Students have just been charged $50 for the new rec center that's being built. Now $100-150 to support a football team? Remember, not all students are rich. Out charging students more and more fees without thoroughly hearing their opinions. If USA should have a football team, why doesn't it charge the supporters only?

A football and marching band program is essential to future growth of this university. Without attention to extra-curricular activities that enrich campus life for students and later as alumni, the university will always be seen as a campus for students unable to attend other universities.

The students already pay too much in fees. Forcing students to pay for this program via fees when the vast majority will never have anything to do with football is unfair and will result in more low student morale and low opinions of student experience.

You will never begin to compete with Alabama and Auburn. So, why?

I think the adding a football program to the university would increase money coming into the city as well as the university. I think once the program is established then the university could create it's own rivalry with schools from Mississippi, Florida as well as other colleges in the state of Alabama and that would draw fans to the area. I also think that with the amount of talent that is here in the southern area the university would be able to harness some of those players instead of having them take their talents to other schools.

I am willing to support a football team at USA both with my presence at games and monetary support.

Great job.

I don't see where a football program would add anything to our mission. Instead, it would detract from academics.

Look for another way to off the cost like grants or loans.

The need for more faculty in general subjects already exist. Students have had a hard time getting classes they need and I have heard many say they had to take unnecessary classes to stay in school to get their financial aid, etc. I have heard some students say it took them too long to finish and they were discouraged because they could not get required classes and especially required classes because they were not offered or space was too limited. The University needs to add more faculty probably throughout the whole university. Expanding our music department would be a positive. South Alabama has some of the best teachers. I had very few that needed to be sent on their way. We need to make this a better and bigger school as we have a lot to offer and we need to be recognized.

Alabama is crazy enough with two major football programs. It doesn't need another. USA has received huge donations without football. Better to make other departments great than to add football.

I am very excited about the positive direction in which the university is going. I fully support this addition to our program.

Here in our city alone, we have so many gifted football players/scholars and band members that I feel quite sure they would love to stay close to home and achieve their initial college education they are seeking. GO JAGS!!!!

I cannot see any negative as long as the academic mission is preserved.

Don't saddle the students with the cost of this program.

I do think that a football program at USA could bring recognition to the school. I also KNOW that USA doesn't spend their money wisely and always increases the student tuition and fees before being a little more frugal with their money.

The parking on campus is awful now how would it be if we add students and fans to this already crowded campus??? I just do not think we have the support of the community to have a football team. Thank you for letting me voice my concerns.

I have extensive personal experience as both a former undergraduate and graduate student, and later faculty member, at universities with NCAA football programs. In every one of those five instances, football strained resources from academic programs, raised the cost of education for already-burdened students, introduced onto campus a privileged class of student-athletes with marginal or nonexistent academic skills, and was made to break even only through "creative" (i.e., fraudulent) accounting. For a handful of schools, the Notre Dames and several Big 10 programs, football may very well pay its way; for all others, every bit of objective research reveals it to be an unmitigated financial and academic disaster. This is, to my mind, one of the most fiscally and academically irresponsible decisions made by the Moulton administration. I urge the trustees to calmly and objectively consider the impact of this rash decision on student educational expenses and the fiscal and academic health of the institution.

If the students are willing to invest in this, they should be given the opportunity.

I do not mind a football team, but not on the backs of the students, or at the compromise of quality student education.

The impact will be a complex one with both, negative and positive consequences. It should contribute to the university's growth though.

I think the dean's need to apprise the administration of the dire need of facilities and faculty to meet current needs and address the issue of funding for instructional and research needs first.

Go Jags!

I think, this program would have positive effect on student enrollment.

We are behind the times. WE NEED FOOTBALL!

What are we waiting for???

Go JAGS - President Moulton - Thanks for your leadership - may the luck of the IRISH be with you.

The university needs to enhance the quality of undergraduate education and augment its meager graduate programs before it considers a football program.

I am inclined to support having a football program but I object to funding it with an increase in student fees. This places a disproportionate burden on poor and minority students.
286 Having tutored college football players in my last position, I am concerned about the physical and emotional strains on the athletes themselves, as well as the possible negative impact on academic programs.

287 This survey is written with a biased perspective and thus its results should viewed as such. It is clear to others I have spoken with that the author of these questions is unquestionable against this proposal. If you truly want to know the faculty and staff's prospective, I suggest a revised survey.

288 It could give a cohesion to the university that is lacking, but if it drains money away from academics, that would be VERY unfortunate.

289 I would only be supportive if the football program if it were done in a way that supported all departments for the extra students and the finances came from areas that really support the process, not just because it is added to the tuition as a fee if a majority came from donations and ticket sales instead of the students, it would be better.

290 Great Opportunity for the University!

291 a lot of this rides on the budgeting and the enrollment issues and am weary of what this will actually amount to; however, I believe that there are possible benefits to associated with a football program ranging from attracting more students to raising the profile of the school in the community and region.

292 Football will add to the quality of life on the USA campus, make us more competitive with schools that have football, and keep us in our athletic conference, maintaining and expanding on the regional and national exposure that goes along with it. It's a good thing.

293 JL

294 Without an on-campus stadium, football will never succeed at USA. Students will not be involved with a team playing games at Ladd Stadium. In addition, enrollment will fail due to increased student fees. USA football will only succeed with a USA stadium...located on USA's campus.

295 Given the track record of the Mobile area in regards to other various sport programs, I doubt that this would generate the needed continual support that would be required.

296 I think it is a great idea and could possibly bring in a huge investment for our school. I'm super excited about the idea and really hope it all goes through. We just have to realize that it will take some years to get a good team together and with support from our community we could become a very large University.

297 LETS STOP THE EGO IDEAS AND START SUPPORTING ACADEMICS THAT REALLY BRING THE STUDENTS TO USA THE TRUE COST OF FOOTBALL ARE BEING HIDDEN BY THE PRESIDENT TO FOOL THE BOARD.

298 A little LATE to be asking now. Faculty CONTINUE to be an afterthought—the fault of BOTH an ineffective Faculty Senate and an in-bred University administration.

299 I do not see what has changed since the initial push for football felt to common sense. We in Arts & Sciences are overwhelmed by students anyway. The number of faculty grows and the number of tenure lines does not. Any addition to athletics seems idiotic. Beside which I dread the thugs who will come to USA to play football—they will hardly be students. Further the university is growing nicely without football.

300 I believe the University should concentrate on academics. The football team may add numbers to the student body but would be unlikely to increase the overall GPA of the students.

301 If we decide to do it, go all the way and do it right. An excellent coach is a key factor.

302 This university needs to concentrate its resources on providing a good, basic education to the people of the Gulf Coast instead of on frivolous extras that undermine the core mission of the institution.

303 U.S.A. should able to put first thing first. Personally, I do not see any academic benefit by increase student fees (3.5 millions).

304 This fund can be used for academic and research purposes rather than football.

305 But I think, no matter my opinion is, U.S.A. seems to have its mind up.

306 Students should not be required to pay for someone else's entertainment. Non-traditional students would be hit harder financially. Many USA students are part-time — a greater percentage of their fees will go to football. Older students who either do not have the time or interest would be disproportionately affected.

307 Football is unrelated to the University's academic goals. Football programs frequently distort limited financial resources.

308 Though they are not money makers, I feel we should place more emphasis on the current sports programs (and not have abolished he excellent soccer program). The Alabama/Auburn rivalry is too deeply ingrained in Mobileans for USA to gain a significant foothold. Regardless of my approval of the existence of the program, I will support it by attending games, and in maybe other ways. I do wish it luck.

309 This is an un-needed expense.

310 A FOOTBALL PROGRAM WILL ADD TONS OF SPIRIT

311 Just leave it alone—if they want to play football let them go to another school—what is 500 more students—

312 I consider football a necessary expense to provide a focus and source of identification for the alumni, inroad to fund raising and another activity option for students.

313 Since many of our students are of "nontraditional" age and most are commuter students, I don't believe there is enough student support to warrant a football program. The 2000 or so who signed a petition endorsing a football program represent a small minority of the total student population of this university. I don't believe it is fair to the majority of the students to increase their cost by $200 to $300 per year in order to satisfy the minority. I think it is also appropriate to pause and reflect a bit on the purpose of a university. Are we here to educate students or are we here merely to generate "butts in the seats" of our classes? We would do far better to recruit 60 serious scholars rather than 60 football players only some of whom would also be serious scholars.

314 The University needs to concentrate its monetary efforts on improving classrooms and providing innovative teaching technology. We need better audio/visuals, esp. in the medical areas to enhance teaching. Educators at this university need technological support to aid in teaching their courses and we need competitive salaries. Faculty needs faculty development and support, not just lip service. It's not that I oppose football, but take care of the necessities first. If you add 500 students with crappy classrooms, what good is that.

315 The school has shown that it does not support the sports programs that it has, even though they perform well. Mobile has shown that they do not support sports programs past the initial excitement. Adding football will not add anything to the school. USA is a non-traditional based university and adding a football team and a band will not change that. The added expenses will not enhance the school, only weaken programs
| 312 | The problem with the idea that academic programs will not be affected is that it leaves unexplained how expected shortfalls will be met. If the program, as expected, is not self-supporting, will student tuition be raised to meet the deficit? If student tuition is raised for that purpose, will it be raised for academics—faculty salaries, instructional support etc.—or will there be a reluctance to raise tuition for academics when it is being raised to support football? My guess is that administration will be reluctant to increase tuition for a while for any reason.

313 | Most students are commuters, who don’t go to any university functions, not even basketball.

314 | The university needs a new life science building more than it needs a football program.

315 | I don’t trust any of the budget estimates or other financial proposals.

316 | hopeful to see this exciting addition happen that would make USA more attractive to future prospective students!

317 | If the University knows where the money is going to be coming from, and the program does not add financial pressure to the university, football will be good for the for university.

318 | South has had a winning baseball program for years and that gains no support. And frankly we can’t compete with UAUAU for the attention.

319 | The addition of a football team would help move the university away from the ‘commuter’ school perception.

320 | Refer to USA study already done on this matter. U AL B’ham loses money on its program. Waste of valuable resources.

321 | While I believe that this would provide an overall benefit, I feel that the administration needs to be more realistic about the services that will need to be provided. There is a certain type of student that will be inherent (lower ACT scores and academic ability) and USA needs to be prepared to deal with that from an admissions and academic support perspective. This will not just be a financial commitment.

322 | The University has great reason to start a football program, not only to enhance student life, but for the Mobile/Gulf Coast community.

323 | Costs of football team and marching band should be borne by University and Athletic Department, ticket sales, etc. not students.

324 | This program is not just good for USA, it is good for the entire city of Mobile. It is greatly needed. Remember, anything worth having is worth sacrificing and working for.

325 | The University of South Alabama is long overdue in adding football. The school is now over 40 years old and I do not believe this decision was "hushed into" in order to grow and foster sense of campus community pride and continued Alumni support, major University must have football, as well as high academic standards.

326 | I STRONGLY AGREE WITH THIS BECAUSE I HAVE CHILDREN THATS INTO FOOTBALL. I WOULD LOVE FOR THEM TO ATTEND COLLEGE CLOSE TO HOME IN THE EVENT OF THEM STILL ABLE TO PLAY FOOTBALL, IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR A LOT OF PARENTS THAT DON'T WANT THEIR CHILDREN ATTENDING COLLEGE AWAY. EVEN CHILDREN THAT WANT TO STAY IN MOBILE ATTEND COLLEGE. THIS WOULD BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR SOUTH ALABAMA AND WOULD ALSO BRING BUSINESS, REVENUE AND MUCH MORE TO MOBILE ALABAMA, I WOULD HONORED TO BE PART OF A BOOSTER CLUB OR ANY EVENT TO HELP OUR THE FOOTBALL TEAM. I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO VOLUNTEER AS MUCH TIME NEEDED TO MAKE THIS BIG. MY NAME IS SHANDRA DORTCH. YOU KIND FIND ME AT 1720 CENTER ST, USA-OBGYN 415-1458 OR 366-1877. I HAVE A FRESHMAN AND A SOPHMORE AT THEODORE HIGH THAT WOULD LOVE FOR THIS EVENT TO KICK OFF. I FEEL LIKE THIS SURVEY SHOULD ALSO FORWARDED TO HIGH SCHOOL COACHES AND STUDENTS TO SEE ABOUT HOW MANY WILL BE INTERESTED, BY DOING THIS I THINK THIS WOULD ANSWER SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT $5 MILLION EXPENSE.

327 | Reasons to not add a football program:

1. Major attraction for attending USA is low cost (students may say ‘they’ll pay the increased fee but parents may not).

2. Substantial student enrollment growth has occurred without fielding a football team.

3. Other student life-enhancing activities should be pursued before considering a football team (e.g. advanced intramural programs).

4. Entrenched local fan base (Alabama or Auburn) would not favor continued interest in a "developing" football program.

5. Declines in state revenues would eventually pit academic interests against an expensive, non-self-supporting football program.

328 | I am very disappointed that, with a Senate vote overwhelmingly in favor of moving forward with plans for football, the executive committee (in the name of the entire Senate) saw fit to write a letter stating that the Senate was "concerned" about faculty involvement in the process. I believe that the Senate was asked, the Senate voted to support football, and the Chair of the Senate is on the University committee. Your actions are embarrassing to me as a faculty member.

329 | If the program becomes profitable will these additional costs to students be eliminated or still collected?

330 | Students do not attend the sports programs now provided at USA.

1. They should add faculty lines in many departments to accommodate the additional students, especially in departments which teach service courses.

2. The University should make sure that academic programs and academic funding should not be compromised to sustain the football program under any circumstances.

331 | I support the addition of a Division 1 NCAA football team at USA. The University has not been unresponsive to the student body and hiring additional faculty to support the increase in student enrollment will happen when needed. The increased use of online classes in those so affected departments would be one way to offset the lack of space for classroom. It might be a way to drag the rest of the University into the 21st Century. The reputation of the school can only be helped and our local talent of music and athletics would be kept closer to home. Just some thoughts!

332 | My only reservation is that several years ago USA disposed of a perfectly good men’s soccer team to begin a football program that never got its feet on the ground. If football doesn’t work out, I suggest bringing back the Division I Men’s soccer team. It was also rumored that football would bring in more revenue than soccer. However, it sounds like football itself is a much more expensive sport.

333 | N/A
Growth is part of any university. Considering the south is very favorable to sports, the donor list and donations will grow with the program.

Thanks.

The implementation of a NCAA D1A sanctioned football team at USA is way past due. It would have a tremendous, positive impact on the University and its alumni. Bring it on.

Ques #2 I do care. I will support the team. I just hate that students will have to foot a lot of that bill in fees. I believe sponsors/admission fees/concessions/marketed items could be used to generate revenue. I think the addition of football would be great. Our university is growing and this may be the time to have a team. I only wish we supported men's soccer. There are so many young men, locally and nationally, that enjoy soccer and are looking for a men's soccer team at the college of their choice. I have a son who would love to go to USA, but is considering other options because of the lack of men's soccer. He has many friends facing the same decision. I don't understand all of the NCAA rules, but wish soccer could be considered. I believe it would attract more students than some of the other sports we already have teams for. This is two positive votes, one for soccer and one for football.

I only support football at USA if a stipulation is made that money for it can NEVER be taken from academic programs including the library and that the USA budget for football cannot be balanced on the backs of academics.

You might conduct this faculty survey before the Senate gave "faculty approval" to the football venture. You might even have invited somewhat fuller and more nuanced input from faculty, E.g., it's a mistake in question #1 to equate "Don't know" and "Don't care." One can "care" but not "know," right? Also, even if no money is ever diverted from academics to football, the "football culture" can be a negative. People take football so seriously around here that I dread all the bad vibes that will come USA's way when, say, the football has a few less-than-good seasons. But I suppose that's too intangible for concern for the "bottom line" mentality that seems to be running this issue...

Publication needs to be made in order to reasonably address the needs of additional students brought in by the football program.

I love football and I think it would be great for the university, BUT not at the expense of academics. With new faculty lines in service departments like English, History, Sciences, the proposal is short-sighted. In addition, the Administration wants to increase enrollment in general (they always like to announce the number of diplomas awarded like this is a diploma mill), so we are already at capacity. How is it possible to grow the university like this in terms of enrollments without any other commitments to new faculty hires. As class sizes grow, the quality of education decreases. Some departments don't have grad programs that can supply TA's for additional help and grading, and some departments will be overburdened. AND HOW MUCH WILL THE COACHING STAFF BE PAID? Another sore point for faculty whose salaries aren't at a level that they should be. I see the coach make several hundred thousand dollars per year. If football can be implemented without affecting current academic resources, then go for it. If football can be implemented with granting more faculty lines, then go for it. Finally, bearing the brunt of this will be student fees. Many students can't buy the books for class because they can't afford it, how are they going to pay the extra fees? I don't know if this would be a just thing to do. Unless the football program itself and private donations can support the program, I don't think that this would be the right move for USA.

Get grants and loans.

I believe you should find alternate sources to fund the addition and not put so much pressure on the student body finance or resources. Will someone please revise the employee/students reimbursement program - need to cover more hours? The team will definitely need their own stadium in the future. Please do not have games at Ladie Peebles. It will be hard at first but with perseverance we can succeed. When recruiting, we need to keep our local football talent in Mobile. Too many good players are recruited to other schools.

USA is still primarily a commuter school, without much "school spirit" for many of our students. Given the considerable extra costs to be imposed upon the many students who either aren't interested in NCAA football (and regard such as a major rip-off) or would like to have football but not the considerable fees for it, USA might end up losing many more students than adding NCAA football would attract. Adding football might push many of both such categories into doing their first two years of higher education in junior college rather than at USA. Students are already aggravated about the full building fees with which they are hit, especially when wanting to register for only a few hours during the summer. As the Senate letter to Moulton points out, the ramifications of NCAA football here are not getting thoroughly studied this time around.

One of the influential factors regarding where a college student is going to apply, is the social atmosphere of the school. Adding a football program to USA will exponentially increase this.

Football at South can only enhance the college experience.

Football is an integral component of any major university. I think you'll see a greater interest and involvement in the university from alumni and the community.

I believe that having a football team and a marching band will create more college-like atmosphere on campus. Such an environment is sorely needed on campus. I believe that it will have a positive influence on student recruitment and retention.

Football players MUST know UP FRONT that they WILL NOT get "rockstar" treatment, especially in academics. USA has a chance to create a program that can be an academic rival to Vanderbilt, or it can be a "jock factory" like Alabama or Auburn. Football players MUST NOT receive preferential treatment. PERIOD.

USA has needed this aspect of the great traditions football brings to the university.

Having a local college football team would be a great asset to the city of Mobile.

If there's a significant positive impact to the local economy then the local government should contribute annually to the football program.

Also, I have serious reservations about putting 3.5 mill on the students in the form of fees. This seems to be to conflict with the need to raise academic fees in the future to maintain quality academic standards.

I think salaries, especially for coaches are extreme. Under no circumstances should a coach make more than the college president...neither should get millions in salaries.

Mobile does not support athletic teams, so I think overall the football team would be a losing proposition especially since it wouldn't be able to compete with the bigger Universities in Alabama for a long time. Just look at how well basketball, baseball, soccer, etc. etc. are attended and that should give you your answer. Even the Bama Bears have trouble keeping attendance up. If this area would support any athletics it would be great to see football here.

Football does not have to be a part of University life. Another football program in the State of Alabama would NOT work. We have a good baseball and basketball program, why not keep it at that?

Why can't the General University Funds be used? One TEAM, One Fight!

I see the addition of football as a positive step for USA, but agree that this growth, like any other, must be carefully considered and managed.
| 356 | definite waste |
| 357 | been waiting for a long time for this to happen |
| 358 | I would not want this to be burdensome on the student's finances. |
| 359 | If you really wanted faculty feedback you should have been a little smarter in designing this survey. Too bad for you that it doesn't matter now, though, since your tireless efforts seem to have NOT paid off in convincing people that the students don't want football here. Better luck on your next endeavor. |
| 360 | We can't afford the amount of money it will lose. Why didn't you do this before the faculty senate voted to support it? |
| 361 | Most of the questions are redundant after the "bottom line" answer to No. 1. If you support/reject football addition, all four subsequent answers will confirm the positive/negative response to No. 1. |
| 362 | For starters, the Humanities Bldgs. need DRASTIC renovation before the administration even considers football. UAB is known for its medical school, not a football team. Also, teachers and janitorial staff ALL need raises, esp. Gloria, who cleans the Women's Restroom in Laidlaw Performing Arts Center. |
| 363 | This university is a research institution dedicated to scientific advancement and higher learning. A football team will cause this focus to shift towards less productive endeavors. Will this area support a football team past the first year? Couples plan weddings around Auburn and Alabama football games. Will they come see a bad USA team play while SEC games are being played? South Alabama will be competing for the same fans as Alabama and Auburn. |
| 364 | GAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA JAGS!!!!!! |
| 365 | USA currently is one of the more expensive colleges in Alabama. The proposed funding from donations, student fees etc. seems like a good enough idea although it most likely will mean a yearly increase in fees as the expenses rise for the football team. |
| 366 | Go Jag's |
| 367 | Band and football programs may attract highly qualified students to our campus that might otherwise consider attending a school with out those programs. College football is certainly a part of the overall college experience. While not necessary, it does add something. Alumni giving may be enhanced by successful band and football programs. |