

July 19, 2018

Attn: Committee on Women's Athletics

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please accept this letter on behalf of Vanguard University in support of USA Cheer's effort to add STUNT as an emerging sport. USA Cheer's initiative to place STUNT on the emerging sport list is important as it provides additional opportunities for women to participate in intercollegiate athletics and derive the important benefits from sports.

Vanguard University and Vanguard Athletics is excited to join the many Universities and colleges that have adopted College STUNT as a women's sport. The addition of STUNT to our athletic offerings evidences Vanguard's commitment to women's athletics and the collegiate experience for female student-athletes.

We believe that the new sport of STUNT will help colleges and universities like ours provide a valuable sport offering that will significantly expand the number of female students and student-athletes on campus. STUNT provides universities an effective way to expand female sports participation and improve compliance with Title IX.

The 2017-18 school year marked the inaugural season for Vanguard to compete in STUNT, providing sport participation for 23 young ladies. Vanguard elected to adopt STUNT for reasons, including the number of women student-athletes that can participate and benefit from inclusion on the team, the athletic rigor and competitive structure of the sport. The demand of student-athletes for STUNT has exceeded our expectations, with a STUNT roster for 2018-19 expected to exceed 35 young ladies. Vanguard is committed to continuing STUNT as a varsity sport at our institution. Please see the addendum to this letter for details on our timeline and budget for STUNT as a varsity sport.

We fully support the efforts of USA Cheer to secure emerging sport status for STUNT and urge the Committee on Women's Athletics to approve their proposal for formal designation.

Sincerely,




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Jeff Bussell, Athletic Director



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Dr. Tim Young, Vice President of Student Affairs



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Dr. Michael J. Beals, President