

UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

The Faculty Council Ad Hoc Committee on the Library Mold Issue

February 1, 2015

Professor Craig Roberts
Chair, MU Faculty Council on University Policy

Dear Craig,

Acting Provost Ken Dean delivered Director Cogswell's "Chronology of MU Libraries Mold Incident" to the Ad Hoc Committee on January 29, 2015. The Ad Hoc Committee met on January 31, 2015 to review the document and can now report the following.

We find that the "Chronology of MU Libraries Mold Incident" simply does not respond to the requests that we articulated in our letter to you of December 12, 2014. In that letter we drew attention to Director Cogswell's failure to honor promises made to us in our initial meeting with him on March 14, 2014. In the matter of the destruction of mold infected books in particular, faculty members have been deprived of any determinative role despite assurances then made and documented in our letter of December 12. In our opinion, Director Cogswell's report confirms a pattern of disregard for the legitimate interests and role of Faculty in governance of the Library.

For this reason, we have lost confidence in Director Cogswell's judgment and we urge Faculty Council either to request an immediate point-by-point accounting of this matter or to consider proposing a vote of no confidence in the Director of Libraries.

Furthermore, we urge Faculty Council to take measures to ensure that Faculty have an effective voice in all future decisions regarding the Library collections and their maintenance.

We look forward to your response.

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Mark Ashbaugh
Stamatis Dostoglou
Noah Heringman
Jeanne Mihail
Dennis Trout
John Zemke