

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

Where do I even start? I begin this letter with the one thought that I want each and every one of you to know with absolute certainty: Serving alongside of you has been one of the greatest privileges of my entire life.

That noted, it is with deep regret and sincere gratitude that I write to you today. As you now know, I will no longer serve as your Director of Athletics and Recreation at BGSU. I regret not being able to finish this journey with you and not having the opportunity to share this news with you in person. I am so thankful for your incredible dedication to our unwavering commitment and our tireless work in support of BGSU students. This decision is not, and should not be, a reflection on our department as a whole. Make no mistake: you have and will continue to do extraordinary work in my absence, because that is who you are at your core: passionate, selfless, and sacrificial leaders.

Together, we have achieved so much in recent years! As I reflect on my time at BGSU, I take pride in the success and accomplishments that we have shared. Although, too numerous to name here in this letter, I did want to share a small sampling:

With six championships in 2020-21, BGSU Athletics had the most championships in one year since 1982-83.

We have celebrated championships in volleyball, women's basketball, and men's soccer and four consecutive in women's soccer.

We cheered on swimmers, divers, gymnasts, track and field student-athletes who have competed in their respective national championships.

Hockey went to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1990.

Men's Basketball had back to back 20-win seasons for the first time since 1947-49.

Football, undergoing a major rebuild during a pandemic, has made and will continue to make great strides this fall.

Just yesterday, the MAC awarded the Faculty Athletic Representatives Academic Award to our women's teams for the 7th time in the past nine years and the 10th time in fifteen years.

These next three items will be released publicly on Thursday at 2 PM:

Dive student-athlete, Malika Haver, received the MAC Bob James Postgraduate Scholarship awarded to only one female and one male MAC student-athlete.

Taylor Jefferson won the MAC Diversity and Inclusion Administrator of the Year.

Our athletic department, with efforts led by Stacy Kosciak and Dr. Chet Hesson and their task force, won the MAC institution Diversity and Inclusion Award.

Zaresha Neal was named Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the National College Athlete Honor Society.

During FY22, we raised over \$4.5M from 1659 unique donors which is the most in both dollars and number of benefactors in my tenure.

We take pride in the number of alumni that have recently re-engaged with BGSU Athletics because of our outreach.

We honor a spirit of collaboration with one of our very best athletics donors, Al and Carol Schmidthorst, giving a transformational \$15 million gift to the College of Business.

Our student-athletes have the highest cumulative GPA (3.44) ever in our history.

This past academic year, 168 student-athletes earned Academic All-MAC accolades, plus a record 27 in the CCHA.

We have seen record number of community service hours from among our student-athletes.

We have welcomed RecWell, Club Sports and Intramurals into our department and have witnessed those areas flourish even through the pandemic.

We have made numerous facility enhancements to benefit our students and fans.

We have partnered with INFLCR to assist our student-athletes with NIL deals.

We innovated and hired a BGSU Athletics Life Coach whose impact is far-reaching.

We have creatively and strategically reallocated resources to add athletic trainers and to hire our first-ever Director of Student-Athlete Mental Health.

We have generated record new revenue through the rental of our athletic facilities which has been a shared sacrifice for many of our teams.

We continue to accomplish great feats with one of the smallest budgets in the MAC and in all of FBS.

To the best of our ability, we have made every decision with our #1 priority in mind: what we thought was best for our student-athletes' success and overall college experience.

Most importantly, we have done it the RIGHT way with Respect, Integrity, Grit, Humility and Trust.

Yet, here we are. Faced with another challenge. Don't worry about me. I will persevere through this with faith in a greater purpose. Does it hurt? 100%. However, this will not define me. In fact, just the opposite: I am committed to leverage this challenge to become better, and not bitter. As my son shared with me (and put a smile on my face): "Dad, I think you are doing a great job." His words, your friendship, and the significant long-term generational impact we have created together is what most matters.

Deputy AD, Senior Woman Administrator Stacy Kosciak has been named interim and I have no doubt that she will do a great job leading all of you. She is one of the best! However, she is going to need every person in this department to step up. Stacy knows that I am here to help her in any way that I can during this transition as I am with all of you.

Let me be clear: you need to continue to do what you do best. Lean on each other. Believe the best in one another. Work alongside of each other with kindness and compassion as each person's role continues to evolve and grow. Keep winning it RIGHT. Even from a distance, I will always be your biggest cheerleader. It has been an honor and privilege to serve all of you, our student-athletes, and our loyal fans.

If I can ever be of personal or professional assistance to you, please do not hesitate to ask.

Go Falcons, Ay Ziggy Zoomba!

Bob Moosbrugger