

A Resolution Recommending the University's Board of Trustees Vote Against  
Joining the Big 10 Conference at This Time

Drafted 24 January 1999

WHEREAS the University of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees will soon debate whether the university joins the Big Ten Conference for its athletic teams; and,

WHEREAS the University of Notre Dame would also gain membership in the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) if it joins the Big Ten Conference; and,

WHEREAS Notre Dame students are proud that the University's primary educational focus has always been on the teaching of its undergraduate students; and,

WHEREAS the Faculty Senate stated in their report "The Academic Implications of Joining the CIC" that the "greatest potential benefits would be for our graduate programs" which might undermine the quality of undergraduate education; and,

WHEREAS Big Ten and CIC membership would associate the University with eleven other Midwestern universities who do not embody our unique national, Catholic, and undergraduate characteristics; and,

WHEREAS athletic teams would be relegated to a shorter non-conference season with fewer games against institutions from all regions of the country; and,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac recommends to the officers of the University and the Board of Trustees that the University does NOT join the Big Ten Conference or the CIC.

Submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Big Ten Membership

