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December 29, 2022

Members of the
Whittier College Board of Trustees
13406 E. Philadelphia Street
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To The Board of Trustees:

A recent edition of Poet Connections hit the college campus. Were you surprised by all the “news”? You should be. The WASC accreditation Committee found no real evidence of any substantial long-term planning. Enrollment is down, donations/giving is down (and will drop dramatically this year because of the President’s ill-advised cuts), assets are being sold which are one time funds to support ongoing programs, there has been little to no transparency, the faculty show no support for this President, the AAUP has a very negative response to all that this President has done (none of which is positive), large Grants are siphoned off and sent to her son and her favorite administrators with no planning or accountability for the funding. Clearly the President is reshaping what Whittier College has never been nor does it want to be. How do I know? Because the President has not included any of the stakeholders of the college.

According to the President, in a letter to the accreditation team, assured them that long term plans are being created. Have you seen any evidence of that? Have the administrators responsible for those areas presented any works in progress? If you have seen these then why, in the name of transparency, have these works in progress been shared with the stakeholders?

When the WASC accreditation committee returns in person, they will be looking for plans that are created from data and data analysis. The kind of “blue smoke and mirrors” of the Poet Connection will be woefully insufficient to support any thing that is required. The “shiny object”, inane cuts to the sports programs, used to distract the community will not be enough for the accreditation committee. They will want to see extensive and long-term financial planning that is supported by detailed data analysis. What have you seen, because you have shared nothing with us, the Poet community?

Trustees, Dr. Oubre is the President but you are the stewards of Whittier College. The President does not live in or care one whit for the real Whittier. The President is not even really concerned with the enrollment of on-campus students. Her vision is more in keeping with turning the Quaker founded College into some kind of profitable venture. That is not the history, tradition, and values of Whittier College.

You should be asking yourself, why am I here? What is my role as a Trustee? What am I responsible for, if not to guard and protect the traditions and values of Whittier College? Most of your work histories demonstrate strong leadership skills yet you act like church mice as Trustees. Please do not think that this President is the last best hope for Whittier College. There are plenty of candidates who would be more than outstanding in the tasks that lie ahead. If you continue on this current "sleigh ride" this Board of Trustees will be the last hope of Whittier College. Please do not let that happen.

Respectfully,

/s/

Francis L. Remkiewicz '74
Wardman Circle
Faithful Friends

Managing Editor, Quaker Campus, 1974
President and Member, Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society
'73-'74
President, Phi Sigma Tau, National Philosophy Honor Society, '72-'74
Member, Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Honor Society '73-'74
Ahmanson Fellow '74