

University of Missouri  
Columbia Kansas City Rolla St. Louis



Board of Curators

316 University Hall  
Columbia, Missouri 65211-3020  
Telephone (573) 882-2388  
Facsimile (573) 882-0010

Pamela Q. Henrickson, Chair  
Maurice B. Graham, Vice Chair  
Stephen J. Owens, General Counsel  
Cindy S. Harmon, Secretary

Donald L. Cupps, Cassville  
Maurice B. Graham, Clayton  
Pamela Q. Henrickson, Jefferson City  
John R. Phillips, Kansas City  
Phillip H. Snowden, Kansas City  
David L. Steelman, Rolla

February 26, 2016

Professor Ben Trachtenberg  
Chairman, MU Faculty Council  
The Conley House  
Columbia, MO 65211

Dear Professor Trachtenberg:

Thank you for the Faculty Council's Statement regarding the firing of Dr. Melissa Click, we certainly appreciate your perspective. I must first say that the Board's actions did not cause needless injury to the University. I certainly hope you would agree that Dr. Click's behavior and the ensuing media coverage, however, did cause serious reputational harm to the University. The Board took no pride or pleasure in voting to fire Dr. Click, but felt that it was necessary to make it clear that the Board did not believe that her behavior was in any way acceptable.

I can assure you that the Board has no desire or intention to insert itself into University personnel decisions. As a community, I am sure we all hope that we are never again faced with a Professor who treats a student with such disrespect.

In these times of instant communications, it has become clear to the Board that the processes of the Faculty Responsibility rule are not as versatile as they should be. I hope that you agree and will work with the Board to revise these policies and procedures to make them effective and responsive to the faculty and the community at large.

We are a large public university and must remember our many and varied stakeholders. As we continue to move forward, let's work together to restore the confidence and trust our alumni and the taxpayers of Missouri have in THEIR Mizzou.

Sincerely,

Pamela Q. Henrickson, Chair  
Board of Curators