

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 8, 2014

The Honorable Paul Foster Chairman, Board of Regents University of Texas System Ashbel Smith Hall, Suite 820 201 West 7th Street Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Chairman Foster:

We are mindful of the fact that the University of Texas System has hired Kroll Associates, Inc. to conduct an official investigation into admissions practices at the University of Texas at Austin. We will be closely monitoring the investigation as part of the official oversight role over the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System, The University of Texas System, and The University of Texas System component institutions that was assigned to us by the Co-Chairs of the Select Committee on Transparency in State Agency Operations.

Accordingly, we plan on attending or otherwise monitoring all interviews that are conducted by Kroll during the course of the investigation, including interviews with former and current UT Austin, UT Board of Regents, and UT System officers and personnel. We agree that this is an extremely important issue, and would like to extend an invitation to conduct interviews at the State Capitol, which would have the added advantage of audio and video equipment to record and preserve the interviews.

We request to be notified of all upcoming interviews as soon as they are scheduled, and ask that you provide the dates, times, locations, interviewee names, and the names of any other persons expected to attend. We also request that you produce the name, title, and contact information for each Kroll employee or contractor that is or will be working on the investigation to our office within five business days. Please submit the requested information to both of our offices in an electronic format.

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While we know that there have been allegations of legislative influence on admissions, we believe that every member of the Legislature is responsible for his or her own actions, and our requests are made solely as part of our official duty as monitors of The UT Board of Regents, The UT System, and UT component institutions. Should you or your lawyers have any concerns, please contact our offices to arrange a meeting with ourselves and Committee counsel, whom we have copied on this letter. We have already met with some potential witnesses who have assured us of their cooperation, and we trust that you will be equally cooperative.

Sincerely,

Trey Martinez Fischer

Chairman, Mexican American Legislative Caucus State Representative, District 116 Lyle Larson

State Representative, District 122

cc: Members of the Select Committee on Transparency in State Agency Operations;
Frank Battle, General Counsel to the Speaker of the House;
Chris Griesel, Parliamentarian, Texas House of Representatives;
Jeffrey Archer, Executive Director, Texas Legislative Council;
Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa & Chancellor-designate William McRaven, University of Texas System.