

### No Confidence

Ray Watts received a vote of no confidence from the following groups:

- The Under Graduate Student Government (representing 11,679 students)
- The Graduate Student Government (representing 5,937 students)
- The Faculty Senate (representing 993 faculty members)
- The National Alumni Society (representing more than 12,000 members)
- The Alabama Media Group Editorial Board and the UAB National Alumni Society Board have asked Ray Watts to step down as UAB President.
- Kyle Whitmire, "If Watts banged on my door in the middle of the night, and told me my house was on fire, I would roll over, and go back to sleep".

Please note that **79.8%** of the 18,698 students attending UAB are from the state of **Alabama**, and their parents were expecting their children to have the full college experience when they helped their children to enroll in UAB, and agreed to be responsible for the over \$18,000 per year tuition.

### UAB Football Attendance

- UAB Football attendance was 3<sup>rd</sup> best in Alabama in 2014 behind Auburn and Alabama.
- 2014: UAB ranked 5<sup>th</sup> out of 14 teams in Conference USA for attendance in 2014.
- Since 1999 UAB has ranked at least top 6 in Conference USA in attendance every year and has ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> three times.
- In 2014 a 24k seat stadium would have sold out three (3) times.
- UAB average attendance for 2014 was 21,841, up 105% from the previous 2-10 season.

### 51 Government Entities Have Approved Documents Supporting the Return of UAB Football

- 45 Cities
- 1 Board of Education
- 4 County Commissions
- 1 Chamber of Commerce

[http://freeuab.org/freeuab\\_resolutions.html](http://freeuab.org/freeuab_resolutions.html)

#### From the Vestavia Resolution:

The Mayor and City Council of Vestavia and many of its citizens urge the University of Alabama System Board of Trustees ("Trustees") and The University of Alabama at Birmingham President ("President") to reconsider the discontinuation of the athletic programs that were recently cancelled; and The Mayor and City Council also encourage the **Trustees to be more transparent** in their **decision making that not only affects the University, but the municipalities** that support athletics and academics at The University of Alabama at Birmingham.

### Documents suggest UAB decided to kill football before the 2014 season began

- A recent release of documents to the Alabama Media group indicate that Ray Watts, a president of a nationally renowned, top US medical school was untruthful to the Mayor of the state's largest city, Birmingham when he told the Mayor the decision to end football was still not final in November.
- The University of Alabama System Chancellor, Robert Witt has called Representative Jack Williams interpretation of the documents inaccurate, but he has refused to meet with Jack Williams.
- The documents indicate that the decision was made before the Carr Report was finalized, but Ray Watts claimed his decision was based on the Carr Report.

### Statewide Polling

45,000 Alabama voters were polled statewide:

- 77% support UAB having a football team
- 77% believe UAB should have its own board

### Birmingham Business Journal Non-Scientific Poll

84% of respondents felt the University of Alabama System Board Structure should have the biggest focus from state lawmakers this legislative session.

### UA System Board of Trustees

Adverse actions toward UAB

- 1983-No to on campus housing
- 1988-Held secret meetings to discuss splitting UAB Health Systems and UAB Undergrad
- Continue to say no to on campus Greek Housing
- 2001-Forced UAB President Ann Reynolds to resign, in 2005, The Board settled a lawsuit with Ms. Reynolds alleging gender and age discrimination.
- 2003-threatened to shut down UAB Athletics
- 2006-No to hiring Jimbo Fisher as the football head coach
- 2011-No to on campus football stadium even though all sky boxes were pre-sold for 5 years
- The Board continues to back Ray Watts even though he has received no confidence votes from the UAB faculty, students, and alumni.
- Board promised open communication with UAB, but they have not met with Undergraduate Students, Graduate Students, Faculty, or the UAB National Alumni Society.
- Governor Bentley, a member of the UA System Board of Trustees recently joked about losing football in front of a group of UAB Nursing students who were visiting Montgomery.

[http://freeuab.org/UABoT\\_behavingbadly.html](http://freeuab.org/UABoT_behavingbadly.html)