

February 25, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dr. Russell P. Dawn
President
Concordia University Chicago
7400 Augusta Street
River Forest, Illinois 60305

Dear President Dawn:

Exactly one month has passed since we wrote to convey our Association's grave concerns regarding issues of academic governance, academic freedom and tenure, and academic due process at Concordia University Chicago. In our letter (a copy which is enclosed for your convenience), we stated that, assuming the essential accuracy of what had been reported to us, "the governing board and administration of Concordia University Chicago—after having effectively abolished tenure and academic due process by unilaterally suspending critical sections of the faculty handbook—proceeded to shutter academic programs and terminate faculty appointments through a prioritization process that flagrantly disregarded normative principles and standards of academic governance, academic freedom and tenure, and academic due process." With respect to academic freedom, we wrote, "We find particularly troubling the allegation that these actions did not proceed exclusively from a financial basis but instead stemmed, at least in part, from ideological considerations."

Are we to take your silence as an acknowledgement of the validity of these claims?

We continue to look forward to your substantive response.

Sincerely,



Gregory F. Scholtz, Director
Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Governance

Enclosure by email attachment

Cc: Dr. Dominic Salvino, Chair, Board of Regents (c/o President Dawn)
Dr. Erik Ankerberg, Provost
Professor Sandra Doering, Chair, Faculty Senate
Professor Leo Welch, President, Illinois AAUP
Professor Daniel R. Tomar