

From: Thomas DePasquale
Sent: Thu Apr 18 08:28:08 2024
To: Frank (Rusty) Conner
Subject: Much shorter much clearer
Importance: Normal
Attachments: letter to Bert Ellis alt vs.docx

Tom

Attachment:

Uva Board Members,

In my opinion Mr, Bert Ellis has failed and will continue fail at being a productive member of th Board of Visitor. He has private agenda, and he abuses his role to support that agenda. Mr. Ellis arrived with one plan disparage and replace. His statement on his limited involvement in the Jefferson Council would fail an Honor review he so espouses.

In his letter to me he is clear in goal, already in wait of his Victory.

"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."

His own description of the Jefferson Council - it exists because you did not get your way,

"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".

"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".

Mr. Ellis your words and the spectacle that is the Jefferson Council is why I ask which board members consider themselves part of the 'We'.

I have included the following documentation of your recent just getting started actions.

Attachment A is statement of Concern I delivered at the Sept 23 board meeting.

Attachment B are the recordings of the Jefferson Council meeting, of 3 to 530 speakers which is where the majority of speakers. If you request it I provide access

Attachment C - an email chain Between Mr Ellis and I

As A BOV member, we have responsibilities to try to understand and learn, to try to resolve concerns within the board and the administration, and step carefully when you we act in public.

Take no pride in your actions it does not make a member stronger it just makes the University and its leaders weaker.

Specific Examples from the the Jefferson Council

The events below, especially ones that include current students and parents playing roles that played into your self-appointed mission should never have occurred. They absolutely create safety issues for student speakers, siting few event that have occurred UV A all point to, broken and flawed administration, and worse at a university you're here to Save.

Event 1

A First-year student was cheered on while he declared his innocence in an honor proceeding while he claimed he had 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?

Event 2

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.

Event 3 repeated time after time

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 an air of incompetence or uncaring, 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 Curtin Call you discredit the administration and every member of the board. In your letter to me you state "I assume you Understand.

I understand that I'm not here to save the University. I am not here to make accusation and hunt for fact. I understand that when my term ends the university will do just fine.

My hope would be, that if discussed at all others would think he listened, he learned, his agenda was the boards. It would be my hope that my standing up and saying enough, is quickly forgotten as you accept what you need to do

Mr Ellis I have no right or privilege to demand anything from you. You have no requirement to respond. I am sorry you that you have squandered this opportunity, and you given me no choice but to stand.

Sincerely,

Thomas DePasquale