

academics / faith / community

PLNU *forward*





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Dear Membership Committee,

On behalf of the Point Loma Nazarene University community I want to thank you in advance for your careful consideration of PLNU's application. The university is delighted to be moving forward with this significant step in our institution's history. We have approached this process intentionally and deliberately in our time, thought, and involvement.

This past November we concluded an intensive eight week study through our 21 member Athletic Advisory Committee with a strong analysis of our program and desired future. This group, tasked with strategically evaluating the future of PLNU athletics in a 40-year perspective, had representation from our board of trustees, administrative cabinet, faculty, staff, coaches, and student-athletes. In its work the Committee strongly supported moving forward in making application to NCAA Division II.

In continuing this thorough process, I provided a report to our Board of Trustees in mid-November with an addendum of additional information to further inform their discussion. As a result of the report, discussion, and additional information, the PLNU

Board of Trustees voted on November 19, 2010 to proceed with application to the NCAA Division II in June 2011.

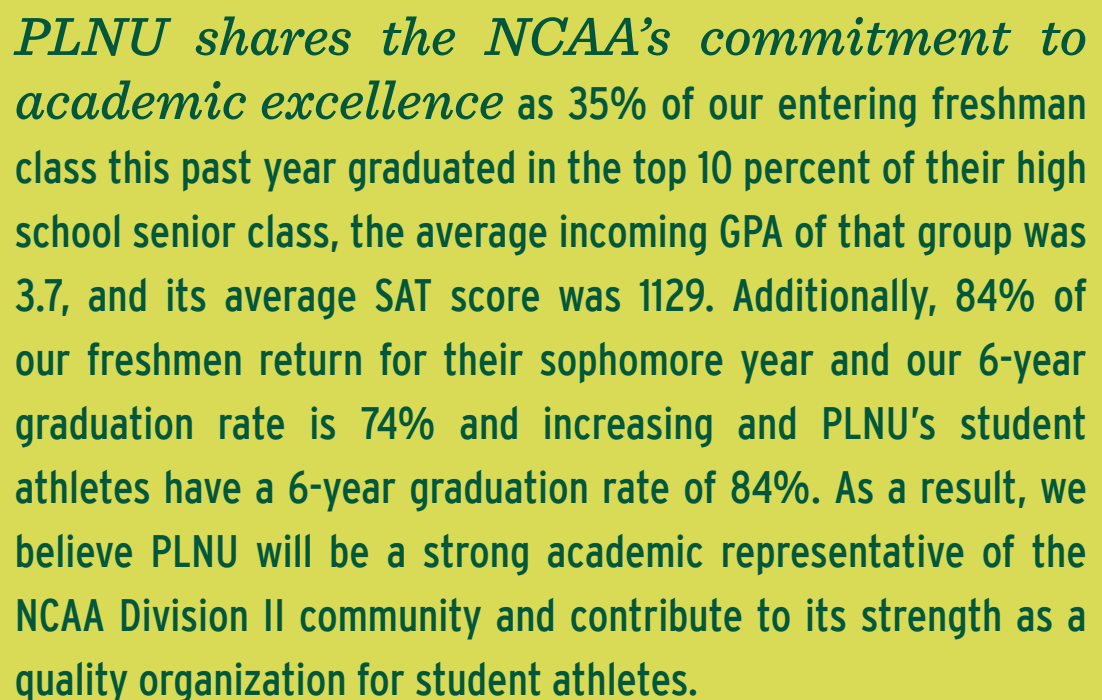
While we have enjoyed a long standing relationship with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and have especially





benefited from a nearly 25-year partnership in the Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC), we believe that in the long-term interest of PLNU and our student athletes, both will be best served by being a member of NCAA Division II.

The growing profile of PLNU fits the NCAA Division II model and its “Life in the Balance” approach is in line with the university’s holistic theme of academics, faith, and community.



PLNU shares the NCAA’s commitment to academic excellence as 35% of our entering freshman class this past year graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school senior class, the average incoming GPA of that group was 3.7, and its average SAT score was 1129. Additionally, 84% of our freshmen return for their sophomore year and our 6-year graduation rate is 74% and increasing and PLNU’s student athletes have a 6-year graduation rate of 84%. As a result, we believe PLNU will be a strong academic representative of the NCAA Division II community and contribute to its strength as a quality organization for student athletes.



PLNU students represent 40 states and 15 countries. Nearly 30 percent of our graduates participate in study abroad programs and over 2,000 students, faculty, staff and alumni have served in Love Works (outreach ministry) in over 60 world areas.

Point Loma Nazarene University has been a successful member in the GSAC and the NAIA for many years, finishing in the Top 10 in the NACDA Director's Cup standings two out of the last three years. PLNU has now finished in the Top 20 in each of the last 12 rankings with an all-time best of fourth place in 2004-05. PLNU currently fields 13 athletic teams and will add women's golf in 2011-2012.

PLNU has long enjoyed an outstanding relationship with fellow GSAC schools and we desire to find a new conference home with similar benefits within the NCAA. We look forward to being a part of an affiliation that offers us the chance to grow as an



*Carroll B. Land Stadium has been called
“America’s Most Scenic Ballpark”
by Baseball America.*



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In the past 18 months, over \$375,000 in improvements have been made to Golden Gymnasium upgrading the weight room, and the presentation of the interior and exterior of the gym. Currently, new athletic department offices are being built in the west end of this building.

institution and contribute as a valuable member with a unique list of attributes to our new league. We are pleased to be fully embraced in this application process by two strong conferences in the California Collegiate Athletic Association and the Pacific West Conference.

We are also extremely proud of our location within America's finest city, San Diego. As you can see by the pictures surrounding this document, we are located on the Sunset Cliffs of the Pacific Ocean on the western side of the beautiful Point Loma peninsula. Our baseball field was christened "America's Most Scenic Ballpark" by Baseball America magazine. Our access is also distinctive, as we are less than five miles from the San Diego airport and less than ten minutes from San Diego's thriving downtown. This has provided many unique opportunities for visitors and our students.



We have developed an outstanding reputation with the San Diego Sports Council and Sports Commission, having hosted several of their community athletic events on our campus. In addition, PLNU has utilized its location and outstanding facilities, hosting NAIA regional tournaments as well as a number of national volleyball tournaments.

For the last few years, our motto has been *PLNU forward*, celebrating the university's commitment to balance and forward thinking in all areas of our campus life. While many collegiate institutions faced cutbacks during these tough economic times, we have been fortunate to thrive and continue to move ahead. An example can be found in Golden Gymnasium, a unique structure with

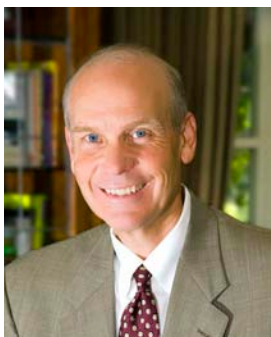
PLNU will add women's golf to its athletic program in 2011-2012.



character that needed some updates. In the past 18 months over \$375,000 in improvements have been made to this beautiful building, upgrading the weight room and the presentation of the interior and exterior of the gym. Currently, new athletic department offices are being built in the west end of this building and our commitment to keep this and all of our facilities current remains.

In closing, it is our hope that Point Loma Nazarene University stands out as an applicant in this process. In the following pages, you will note PLNU already exhibits several of the 21 characteristics of a model Division II program. Much work has been done to make this positive move and we look forward to continuing in this process and ultimately represent the NCAA in an outstanding manner.

Positively,



Dr. Bob Brower, Ph.D.
President