

More on the agenda - what should we be doing and why?

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Sent Items

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Colleagues:

This email is based on a conversation with a few faculty members:

I think it's safe to say that we need to find out how students and staff as well as faculty are being impacted by this crisis. Can we at least get reports from the groups? I'd like to hear what they are doing/thinking. What's going on with HUResist? Why were the Law students so furious? 70 grad students were paid late this fall and we didn't know. TA's during the summer weren't paid for 2 months.

How do we find these things out in real time if we don't talk to them? The administration sure as heck won't tell us.

Also, I think we all agree that the faculty are the university. And that to uphold our responsibility to shared governance, we are identifying areas in which we can engage the administration and BoT. So what are the areas? In this boiler crisis, I think the areas we are most concerned with are (1) getting as much information about what is happening as possible, (2) ensuring there is an investigation of the cause of this catastrophic failure, (3) maintaining the integrity of the investigation, (4) making sure there is accountability if necessary, (5) ensuring safety of students, faculty, and staff in "fixed" buildings, (6) ensuring academic integrity of this catastrophic semester and planning for Fall semester. We simply take positions on all of these.

If anything is amiss we hold the board and administration accountable to make sure everything is done correctly.

There are several other emergencies that are critical. (1) There have been some disastrous hires recently through Harris and associates (Deans and administrators). This has got to stop. And we should take a position on this. (2) The apparent multiple sexual assaults by one student has to come to an end. Period. We take a position on this as well. (3) The network disruptions have to come to an end. Continuous disruptions puts the academic enterprise at risk. We need to take a position on this as well. (4) The board and administration have tolerated the creation and propagation of a false narrative about what's happening at HU in the eyes of the

alums, congress, peer institutions and the public. We are academics and the false narrative is fundamentally at odds to what the faculty are as truth tellers. We should take a position on this as well.

Am I wrong? These are emergencies that need to be addressed now.

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