



Men's Intercollegiate Gymnastics Support Program

GYMNASTIC DECLARATION OF STUDENT-ATHLETE EQUALITY

The current youth gymnastic training programs in the United States train and develop some of the best Student-Athletes in the Country in the "World's Toughest Sport". As such, these student-athletes deserve an opportunity to compete at the varsity level in college/university just like any other student-athlete in any other sport.

---Bob Wuornos

The Mission of the Men's Intercollegiate Gymnastic Support Program

Is to preserve, protect enhance and expand Intercollegiate Gymnastic Opportunities for current and future generations of gymnasts.

MIGS Program Activity and Call to Action (2017)

Dear Men's Gymnastic Fans,

The Men's Intercollegiate Gymnastics Support Program (MIGS Program) has been working hard to preserve, protect, enhance and expand collegiate gymnastics opportunities for current & future generations of gymnasts. It is our goal to have at least one men's varsity college gymnastics team in every State. With all of our junior gymnasts in mind, we work toward that end. With that in mind, we are currently working with Scott Barclay and the ASU Men's Gymnastics Team to reclaim its position as a varsity sport at Arizona State.

The overriding questions regarding this effort are: "What can you realistically do?" and "What have you done?" In answer to the first question, here's what we can do and what needs to be done: 1.) Call the question Nationally, 2.) Educate the Gymnastics Community about the situation, 3.) Build positive relationships with College/University AD's and Administrators, 4.) Marketing & Public Relations, 5.) Fundraising, 6.) Encourage NCAA Teams to create and Invest in an Endowment to ensure financial stability of their Team, 7.) Negotiate with colleges/universities to bring programs on line, 8.) Revenue Distribution (athlete scholarships, training of coaches, and creating self-sufficient team programs), 9.) Build coalitions with other organizations and entities, 10.) And more and more and more...

With regard to the second Question; the MIGS Program has engaged in an effort to inform the gymnastics community of the need to expand opportunities for young male gymnasts through the retention and expansion of intercollegiate varsity programs. The "Life Cycle of Sport" depends on the development of high level athletes who come back into the community as coaches, judges, gym owners and program administrators. Ultimately, this helps to ensure that our developing gymnasts are in good hands and getting proper training as they develop.

MIGS Program efforts have included a significant amount of travel to large meets around the country to make presentations and encourage the gymnastics community to get involved.

Distributions to date include: \$2500 to the University of Minnesota "Save Gopher Sports" fund that was instrumental in keeping the University of Minnesota as a viable men's varsity college gymnastics program; \$23,000 to the College Sports Council (now called The American Sports Council) to help this organization continue the battle for equal opportunity in sports; \$2,000 donation to the College Gymnastics Foundation for the Nissen-Emery Award Endowment; and \$1,800 to the University of Nebraska Men's gymnastics Scholarship Fund. The MIGS Program has awarded the State University of New York-Brockport Men's Gymnastics team a \$3,000 grant for the purpose of travelling to USAG Collegiate National Championships. In 2014, the MIGS Program contributed \$14,270 to the Temple University Men's Gymnastics Team. There was a 2015 contribution of \$1,000.00 to the University of Minnesota Men's Club team to help them travel to NAIGC National Championships. 2016 contributions include: \$1,000 each to the University of Illinois-Chicago Men's Gymnastics Team, The University of Minnesota Stuck Dismount Fund for the future training facility, and to the University of Minnesota Men's Club Team to help with expenses to the NAIGC National Championships. In 2017, we committed \$5,000 to the ASU help launch their revitalization effort. In addition, the MIGS Program has contributed \$3,931.00 to the USA Gymnastics National Scholarship fund since 2002.



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The MIGS Program worked closely with Cal-Gymnastics Forever in a successful effort to promote the reinstatement the Cal-Berkeley Men's Gymnastics Team. (See: 1. Letter to Cal-Berkeley Athletic Director and, 2. Celebration of Success at www.migsp.org.) In July, 2010, The MIGS Program launched a National marketing effort to help generate approximately \$3.5 Million in pledge support for the Cal-Berkeley Team. As a part of this effort, the MIGS Program made a \$20,000 pledge to Cal-Berkeley Men's Gymnastics of which it has already contributed \$17,500.

Total MIGS Program contributions to date: \$74,002

THE LESSON

It is most amazing to think that we were able to generate such incredible support for Cal-Berkeley from a national audience without spending one thin dime on postage. This effort was achieved exclusively through a Social Media Marketing Campaign via Facebook, e-mail, Twitter and telephone. In addition, Bob made numerous appearances at State, Regional and National Competitions around the country to promote this effort. The fact of the matter is that we achieved this incredible result because a national audience got behind this effort and created a meaningful and positive result. In essence, it means that we can make a difference if we so desire, and are willing to put forth the effort to achieve a meaningful goal that affects every Junior Olympic Gymnast in the country.

NEAR TERM GOALS

*The MIGS Program is actively pursuing the re-establishment of programs at some major universities (**including ASU**) with real potential. Relative to this effort, we are developing a Model Business Plan that can be utilized by interested parties to establish economically viable and self-sustaining programs from which participating universities will benefit.*

FUND RAISING

Donations are graciously accepted for uses directly applied to preserve, protect enhance and expand collegiate gymnastic opportunities for current and future generations of gymnasts. Checks should be made payable to the MIGS Program and sent to the address below. For operations costs, however, the MIGS Program sells t-shirts & banners and host a National Invitational and National Open Optional Team Cup (L-10 rules) in March at the University of Minnesota.

The MIGS Program is currently engaged in a fund raising effort through t-shirt & banner sales. Please consider buying a t-shirt and wearing it to all gymnastics events. Please consider outfitting every one of your club gymnasts, coaches, parents and friends in such a t-shirt as a demonstration of support. These are great workout shirts that the guys can be proud to wear. Or, buy a MIGS Program "College Gymnastics Forever" banner to hang in your gym or bedroom wall.

One thing you may want to consider: If your Club hosts a gymnastics meet, make a contribution of \$1 per participating gymnast to the MIGS Program. The leading example of this approach is the Temple University Boys Gymnastics Program (TUGBTPA) that has been doing this for many years. How cool! How helpful! Just think of the impact this could have if every hosting club in the country did this. Thanks to TUGBTPA for showing the way.

*Thanks for taking the time to read all of this. The fact of the matter is, we need your active support of this effort. The future of men's college gymnastics depends on YOU. You can make a difference. **Please become part of the solution!***

**Bob Wuornos, Ph.D., Founder
MIGS Program**

**Mike Burns, President
College Gymnastics Association**