For the sake of necessary academic planning, the Faculty Senate strongly encourages the Department of Athletics to complete work on the Notre Dame football team’s schedule of games at least fifteen months prior to the beginning of a season. Without a finalized schedule, it is impossible to know which fall weekends are available—or unavailable—for University-organized conferences and meetings that involve reserving rooms and hotel accommodations on or near the campus. Not having certainty about dates reduces the time for required planning, and in some cases might lead to abandoning the prospect for conducting conferences at the University. Many of these academic gatherings significantly contribute to the national and international stature of Notre Dame and to its wider scholarly reputation. The Faculty Senate respectfully requests that the schedule for the 2011 season and subsequent years follow the terms of this resolution.