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BaylorAlumniAssociation.com

May 30, 2014

The Honorable Ken Starr
President and Chancellor
One Bear Place #97096
Waco, Texas 76798

Dear President Starr:

Thank you for your letter dated May 19.

The BAA joins you in celebrating Baylor University's nationally recognized success. As we have demonstrated on numerous occasions, we want the best for the entire Baylor University family and are delighted by the good things happening at the University.

We do need to correct some of the factual inconsistencies in your recent letter. We are not sure who briefed you on the BAA's proposed \$1 million scholarship gift, but they did not give you complete and accurate information. A thorough account of the facts is below:

It has been the BAA's longstanding practice to donate a portion of its annual membership funds to the Baylor University Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund (the BAA Fund), which is managed by Baylor's University Scholarship Committee. Over the last 10 years the BAA Fund has contributed more than \$100,000 in scholarships to deserving students. Also, the BAA established a Legacy Scholarship Program in 2010 benefitting children of alumni families of modest means. Since inception in 2010, this fund has disbursed \$212,000 in scholarships.

In January 2013, the BAA proposed an additional \$1 million gift to Baylor University to be used for scholarships. Final details were left pending until representatives of the BAA and Baylor University could meet to discuss and agree upon the specifics on how those funds would be used. Discussions over this potential donation then became subsumed in the negotiations over the proposed Transition Agreement, which would have required much of the BAA's funds to be transferred to Baylor. Since the Transition Agreement was not approved by the BAA's membership, the terms of the BAA's potential donation were never finalized.

Since the Transition Agreement failed last September, we have been forced to defend the BAA against various unwarranted actions by Baylor, including: the demolition of our association's campus home, the Hughes-Dillard Alumni Center; being locked out of our new campus home in the Clifton Robinson Tower in December; Baylor's failure to honor its commitment to provide us a new facility on campus; and, the receipt of correspondence purporting to unilaterally terminate licenses to use the name "Baylor Alumni Association" and the title of our magazine, "The Baylor Line". Despite these and a raft of other obstacles to our continued operation, our all-volunteer group of dedicated Baylor alumni continues to press forward with a steadfast hope for an inclusive, transparent exchange of ideas.

Our commitment includes renewed transparency in our own dealings, including a change to our by-laws ensuring all members will have an opportunity to vote on the future course of the BAA. In an effort to foster a completely transparent dialogue, copies of pertinent correspondence have been provided to all BAA board members and everyone who attended our recent board of directors meeting. Information has also been shared with all of our members and posted on our web site.

The BAA remains committed to an open, transparent dialogue about constructive, mutually beneficial results for our members and the University. We believe that such dialogue is the best course to pursue in determining the BAA's future course and its continued commitment to Baylor's best interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Cowden III". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

George Cowden III
President

cc: Baylor Board of Regents
Baylor Alumni Association Board of Directors