

Haskell Indian Nations University Faculty Senate

Resolution No. 2021 – 01

Support for a *vote of no confidence* in the leadership, commitment to shared governance, a collegial culture of academic integrity, and transparent communication of Dr. Ronald Graham, President of Haskell Indian Nations University.

Whereas, the Haskell Faculty Senate is the official recognized voice and body through which Haskell Indian Nations University faculty participate in the Higher Learning Commission's requirement of shared governance for colleges and universities; and

Whereas, the purpose of the Haskell Faculty Senate is to ensure that faculty participate in advancing the mission and vision of Haskell for the American Indian and Alaska Native students Haskell serves; and

Whereas, President Graham during his nearly one year tenure has made no effort to engage the Haskell faculty in the legitimate practice of shared governance and has expressed the opinion he did not need to meet with the Haskell Faculty Senate, but stated that could be delegated to his recently hired Academic Vice President, a clear violation of the Haskell Faculty Senate Constitution of 2017. This further compromises faculty ability to effectively meet the needs of the students, relate to them, and maintain optimal performance of faculty duties; and

Whereas, President Graham's failure to call a Haskell Board of Regents meeting during his first year's tenure threatens Haskell's Higher Learning Commission accreditation and the future of the university. Haskell should have had at a minimum a virtual Spring 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021 Board of Regents meeting, which clearly violates the stated requirements of our accrediting body; and

Whereas, President Graham unilaterally reconfigured the Haskell committee system and removed control of two committees that operate under the authority of the Haskell Faculty Senate: the Academic Standards Committee and the Curriculum Committee, and placed them under his purview; and

Whereas, President Graham proposes new baccalaureate, masters, and Ph.D. degree programs without any engagement or consultation with Haskell Faculty Senate or the Haskell Board of Regents; and

Whereas, President Graham continues to exclude faculty and academic deans from critical decisions about dual enrollment, effective scheduling of on-line courses, and use of the limited full-faculty Haskell currently has; and

Whereas, President Graham has demonstrated disdain for collegial academic culture and the unique Indigenous character of Haskell, as evidenced in his disregard for academic

freedom, the free speech rights of our students and faculty, and by the autocratic manner in which he seeks to run, not lead, Haskell; and

Whereas, President Graham disregards our mission statement that supports tribal sovereignty and the trust responsibility. This is a violation of Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements;

And Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Haskell Faculty Senate declares no confidence in either Dr. Graham's leadership or his effective use of shared governance for Haskell Indian Nations University.

And Now Therefore Be It Finally Resolved, this vote of no confidence will be sent to Dr, Graham's immediate supervisor, Mr. Tony Dearman, Director of the Bureau of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Interior.

Vote of No Confidence Certified on April 1, 2021

Unanimous No Confidence Decision: 25 Yes, 0 No and 0 Abstentions

Haskell Faculty Senate Executive Committee: Jimmy Beason, Judith Gipp, and Randall McCoy