



Thursday, August 27, 2015

Dr. Angela Redish, Acting President
Dr. Martha Piper, Interim President
University of British Columbia
7th Floor, Walter C. Koerner Library
1958 Main Mall
Vancouver, BC
V6T 1Z2

Dr. Redish and Dr. Piper

As representatives for UBC's largest bargaining unit, the Association of Administrative and Professional Staff (AAPS), we are writing to request a full accounting of the direct and indirect costs associated with former UBC President Arvind Gupta's resignation and any related political, legal or labour relations fallout.

As we hope you can appreciate, we are concerned that these costs, for which the university has not budgeted, will impact the workload and job security of our members. We know that you understand that AAPS' members perform work that is vital to the day-to-day operations of the university.

Over the past two years, the BC Government has cut \$25 million in funding to UBC. As a result, AAPS members have been continually tasked with accomplishing more while being provided with less in the way of resources. We simply cannot tolerate a situation in which the multi-million dollar price tag for a failed Presidency is passed down to staff. However, given Board Chair Montalbano's assurances to the public that neither students nor faculty will suffer as a result of the financial consequences of former President Gupta's decision, we are concerned that it is UBC's staff who will bear the brunt of these costs.

We believe that potential costs include but are not limited to the following:

- The Presidential search that recommended Dr. Gupta
- Dr. Gupta's salary for the 2015–2016 academic year that he is on leave
- Renovations to the President's residence
- The cost of terminating three Vice Presidents during Dr. Gupta's short tenure
- Interim President Martha Piper's salary
- Legal costs associated with the resignation
- Fees to Kirk & Company Consulting Ltd. (contract public relations services for UBC)



- New Presidential search costs
- Installation costs of the new President
- Loss of productivity and revenue as strategic decisions are placed on hold
- Staff time required to handle the resignation and the transition
- Potential loss of donor funds based on eroded public confidence in UBC

The UBC community deserves a full and clear explanation of all of the costs associated with the resignation and how they will be absorbed.

We wish to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss our concerns. Please contact AAPS Executive Director Joey Hansen at joey.hansen@ubc.ca to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,

Isabella Losinger
President

Joey Hansen
Executive Director