



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

May 1, 2015

Professor Robert Kyr
Senate President
University Senate

Dear President Kyr:

I am writing in response to *Senate Resolution 14/15-55, Not in Our Name: The UO Senate Rejects UO's Response to the Lawsuit from the Student Survivor of Alleged Rape*.

I share the commitment of the University Senate to maintaining a safe, respectful, and responsible campus for all our students. I appreciate the concern and passion members of the senate have for ensuring survivors of sexual assault feel safe in seeking support and services. This is a priority for everyone at the University of Oregon and universities across the nation. I respect the senate's right to express its collective opinion through this resolution, and will consider this perspective going forward. However, the motion seeks two actions I cannot support; a request for an explanation of legal strategy and a request to change the language in the response to a pending lawsuit. The facts related to this lawsuit will be decided in court. Therefore, it is not appropriate to discuss legal or factual issues related to the lawsuit at this time. Moreover, I and the university leadership team are focused forward, on maintaining a safe campus for students, preventing sexual violence, ensuring best practices in responding to sexual misconduct and supporting survivors. We are working to make UO a leader in responding to and preventing sexual violence.

Sincerely,

Scott Coltrane
Interim President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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