

16 September, 2020

Nayef,

I hope that all is going well with you as the new year and first semester get underway.

Tomorrow will be two weeks since our group met with you and your senior staff. You were going to get back with us about your administration writing and disseminating a clarification of the false and offensive factual allegations in the June 6 English Department Statement. As you know, we read the specific factual accusations that are untrue, and that we maintain are defamatory and place Wofford in a false light. These accusations of current, not merely historical, systemic racism at Wofford, such as the charge of "long-term and daily practices" on campus "that perpetuate white supremacy" and the "cycle of racial violence on our students and colleagues," are damaging to Wofford's reputation and will likely have profoundly negative consequences to the school's fundraising and recruitment efforts. Many alumni/ae will lose interest in Wofford.

You and the rest of your staff agreed that there was no evidence to support these accusations, did not believe them, and you told us that the factual inaccuracies in the Statement did not represent Wofford's official position. We asked for an English department retraction of those allegations, but you told us you didn't want to seek such a retraction. I suggested a clarification by the administration to set the record straight, renounce the language that was

factually not true, and in so doing, articulate Wofford's official position. Our group even offered to assist in drafting that clarification. You told me that you would seriously consider our request and get back with us. Since we have not heard back from you by now, I assume that you have decided not to issue the clarification.

So that alumni/ae and other interested individuals can discern Wofford's official position on this Statement, it is now necessary to bring this matter up with the Board of Trustees and have the Board announce that position. As such, I ask that you take the steps necessary to have me included on the agenda of the October Board meeting so that I can make a presentation to the Board on this matter. Since time is of the essence, please let me know by Friday whether you will help get me on this agenda. If I have not heard back from you by then, we will need to pursue other avenues to bring this before the Board at the October meeting.

As always, thank you for your help and interest in what we are doing to help Wofford, to do the right thing, and to set the record straight.

All the best,
Hunter