

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA TO
PARTICIPATE IN NCAA DIVISION I ATHLETICS**

WHEREAS, the University of North Alabama aspires to excellence in every aspect of its endeavors; and

WHEREAS, athletics at the University is an important program of great significance to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and people throughout the Shoals region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the University of North Alabama seeks to enhance its athletic program in the following ways:

- To take complete control and full responsibility for the destiny of its athletic future;
- To be recognized as a place of academic excellence and competitive quality within a well-defined geographic area;
- To provide greater opportunities for student athletes to be academically successful;
- To be more competitive in the recruiting of student athletes in the State of Alabama;
- To minimize travel time and lost class time in traveling to compete with other universities; and
- To maximize exposure to our University through increased media outlets; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees concludes that these goals can be attained through a transition of UNA athletic competition to the NCAA Division I level; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees further concludes that such a transition will be to the advantage of the University and the region; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees recognizes that key benchmarks must be met in order for a transition to Division I to be successful;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees declares its intention for the University of North Alabama to become an NCAA Division I athletic program subject to the following conditions:

- That the University fulfill all requirements of the NCAA for membership in Division I;
- That the University secure financial pledges of at least \$3 million committed over a period of five years beginning in June, 2012;
- That the University cap its total operational expenditures in athletics to an amount not to exceed 4.0% of the total University Education and General (E&G) budget;
- That the University develop a phased plan for student fee increases not to exceed a maximum of \$8 per enrolled hour; and
- That the Shoals community, through its government, business and civic leadership, indicate support for this undertaking by the University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees that the University proceed forthwith to take any and all appropriate steps to achieve the goals of this resolution.

*Passed by majority vote of the UNA Board of Trustees
at its annual meeting on June 13, 2011*