

July 6, 2012

To: Regents Wilbanks, Parker and Morris

From: Susan W. Martin 

Re: May 17, 2012 Performance/Conduct letter

As required by Michigan law, I request that this response be attached to the May 17, 2012 letter to me that is contained in my personnel file from the Board of Regents regarding the incident that took place on April 23, 2012 in Washington, D.C. I self-reported this incident to Chairman Wilbanks in person on April 27 that I lost my temper with an alumni when our discussion turned to a particularly sad time in Eastern's history. As it turned out, we had misunderstood each other at the time and we apologized to each other in subsequent emails the next day for that misunderstanding. (Attached to this response is that stream of emails on April 24 evidencing this misunderstanding. This email stream should also be included in my personnel file with this response.) I did consider my sharp and angry response to be "un-presidential". I apologized to Chairman Wilbanks for my inappropriate comments to and indicated it would not happen again. I apologize to all of the Board for this mistake.

As I indicated when presented with this May 17 letter, the workload of my position has increased substantially since I assumed these duties back in 2008. Let's be clear on this. I lead a very intense and highly visible life. I have a very demanding schedule with regular public appearances and speaking engagements. I live in a very public house that employees enter regularly and I often have guests stay with us overnight. All of that is part of the job. I accept that and thoroughly enjoy it. I consider myself a 'hands-on' President even to the point of jumping onto the marching band platform when appropriate, rappelling 60 feet down Roosevelt Hall, being on-call 24/7 with the Department of Public Safety and insisting on being informed about every serious incident on campus. I could not perform these duties and handle the rigors of this position if I had a serious health issue of any type as suggested by the May 17, letter. I will continue to devote my entire time and energy to the goals and metrics we have set to make Eastern thrive and grow. I am deeply committed to this University. I love Eastern and "bleed green".

I did self-report to the Board before I was hired as President that I had a driving infraction back in 2005 for driving while impaired. I have not had any alcohol-related ticket since the 2005 incident, nor before for that matter. In fact, I have not received any other driving ticket of any type since that 2005 incident.

We have accomplished much together in the past four years and I look forward to the future.

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