

Faculty ombudsman and handbook problems

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Good afternoon:

As the incoming chair of the Faculty Senate, I look forward to working with the Howard University Board of Trustees and the Howard University Administration. I understand and acknowledge the responsibility of leadership that has transitioned according to the HU Faculty Senate Constitution in Article 17, section A.

Many faculty have come to recognize the legal complexity and pitfalls of the HU faculty ombudsman search and hire process. Considering the questions concerning the legality of the process and the lack of participation from all faculty, as chair of the faculty senate, I neither support nor recognize the current selection process. I will take no action until an open and full review of the process can begin in the Fall.

In addition, many faculty recognize the Provost's proposed handbook did not follow the 1993 handbook amendment process. If the proposed handbook is adopted by the Board of Trustees, I expect there will be legal challenges because of this failure and other procedural failures. I will support these challenges.

Sincerely,

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