



101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Ms. Madeleine Deininger
Chair, Board of Trustees
Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205

Dear Chairperson Deininger,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. I'm writing today to share the results of two votes held during the Faculty Assembly meeting of September 29th, 2015. I'm confident you are aware that, in my position as Faculty Senate President, I also preside over the Faculty Assembly meetings in that same role. Unlike the Faculty Senate, however, all Stockton faculty are able to propose motions and are eligible to vote at Faculty Assembly meetings.

A motion was introduced, amended and subsequently voted on in Faculty Assembly that concerned Interim President Harvey Kesselman. The final language of that vote reads as follows:

The Faculty Assembly recommends that the Board of Trustees offer Interim President Harvey Kesselman a three-year contract effective this year.

The vote was supportive of Dr. Kesselman, having passed with 51 Yes votes, 10 No votes, and 3 Abstentions. Nearly 80% of the Assembly members voting supported offering Interim President Kesselman a three-year contract.

Some concern was expressed, both prior to and during the meeting, that the faculty were not involved in the Board's decision to begin negotiating with a permanent contract with Interim President Kesselman. As such, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee recommended a motion to the floor of the Assembly which would institutionalize and formalize the notion that faculty should be consulted when deciding whether to hold a presidential search and for the faculty to be involved as voting members of the committee on any presidential search. The motion was introduced, amended and ultimately received a unanimous vote. The exact language of that motion was:

The Faculty Assembly of Stockton University recommends that the Board of Trustees amend their by-laws to state that, in the event a decision as to whether or not to conduct a search for the President of the institution is being considered, a formal procedure

ensuring no fewer than three faculty members will be involved in all aspects of that decision. Further, one of those faculty members will be chosen by Stockton Federation of Teachers and two will be chosen by the Faculty Senate.

Additionally, in the event that a presidential search is initiated, no fewer than three faculty members, one chosen by Stockton Federation of Teachers and two chosen by the Faculty Senate, will be made full voting members of the search committee.

I would ask that the above is addressed at the December Board of Trustees meeting. It is my hope that this information helps to make the institution *even* stronger moving forward. Thank you for all you do for Stockton University, and please express the same to your fellow Board of Trustees members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Tyrrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Tyrrell" clearly legible.

Brian J. Tyrrell, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate President

cc:

Susan Davenport, Ph.D.
Brian K. Jackson
Patricia Collins
Jeannine Arrigo