



## WASHINGTON STATE ATHLETICS

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November 4, 2016

### **Bill Moos Statement**

Since my arrival in 2010, we have given a great deal of attention to the behavior of our student-athletes. The number of arrests and other concerns such as sexual assault and academic fraud were, in my opinion, extraordinarily high at that time. We sent a strong message regarding the role and responsibilities of those who represent the institution in the field of competition. We have continued this emphasis as well as the consequences of bad behavior.

Since we began this approach, the number of incidents has dropped significantly. A national report of WSU athletics having 36 arrests over the past six years was misleading as a large percentage of those citations were for violations such as MIPs and throwing snow balls.

Not only internally have we seen progress in this area, but outwardly the changes have been noticeable. Pullman Police Chief Gary Jenkins recently commented on this, saying "Since the arrival of football coach Mike Leach, basketball coach Ernie Kent, and AD Bill Moos, I have seen significant improvement of student-athlete behavior in the community. I applaud them for the work they have done to make, what I consider to be, significant positive changes. I believe these recent incidents involving athletes to be anomalies to the positive trend we have seen, and I have no reason to doubt that we will continue to see positive changes under the leadership of AD Moos and his coaching staff."

Specifically regarding football, I have seen Coach Leach and his staff instill discipline, character and pride in his program. We are fortunate to have Mike Leach as our head football coach at Washington State University and it is my hope and intention that he is our head coach for a long time.

I also want to express my full support for President Kirk Schulz in this process. The concerns with the student conduct process, allegations of institutional discrimination and bias that have been voiced long pre-date President Schulz's administration. They are also reflective of social issues that every major higher education institution in the United States is faced with. As Athletic Director I also see these issues first hand on a daily basis.

I also applaud President Schulz's decision to call for an independent review and assessment of the Student Conduct Board. It's the right time for this review and the Athletics Department will fully participate in this process.

Finally, as Director of Athletics, I hold the "student" aspect of my student-athletes in the highest regard. I appreciate the work done by the Office of the Provost to ensure that Robert Barber will get his degree in a manner that accounts for his academic record. He is five weeks away from graduation and because his home is in American Samoa, there is a genuine concern that he would not otherwise obtain his degree.