

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: Mark Masters, Speaker of the Purdue University Faculty

DATE: May 8, 2017

SUBJ: Purdue Senate Document 16-19 on the Purdue Purchase of Kaplan University

WHEREAS, On May 4, 2017, the Purdue University Senate adopted Senate Document 16-19, “Resolution on the Purdue Purchase of Kaplan University” (attached); and

WHEREAS, The faculty of Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne share the same concerns as our colleagues at Purdue University with the lack of faculty input or participation in Purdue University’s decision to acquire Kaplan University;

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fort Wayne Senate endorses Purdue University Senate Document 16-19, “Resolution on the Purdue Purchase of Kaplan University.”

To: Purdue University Senate
From: Senators Alan Beck, Tithi Bhattacharya, Evelyn Blackwood, Elena Coda, Cheryl Cooky, Alan Friedman, Alberto Rodriguez, and Laurel Weldon
Subject: Resolution on the Purdue Purchase of Kaplan University
Disposition: University Senate for Discussion & Approval

Whereas,

Faculty governance and faculty control of curriculum are the lifeblood of any healthy University.

As unfortunately the unique nature of the announced purchase by Purdue of Kaplan University resulted in a violation of both of those central tenets.

1. No input was sought through regular faculty governance before this decision was made.
2. No assessment of the impact on the academic quality of Purdue, now or in the future, was made.
3. No transparency was demonstrated in this process.
4. No impact study has been taken of effects on faculty, curriculum, students and staff at Purdue.
5. Faculty governance and academic freedom at what will become the “New University” is not assured by the Purdue agreement with Kaplan.
6. The Faculty has already requested, in writing, that the administration use the Senate’s Academic Organization Committee when considering any re-structuring of programs or the creation of new ones at any campus.

Be it resolved that

Based on these violations of both common sense educational practice and respect for the Purdue faculty, we call on the President and Board of Trustees to include faculty in all aspects of decision-making regarding the proposed “New University” and to rescind any decisions, to the degree possible, made without faculty input.

Sponsors:

Alan Beck, Tithi Bhattacharya, Evelyn Blackwood, Elena Coda, Cheryl Cooky, Alan Friedman, Alberto Rodriguez, Laurel Weldon