

Responses from Craig Pintens, athletic director, provided to the Loyolan via email by Matthew Lerman, assistant athletic director for communications

How will Athletics utilize funds that were donated specifically to programs that have since been discontinued?

Five of the six sports that will be discontinued will continue competing through the end of the 2023-2024 competitive season; therefore, funding for those programs will continue to be utilized as they compete and work toward their winter and summer championships. Any remaining booster funds will be frozen at the end of the year and dedicated to student-led club sports efforts.

The press release noted that affected athletes will still be able to use their athletic financial aid for undergraduate studies. Does this apply to graduate studies too? What percent of student-athletes on the affected teams use athletic financial aid?

Yes this applies to graduate studies. 45.2% of impacted student-athletes currently receive some form of athletic financial aid. LMU will continue honoring existing athletic financial aid, including graduate students, through the conclusion of their academic degree program.

Athletics' FAQ section wrote: "The current program offerings are not sustainable." What areas of the student-athlete experience are currently being neglected that this decision will enhance for those in remaining programs?

LMU seeks to provide the best student-athlete experience possible. By concentrating resources on fewer remaining programs, the university will have the capacity to address various barriers to achieving greater competitive excellence. Currently, LMU does not provide as many full scholarships or coaching and support staff as permitted by the NCAA, placing our student-athletes and teams at a disadvantage relative to our competitors. These changes also allow us to focus our investments in facilities that better support our remaining teams.

We cannot attain competitive excellence in programs where baseline infrastructure cannot be addressed. For example, LMU does not have track facilities due to space and master plan limitations.

What is the standard package of resources given to all LMU student-athletes: housing credit, meal plan, uniforms, stipend, etc.?

As with all students, financial aid packages for student-athletes are personalized and differ from student to student. 45.2% of impacted student-athletes are on some form of athletic financial aid

and we will continue to honor their arrangements through the completion of their academic degree program.

One critique I've heard from a donor is that LMU could have delayed discontinuing these programs in favor of a probationary period, requiring improved performance or increase in fundraising in order to remain under the LMU Athletics umbrella. Despite those arguments, why does LMU Athletics maintain that this was the right call?

There is no one reason why the impacted sports will be discontinued. We understand these critiques and others; however, in practice probationary periods or multiyear notice of discontinuations result in coaches and students pursuing opportunities at other institutions. In these instances, there are not enough athletes to field a team, which does not provide the best possible student-athlete experience.

Given the reference to conference realignment in the "Strengthening Competitive Excellence" document from Tuesday, how will this decision safeguard LMU should the WCC dissolve? Is that a viable concern or a worst case scenario?

The WCC has recently been strengthened by the addition of Washington State and Oregon State for the next two years. This decision best positions our remaining WCC sports for greater success. These changes also position us as a WCC leader, preparing us to compete more effectively in the future.

Charlie Baker's plan to modernize includes a potential new subdivision that would require schools to invest \$30k/yr per athlete for at least half of their athletes. Is LMU aiming to become eligible for such a subdivision should one be created?

These changes best position LMU to attain competitive excellence in future iterations of the NCAA.