

Western Illinois University Alumni Council Resolution 2019-001

WHEREAS over 135,000 members of the WIU Alumni Association are the permanent trustees of the University,

WHEREAS the Alumni Council serves as the governing body of the Alumni Association and represents the alumni in supporting and consulting the University related to the success of the institution,

WHEREAS the University has been severely impacted in recent years by declining enrollment, funding shortfalls, arduous negotiations with collective bargaining units, and the departure of several senior leaders from the University,

WHEREAS action has been far too slow and indecisive in addressing ongoing issues and stakeholders have publicly feuded to the detriment of public relations and internal morale,

WHEREAS all members of the University community, including the Board of Trustees, the President and administration, faculty, staff, and the Macomb community have a shared responsibility to protect and secure the future of the University and to ensure a quality education for our students,

WHEREAS no clear plan of action or evidence of a shared vision among all the aforementioned stakeholders has been presented or appears to be imminent, suggesting a lack of direction and floundering leadership,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alumni Council, on behalf of the alumni of Western Illinois University, HEREBY INSISTS THAT

The Board of Trustees hold the University leadership accountable to develop a plan immediately to put the University on a path that will enable growth and financial security, making whatever changes are necessary to reach that goal, AND FURTHER

Dr. Jack Thomas resign his position as President of Western Illinois University effective June 30, 2019, AND FURTHER

Should President Thomas choose not to resign, the Board of Trustees terminate Dr. Thomas's contract effective June 30, 2019, AND FURTHER

Streamline the academic offerings to define Western Illinois University as a leader in key programs and direct investment to those programs, allocating scarce resources as needed and reducing investment in programs with low enrollment, AND FURTHER

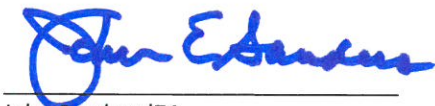
Invest in recruitment, marketing, and other programs necessary to increase enrollment, reallocating funds as necessary to do so, AND FURTHER

Set political and personal issues aside between the Administration and the collective bargaining units to make the difficult decisions and compromises necessary to show a unified mission to rebuild enrollment and student success, AND FINALLY

Establish tangible metrics to measure the success of these changes, to report those results to the University community on a regular basis, and to check and adjust quickly where actions are not producing the results needed.

Only through these actions will we re-establish the footing necessary to ensure the success and future of the University for generations to come.

Passed in a special session of the Alumni Council, June 6, 2019, Votes: 15 Yes, 2 No



John Sanders '74
Alumni Council President

6/6/2019