

November 14, 2012

President Lyons
University of San Diego
5998 Alcala Park
San Diego, CA 92110

Dear President Lyons:

I write to you again in my capacity of Chair of the Executive Committee of the Academic Assembly. I thank you for your letter, to me on 11/13/12, in which you offered to support bringing Dr. Tina Beattie here through the CCTC, so long as doing so does not bestow upon her “any honorary affiliation with the University.” The assembly’s response to your letter and the situation it addresses is that we believe:

- 1) Your responses ignore the way you have treated Gerard Mannion – no prior consultation, no notice that your actions would be forthcoming, no notice that you were concerned or even involved in the issue of Tina Beattie – you assume you have the sole right to veto or approve visiting scholar appointments, which in itself is a violation of academic freedom;
- 2) You ignore the pattern of abuse in recent years, including the Reuther affair, your administration's treatment of Copley library staff, and your administration's reaction to the USD Ireland papers;
- 3) You have done nothing to insure that this pattern of ethical failures will stop or even moderate in the future, nor do you acknowledge that there have been issues, much less failures,

- in your ethical leadership of the university;
- 4) And above all your letter does not resolve issues of academic freedom at the University of San Diego. In your eyes there are evidently those who we invite and honor and those we invite and do not honor, which puts the university in an ethically impossible situation: which is which, how would we know, and how come you get to decide? If some are honorable and some are not, can academic freedom be said to exist at USD? And why would someone *not* so honored want to come to USD?

Given these considerations, the Academic Assembly believes you to have shown yourself to be “ethically bankrupt,” and by a vote of (99 for, 16 against, 19 abstentions) declares a “loss of confidence” in your leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlton

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