

## **Motion of non-confidence on Faculty Regent**

**October 3, 2016**

**Whereas**, the Faculty Regent elected by faculty to the position identifies with the university administration and does not necessarily view his role in the Board of Regents as that of representing and fighting for the interests of faculty;

**Whereas**, even though the Faculty Regent's first communication to faculty upon election (April 6, 2016) included a "promise to listen to faculty input and keep faculty informed as things develop," communications from him to the Faculty Senate and faculty in general have been very limited, especially considering the heightened concerns of faculty due to budget cuts, as total number of communications was six, including the thank you note;

**Whereas**, the first sign of ineffectiveness of the Faculty Regent was observed during the first Faculty Senate meeting he attended when there was a "spirited debate" about the university administration's cut of the Employee Tuition Waiver to 9 hours from 12 hours; while many Senators rose to speak against it, and it took a few motivated and vocal faculty to convince President Benson that such a decision was financially unsound and did serious damage to employee and faculty morale, our Faculty Regent joined the effort only after the fact instead of leading the effort;

**Whereas**, the Faculty Regent did not show leadership when discussions of the program review process started; for as early as his message to the faculty on June 17, 2016, it was apparent that he was in total agreement to how the university administration approached the process, despite strong opposition from the faculty that cuts to instruction should be considered last only after all other avenues were exhausted;

**Whereas**, while the discussions about potential health care cuts were ongoing during the summer months, faculty did not get a single communication from the Faculty Regent on the nature and extent of possible cuts; the first message about it was on a Sunday afternoon (September 11, 2016) the day before the Faculty Senate meeting at which he did not provide any signs of fighting to represent interests of faculty in the matters of health care cuts or the program review process;

**Whereas**, on September 21, 2016, during the special Board of Regents meeting which had cuts to health care plan as the only agenda item, the Faculty Regent not only voted for the draconian cuts which affect especially low income faculty the most, but also made the motion of acceptance of the proposal;

**Whereas**, at the conclusion of aforementioned special Board of Regents meeting the Faculty Regent informed the faculty who chose to speak their minds in front of the Board of Regents that "they should feel grateful that they were allowed to speak" as if being able to utter grievances is a privilege, not a right;

**Whereas**, the last communication to faculty by the Faculty Regent showed very clearly that he views us as "employees"; and while appearing to identify with the pain felt by said "employees", he warned us that things could have been worse, and maybe will be worse;

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**Be it resolved** that the Faculty Senate adopt a resolution of non-confidence in the Faculty Regent as he is unable/willing to represent effectively the faculty who elected him to his current position.