



**Statement of the MU Faculty Council on University Policy
Concerning the Firing of Professor Melissa Click by the Board of Curators**

The firing of Professor Melissa Click by the Board of Curators violates the norms of faculty governance to which the University of Missouri has traditionally adhered and which are essential to the functioning of a great university. Further, under the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University—which the Board has approved—MU faculty members accused of misconduct are entitled to a fair hearing before they may be dismissed. *See* CRR 300.010.L. Professor Click was not provided such a hearing.

When controversy arises, it is important to follow existing rules so that all involved are treated fairly. By creating a new process as it went along, the Board denied Professor Click the fair procedures that she, like all faculty, had been promised.

As the Executive Committee of the MU Faculty Council noted in a statement on January 28 (and the UM Intercampus Faculty Council noted again on February 23), any member of the Board of Curators was free to file a faculty irresponsibility charge against Professor Click at any time. Instead of using the University's existing procedures, the Board hired an outside lawyer, who interviewed witnesses and prepared a report. Professor Click was not invited to speak with the Board, nor was she allowed to call witnesses at a hearing.

By flouting the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University, the Board of Curators has caused needless injury to the University of Missouri.

Approved by the MU Faculty Council on February 25, 2016