

I have reviewed the CCCAA management council recommendations on cost containment initiatives and met with FLC administration regarding the initiatives. Below is my response:

### *1. Cost Containment Recommendations*

The college supports the 19 recommendations as indicated in the summary, particularly the reduction in size of state championships and/or expansion of regional competition 'rounds' to be hosted at the site of the higher seed. This prioritizes revenue generation opportunities from regional competition and minimizes college costs associated with teams that travel to neutral sites for state championships which often do not yield sufficient revenue to reimburse all costs of travel for participating sport teams. Further, the relocation of state championship events to community college sites, whenever possible, is fundamentally sound during periods of budget constraints. In addition, the reduction and/or removal of entry fee's is admirable and supported by our college.

While the college supports the 19 recommendations, I do have two issues that I would like discussed by my colleagues at the policy level. Those include 1) freezing or reducing sport officials fees; and, 2) state office obligations regarding revenue generation platforms. The freezing of sport official fees (recommendation 11 and recommendation 14) may require legal counsel to interpret whether the COA/CCCAA has authority to sanction lower officials' fees with regional officials' assigners association(s), which is a topic for review by my colleagues on your policy board. In addition, I am concerned that reducing officials in football and basketball may result in an increase in issues associated with decorum and sportsmanship and diminish the quality of experience for participating student athletes.

The second recommendation is to encourage you to reflect and revisit the stagnant corporate partnership platform that was developed in the mid-1990 through 2004. The platform resulted in huge fundraising advances for COA/CCCAA and those funds supported the operational costs and increased reimbursement (and stipends for hosting COA activities) to participating sport teams. The absence of a state office commitment towards resource generation, in our view, must be discussed at the policy level in the future to offset inadequate state funding to community colleges.

### *2. Conferencing*

Conferencing has always been an issue for COA member colleges and likely will remain an issue in perpetuity. Folsom Lake College endorses the current membership of the Bay Valley Conference (BVC) and urges the COA/CCCAA policy board to keep intact the current BVC membership as it stands today. A key aspect in FLC's solicitation of membership to the BVC was based on our examination of the shared values for intercollegiate athletics with current BVC member colleges. We are delighted to be part of the BVC based on that analysis.

I recognize the conflicts that can be created when a member college departs a conference, as was the case when Modesto JC left the Central Valley Conference. Similarly, I am not in favor of the Golden Valley Conference's (GVC) memorandum targeting Yuba and Mendocino colleges as potential GVC members and support Yuba and Mendocino's interest to remaining as BVC colleges.

Finally, the potential restructuring of the Coast Conference division structure is noble but I would not support any efforts to target existing BVC members colleges in that conference's restructuring discussion(s).

Sincerely,

Thelma Scott-Skillman, Ed.D.  
President