

[FACULTY COUNCIL LETTERHEAD]

PRESS RELEASE

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[ADD AT LEAST TWO OTHERS]

Howard University Faculty Vote No Confidence in President and Top Leaders

In a stunning vote of ____ to ____, the faculty of Howard University has voted “no confidence” in President Wayne A. I. Frederick. Faculty also voted “no confidence” in Provost Anthony K. Wutoh, in Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Tashni-Ann Dubroy, as well as the members of the Board of Trustees, according to Faculty Senate Chairperson Dr. Sonya Sobrian.

Members of the Board’s Executive Committee include Chairman Stacey J. Mobley, Vice Chair Benaree P. Wiley, Vice Chair Mark A. I. Maison, President Wayne A. I. Frederick, Richard Goodman, Leslie D. Hale, Alphonso Jackson, Norman K. Jenkins, Marie C. Johns, Lawrence C. Morse, and Reed V. Tuckson.

The referendum vote by the full faculty of Howard followed the Faculty Senate Council’s vote of no confidence in these individuals on April 2. The Council is the elected body of _#_ who represent the faculty on a wide range of issues in the faculty’s interest.

Sobrian emphasized that in that vote of no confidence the Council did not intend to embarrass individuals or to impugn the reputation of the university. She also said that that, despite the

timing, the Council votes of no confidence were also meant to piggy-back on the current student protests (represented in the takeover of the Administration Building) or to co-opt their demands. Rather they were meant to signal the need, at this critical time, for leadership transition, and to set the course for immediate and long-term direction of Howard University.

Preceding its own vote on April 2, and the subsequent referendum to the full faculty, Council members had engaged in dialogue with President Frederick, Provost Wutoh, and members of the Board of Trustees with respect to the need for a Strategic Plan and Vision to guide the university's decision making. In its model of shared governance, the Faculty Senate Council is to have a role in university committees and processes. Sobrian noted that the evidence – both quantifiable and experiential – compiled over many years indicated that the administration and board had not taken faculty concerns seriously.

Those concerns, as contained in a four-part resolution, included charges that the president, other administrators and board had failed to develop a strategic plan, to bring fiscal health to the university, to maintain the physical facilities, and to engage the faculty in managing the catastrophic demise of the central boiler and steam plant which, since January, has rendered the closure of several classroom and office buildings and destroyed research, files and artifacts.

The resolution also focused on broken promises by both President Frederick and Provost Wutoh to develop a system of evaluating deans and directors, which the resolution said they “had promised five years ago” and which resulted in “a lack of accountability of administrators and a climate of fear and retaliation and intimidation among the faculty and staff.”

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