

Labor Relations

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May 31, 2016

David Parsons
President
UAW Local 4121
2633 Eastlake Ave. E. Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98102

Subject: Your information request of May 24, 2016

Dear David,

Thank you for your May 24th information request. We would like to provide some context that may assist in adequately processing the matter.

First, academic student employees (ASEs) play valuable roles in helping to meet the University's teaching and research missions. We are unequivocally committed to honoring all commitments made to ASEs as a part of their University of Washington admissions offer. If any of your members believe that a funding promise made to them upon admission is not being honored or a term of the UAW contract is being violated, please ask them to notify us through their UAW representative, and we will remedy the situation.

Next, instructional spending in the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S), including spending on ASEs, has been a priority for some time. A&S increased total spending on ASEs in each of the past four budget years¹. It will do so again in FY 17. The total percentage of the Arts and Sciences budget expended on ASEs has not dropped over the past four years, and is not expected to drop in FY 17. In addition, the Provost has already committed funds in the FY17 budget process to support instructional spending in A&S that would have otherwise been reduced.

Finally, the majority of ASE changes for the upcoming academic year are being driven by enrollment changes in individual departments. For several years, the College of Arts and Sciences has been providing differential allocations of instructional funds to departments in order to match student demand. Each department has discretion on how they choose to spend and manage these funds, including the number of ASEs they hire. In some departments where student enrollments are declining, ASEs have been impacted. Examples include History, Political Science and Geography².

There have been discussions in A&S about longer-term budget projection that require close attention. The College of Arts and Sciences is working with the Provost office to evaluate

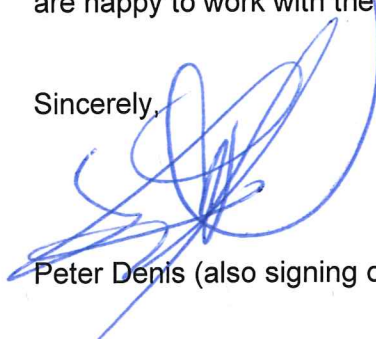
¹ Budgeted funds: \$17.2M (2013), \$17.7M (2014), \$18.5M (2015), \$20.4M (2016)

² Changes in student credit hour from 2011-12 to 2015-16: History (-27.2%), Political Science (-11.2%), Geography (-17.3%)

current budget assumptions and projections, and information concerning direct impacts to ASE is premature or unknown.

We are happy to meet with the union to discuss enrollment and financial projections in greater detail. Also, if there are ASEs who have been notified they will not be re-employed next year AND who have special circumstances that cause undue hardship on obtaining their degree, we are happy to work with the UAW to address such individual circumstances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Peter Denis', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Peter Denis (also signing on behalf of Bob Stacey)