

*(Note: Yellow highlights appear in the original.)*

Mr. Ellis,

It is after great reflection, working directly with you, participating in meetings of the Board of Visitors, and attending Jefferson Council meeting on April 9th that I have come to this conclusion: that as a Member of the Board of Visitors you have failed and will continue to fail. In this effort you have crossed lines that cannot be excused. Mr. Ellis, you arrived with an agenda. I've reached out and discussed my concerns -- I spoke about this exact subject in our September meeting. You have put your agenda as your only focus, and your efforts to find facts have been used to try to waste huge amounts of time and resources.

As A BOV member, you have responsibilities to find fact first, try to resolve concerns within the board, and step carefully when you act in public, not disparage just for your agenda.

Mr Ellis, my concerns are mine, but the events and actions are all directly from you or the Jefferson Council.

The five events below, especially ones that include current students and parents playing roles that played into your self-appointed mission. That absolutely creates safety issues for student speakers and directly o broken and flawed administration, Attachment A highlights your thoughts on Jefferson Council

"The administration and this BOV allowed a student to put a huge F.. K UVA sign covering her entire Lawn door. That is how this all got started. This could have been easily avoided had UVA done the right thing back then".

The JC conference (full unedited audio recordings available)

I have removed the students' names.

First: A First-year student was cheered on while he declared his innocence in an honor proceeding while he claimed he has not been told who his Accuser(s) is. You talk a lot about the honor system - was there ever a time in its history that the accused was not told about the accuser?

Tom Neale with you standing near and clapping loudly gave him a Guarantee that this will not go to trial. Where in any of history of the Honor system that you are here to save, is that a possible outcome--that one than can be guaranteed? If it does happen, will it be a failed Guarantee or just another failure of the board, or the President?

Second: Involving a student in what was only an attempt to change history: the speaker and 3rd year Student stood up and declared through her research she has proven that Jefferson did not father Sally Hemming's children while proving that Hemmings herself slept around. Cheers erupted throughout the meeting. You were standing tall. It took all of two minutes to find dozens of sources that say not true, no peer review.

It would not be hard to see this as an extreme example of racism.

Third: Your bravery and courage at the board meeting was much talked about at the meeting. There are very few brave and courageous opportunities on the board. You have openly accepted great praise for standing up, you have won an award that if you know anything about it, is wronging the children who were killed. Bert, each time you accept praise you are saying "but for you the Board does not care". When you combine that with meeting with select parents, you create great harm for students, staff, administrators, and fellow Board members.

[you mouthed off in Public session, said little to nothing in private other yes the

message is good and we should say it in Public, which was the purpose when we came out of private] and voted with board. What I don't understand Bert with each current Ain call you discrete the administration and every member of the board.

Finally, again from your letter:

Let them decide if they want to be defined as you have below.

The Jefferson Counsel is the loyal opposition to a large number of things that the BOV has been allowing the administration of UVA to do over the past 8-10 years. I have stepped out of the management of TJC to not control in any way what they do or say. But generally, I support what they do.

There are going to be a huge amount of changes coming to the future governance and operations of UVA by this Board starting as soon as July 1, 2024. We have had to sit back and politely watch/listen to a lot of things we did not like given we did not have the votes to make serious changes. Soon we will. Elections do have consequences. We will be very polite, but we are going to make a lot of changes. I assume you understand this.

Mr Ellis what I said in the September meeting you are the board and it changes. The absolute worst of your speakers was the North Carolina chairperson that took so much pride in firing so many.

You have made clear you lack of skills and basic ethics to serve as a Visitor. You of course owe me no response, but if you have chosen to not resign I will ask for a special board meeting. It would be my hope that if still not consciences is the message that is taken to the Governors office.

On my part this is neither brave nor Courageous. Ideally few know. Some or all

could question my reasons. It would be my preference that as few as possible know of this letter as the last thing I would want to do is publicly embarrass you.

Thomas DePasquale