**OWG 10 Athletics Approved Recommendations**

1. Recommends that all athletic related scholarships for affected student-athletes shall be carried out in accordance with the “Proposal to Honor Student-Athlete Scholarships for the Duration of Their Athletic Eligibility” (see below). In its essence, the proposed policy states that student athletes will retain financial aid commensurate with the institutional commitment already made to them.

2. Recommends that the Student-athletes at ASU will be immediately issued an open transfer status by the ASU athletic administration with the exception of softball, whose playing season is currently in progress. When the playing season for softball has concluded the participating student-athletes will immediately be issued an open transfer status by the ASU athletic administration. Until the playing season of softball has concluded transfer requests by those student-athletes will be handled on a case-by-case basis with mutual agreement between respective Directors of Athletics.

**Proposal to Honor a Student-Athlete’s Scholarship for the Duration of their Athletic Eligibility**

The University System of Georgia is committed to honoring the athletic scholarships of Armstrong State University (ASU) and Georgia Southern University (GSU) student-athletes who are impacted by the consolidation. The following is a set of guidelines that will be followed when those student-athletes are affected.

- Athletic scholarships, henceforth referred to as University Grants, will be honored at the same level as written in their grant-in-aid document once the final season of competition at ASU is completed or if an ASU student-athlete can no longer compete on an athletic team.
- For those student-athletes selected to compete on consolidated GSU athletic teams, an athletic scholarship may be awarded at the discretion of the consolidated GSU coaching staff and will be in lieu of the University Grant the student-athlete was receiving.
- University Grants will be honored throughout the duration of the student-athletes’ remaining athletic eligibility.
- University Grants will be adjusted, as needed, over the period of the award to maintain the equivalent value of the award for the student-athlete. If cost of attendance increases, the award will increase in relation to the cost increase.
- The student-athlete must remain full time (except in final semester prior to graduation if credit hours to graduate is less than full time) to maintain the university grant.
- The student-athlete must remain in good academic and athletic standing and meet respective NCAA eligibility standards (i.e. GSU student-athletes need to meet DI regulations, ASU student-athletes need to meet DII regulations).
• Due to NCAA scholarship limits, if a current ASU student-athlete chooses to walk on at the consolidated GSU, he/she may have to give up the ASU University Grant to compete but he/she may be eligible for an athletic scholarship at the discretion of the consolidated GSU coaching staff.

• Student-athlete University Grants are not transferrable. If a student-athlete who no longer plays and has retained their scholarship later decides to transfer to compete, the new athletic scholarship amount, if any, would be awarded by the new institution the student attends.

• If a student-athlete decides to transfer from ASU or GSU, they will lose the right to automatically regain their University Grant should they choose to return to the consolidated GSU at a later date.

• If a student-athlete has completed one season of competition, he/she will receive three additional years of University Grant equivalent to his/her final season of competition athletic scholarship to complete his/her bachelor’s degree at the consolidated GSU.

• If a student-athlete has completed two seasons of competition, he/she will receive two additional years of University Grant equivalent to his/her final season of competition athletic scholarship to complete his/her bachelor’s degree at the consolidated GSU.

• If a student-athlete has completed three seasons of competition, he/she will receive one additional year of University Grant equivalent to his/her final season of competition athletic scholarship to complete his/her bachelor’s degree at the consolidated GSU.

• If an ASU student-athlete has completed four seasons of competition following the 2016-17 academic year, he/she may be eligible for degree completion scholarships to finish his/her bachelor’s degree in the remaining year of his/her academic career at the consolidated GSU.

• The University Grant will cover undergraduate work only, even if athletic eligibility remains.

3. Recommends that ASU teams shall discontinue NCAA competition at the conclusion of the current academic year, with no teams participating in intercollegiate athletic competition in the 2017-2018 academic year.

4. Recommends that the Georgia Southern Athletic Department hosts athletic events at the Armstrong campus contingent on availability of dates based on existing game contracts, future schedules and facilities.

5. Recommends that access to all Georgia Southern athletic events be provided to current Armstrong State students, effective Fall 2017.

6. Recommends that limited transportation be provided to Armstrong State students for selected athletic events, effective Fall 2017.
7. Recommends that current club sports and the recreation and wellness department programs at Armstrong State University be granted access to the athletic facilities in Savannah while the Georgia Southern Athletic Department, in conjunction with Student Affairs, determines how to best utilize these facilities.