

Thanks, Jan, for putting us on the very crowded agenda today. The first thing I want to say, though, is that the issues I'm introducing are so big and so important that they really deserve a more careful, considered discussion—perhaps at the next meeting? I respectfully request that the general proposal I'm offering here be given some attention early at the next Faculty Council meeting, if possible.

So what is the ARG proposing? A series of town hall meetings about athletics. I understand that the timing of the suggestion may seem odd, given today's announcement about the upcoming Hunter Rawlings visit, but the whole nature of the Rawlings visitation has been scaled back dramatically since its announcement last summer. One panel discussion, led by an outsider 6 days before the end of classes in our academic year, is just not adequate to the task. To give you a sense of our view of the task, I'd like to quote a few lines from an email sent to me by a colleague an anthropology a couple of days ago.

'I think it is worth reminding people about what a mess we have. NFL-bound players banned from the UNC team, football coach fired, NCAA sanctions, department chair resigning, chancellor resigning, suspicious grades, faked classes, academic support program under a cloud,...and finally the entire university's credentials questioned, so much so that the provost is sending out inspectors to see if professors actually teach their classes. We need a response that matches this horrible record.' That's what we're looking for—a University response commensurate with the size of the disaster we've experienced.

Yes, there have been some changes going on behind the scenes, yes some reforms have been implemented, and yes the faculty athletics committee is doing important work. But the issues are too big, too complicated, and too essential to our institutional identity to farm out to a committee, no matter the importance of that committee. We're talking about the culture of our University. And how we should be dealing with the aftermath of a major, many-pronged scandal. We the faculty, and the entire campus community, need to have the opportunity to question our leaders—administrators, coaches, deans, faculty leaders, athletic directors—about actions they have taken and about their vision for the University in the wake of our humiliation. We the faculty have to get in the game.

So we ask that the visit of Hunter Rawlings, which we're looking forward to, be incorporated into a larger program of coordinated and outcome-oriented campus discussions. Richard Southall and the College Sport Research Institute are here to help with the coordination, Jan has indicated a willingness to take an organizing lead. We need to do this. And Faculty Council needs to express its enthusiasm for a meaty, probing, lengthy public discussion. This is what intellectuals do.