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Dr. Elaine P. Maimon  
President, Governors State University

January 16, 2020

Dear President Maimon—

It is my duty to inform you that today, by a vote of 25-1, the University Faculty Senate adopted a resolution of *no confidence* in your leadership of Governors State University.

We did not take this action lightly, nor was it based on personal animus. Many senators, myself included, have enjoyed a warm and courteous relationship with you and your husband over the years. Neither did it result from policy disagreements, as academics can and do disagree on such matters on an almost daily basis, and we consider such discourse healthy for an academic institution. Finally, this vote was not the result of union machination; we did not coordinate this with the UPI, nor was it “negotiation by other means.”

Rather, our consideration of confidence in your leadership followed a careful, dispassionate analysis of the report of the Office of the Executive Inspector General in Case #17-01703, in which you were found to have engaged in mismanagement, misfeasance, and/or malfeasance which cost the university nearly \$1.6 Million. In addition to this clear ethical lapse, we were particularly concerned that this took place during a state budget impasse, when the university raised tuition and fees and cut academic programs, demonstrating an astonishing failure of your administration to prioritize teaching and learning.

It is therefore with great sadness that the Senate, acting on behalf of the faculty in our capacity as the permanent stewards of the institution, recommends and urges your immediate resignation as president of Governors State University.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David H. Golland", written in a cursive style.

David Hamilton Golland  
President, University Faculty Senate

cc:

Hon. Lisa Harrell, Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
Dr. Elizabeth Cada, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

**A RESOLUTION**  
**regarding the CONTINUING CONFIDENCE of the FACULTY**  
**in the LEADERSHIP of PRESIDENT ELAINE P. MAIMON**

**UFS 2019-20 No. 03**

**Whereas** the University Faculty Senate is the elected and representative body of the faculty, tasked with the careful and sober deliberation of matters concerning the mission, welfare, and performance of the university; and

Whereas the Office of the Executive Inspector General (OEIG) has released a report of an investigation into Case #17-01703, which alleged that “GSU required [a former employee] to submit timesheets falsely indicating that she was still working for GSU and the timesheets were signed at the direction of GSU President Elaine Maimon...and that [Dr.] Maimon made a practice of paying other employees after the employees stopped working for GSU or started working elsewhere,” with such payments totaling \$1,598,108; and

Whereas the OEIG report stated that “the allegation that GSU and [Dr.] Maimon mismanaged the termination of numerous at-will employees...is FOUNDED,” which it defined as “reasonable cause to believe that a violation of law or policy has occurred, or that there has been fraud, waste, mismanagement, misconduct, nonfeasance, misfeasance, or malfeasance;” and

Whereas the *Chicago Tribune* published an article by Dawn Rhodes entitled “Governors State paid \$1.5M to terminated employees, even though many of them did no work: state watchdog,” in the edition published on Sunday, December 22, 2019; and

Whereas the mismanagement of such a large sum during a time of significant state budget cuts, tuition and student fee increases, and academic program eliminations represents an astonishing failure to prioritize the university mission; and

Whereas the finding of the OEIG will significantly inhibit the ability of Dr. Maimon to lead Governors State University and serve as an example to its students, faculty, staff, and administration in meeting its mission and vision, particularly regarding its ethical goals; and


Whereas the finding of the OEIG will significantly inhibit the ability of Dr. Maimon to secure adequate public and private funding for the continued operations of Governors State University; and

Whereas the President of Governors State University must be held to the highest levels of integrity and accountability;

**Now, therefore be it Resolved** that the University Faculty Senate, on behalf of the faculty, has *no confidence* in the continued leadership of Elaine P. Maimon, and hereby and herewith recommends and urges her immediate resignation as President of Governors State University; and

Be it further resolved that if Dr Maimon does not immediately resign the presidency, that the Senate hereby and herewith recommends and urges the Board of Trustees to affect her immediate removal from that post.

Approved in Faculty Senate January 16, 2020.



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Alice Keane  
Secretary, University Faculty Senate