

Correction for the Record re: Faculty Senate Update 11/26/19

HU Communications

Tue 11/26/2019 2:50 PM

To: Faculty <faculty@howard.edu>

 1 attachments (398 KB)

Letter of Ombudsperson Selection to Provost from Dr Sobrian 7-8-19 redacted.pdf;

Dear Howard University Faculty,

The purpose of this communication is to correct the record regarding a statement from Dr. Marcus Alfred, Faculty Senate Chair, in his recent email to the faculty dated November 26, 2019. In this communication, Dr. Alfred indicated that President Frederick offered a position to a candidate for the Faculty Ombudsperson position without vote of the Faculty Senate Council. This allegation is false. Dr. Sonya Sobrian, then Faculty Senate Chair, submitted a letter to Provost Wutoh dated July 8, 2019 (attached), indicating that “The *Ad hoc* Ombudsperson Selection Committee of the Faculty Senate met on June 5th, 2019 to take a final vote on and rank the two (2) top candidates for the Faculty Ombudsperson position. These two names, along with their resumes, the Committee’s and your comments, as well as the evaluations forms from the faculty present at the on-campus interviews held on May 13th, 2019 were sent to the Council of the Faculty Senate. After two meetings and significant discussion, the Council indicated that ***** (redacted) was the first-place candidate and recommended that she be offered the position of Faculty Ombudsperson.....”

President Frederick then authorized Provost Wutoh to communicate with the same selected top candidate and negotiate an offer. Unfortunately, this candidate had accepted another position that had been offered to them in the meanwhile.

It is unfortunate that a pattern of misleading or outright false statements, and loose allegations, have been made by the Chair of the Faculty Senate, and distributed to the Faculty. Our institution is framed on the motto of “Truth and Service”. For shared governance to continue to be the framework of interaction between the Faculty Senate and the University administration, it is essential that all interactions and communications be based upon this expectation of truthful discourse and a commitment to service.

Excellence in Truth and Service,

Anthony K. Wutoh, Ph.D., R.Ph.
Provost and Chief Academic Officer