

From: George Luste
To: council@utfa.org
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2006 10:43 AM
Subject: Germaine's letter re Admin letter

Council Colleagues:

Below is Germaine's letter to President David Naylor.

She has given me permission to circulate it.

George

Dear Dr. Naylor:

I write to protest the direction taken in the recent letter from Provost Goel and Vice-President Hildyard announcing on behalf of the administration the results and consequences of the Winkler award. I am shocked that the administration would write to active faculty and librarians in such a way as to attempt to turn them against their retired colleagues. It was a dirty, nasty thing to do, and entirely unworthy of a great university, which Justice Winkler took pains to remind the university it aspires to be. The mere augmentation of retirees' pensions, in the context of the current budget situation, may appear as a financial burden too heavy to bear from the perspective of certain persons in the administration, but it is overdue compensation to the people on whose shoulders the university has been built. I am delighted to find that my active colleagues -- including some who might be expected to agree with the administration on this matter -- are discussing the letter in very scornful terms, and I fully expect you will hear from them. You will certainly hear from the retirees as the letter is circulated among them (no one in the administration had the courtesy to send the original letter to us.) All of us, active and retired are aware of the discrepancy between the university's ambitions and the appalling tone of this letter, heightened on the same day by the Toronto Star's revelations (not new to many of us) of the compensation enjoyed by my former colleague, ex-Provost Shirley Neuman. It was a day of shame for the University of Toronto. Indeed, I am ashamed to have to write you about such a letter, which should have been reviewed and revised in the President's office before it was transmitted. If indeed it was reviewed by you, I am afraid you will find the consequences reverberating for some time. Yours sincerely,

Germaine Warkentin

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