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September 22, 2010

Professor David Naylor
President, University of Toronto

Professor Angela Hildyard
Vice-President, Human Resources and Equity

Sent by email

Dear David and Angela:

Re: Public Response by UTFA to the Letter from President Naylor's Office

Thank you for your September 14, 2010 letter, a public reply to my public letter to the Provost of September 10, 2010 (regarding Academic Planning at the University of Toronto).

While the true meaning of the sentence you question in my letter should be transparent to most readers, I can accept that four words in my letter were rhetorical and could be misconstrued.

Therefore to clarify matters, the one sentence in question clearly meant to stress the critical importance of faculty and librarians to the accomplishments of UofT, and certainly not to underplay the very important contribution of staff and students. I make no apologies for locating the core of the excellence of the University of Toronto in the work of its scholars, professors, lecturers, researchers, and librarians – the members of the University of Toronto Faculty Association.

I trust readers will go to the UTFA website and re-read our letter of September 10. We describe the Administration's unacceptably disrespectful course of action, and we indicate our determination to keep the issues of genuine collegiality and shared governance in academic planning front and centre. In our letter, we also commend the indications of a more consultative approach emerging from the FAS Dean's office.

I share your strong endorsement for the contributions of generations of students, administrators, staff and other members of the university community that has made our institution what it is today.

UTFA's principal duty is to ensure that its members play the role they are entitled to play in sustaining the excellence of the University of Toronto. We will remain tireless in pursuing that duty and representing our members' interests.

Sincerely,

George Luste
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