

## Statement on Allegations of Misconduct in the Athletics Department

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October 26, 2020

It has now been nearly three weeks since we first learned of allegations against Coach Gregg Marshall involving physical violence and a pattern of verbal and emotional abuse targeting undergraduate students at Wichita State. Among other incidents, it is alleged that Coach Marshall punched a former player, that he choked an assistant coach, and that he used racially insensitive

The investigation should proceed. The investigation may ultimately conclude that the allegations against Coach Marshall have no basis in reality and were completely fabricated. If that is the case, he should be loudly and publicly exonerated, and in my opinion he would deserve a loud and sincere apology from his accusers.

However, while that formal investigation is ongoing, the nature of the allegations—physical violence and racist verbal abuse against undergraduate students—is such that we cannot in

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schools, they ought to be paid. But the main argument against that is that these athletes are amateurs, that they are first and foremost college students, and I think that that is a persuasive and compelling

subjected to emotional abuse and, potentially, physical abuse, they are likely to bring those traumas into our classrooms. It will affect the ability of our students to succeed in our classes, and as we expend the necessary effort to support those students, it will make our jobs as faculty members harder.

More broadly, we are all part of the same university community. When the reputation of this university is tarnished, it affects our ability to recruit and retain high-quality faculty, not to mention