

Whereas Western Kentucky University is experiencing its most severe budget crisis in some time;

Whereas President Gary A. Ransdell is compensated very well, earning \$423,588 in 2013-14¹;

Whereas President Ransdell has said that in other cases that “By reducing our executive level overhead, we’re reducing the overall budget cut”²;

Whereas a voluntary reduction in President Ransdell’s salary would thus reduce the impact of the budget cut, and demonstrate solidarity with faculty and employees;

Whereas the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University passed a resolution (Resolution 5-14-S) encouraging President Ransdell to consider working with the Board of Regents to reduce his salary for 2014-15 and/or beyond;

Therefore be it resolved that the University Senate concurs with Resolution 5-14-S and encourages President Ransdell to consider working with the Board of Regents to reduce his salary for 2014-15 and/or beyond.

Attached: Resolution 5-14-S from Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University

¹ “Budgeted Salary Information,” 2013-14, available at <http://bloximages.newyork1.vip.townnews.com/wkuherald.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/6/bf/6bf04f36-83f6-11e3-a2e6-001a4bcf6878/52e0b4dc42069.pdf.pdf> (accessed March 24, 2014).

² Quoted in Joanna Williams, “Ransdell announces administrative reorganization,” *College Heights Herald* (March 26, 2014), available at http://wkuherald.com/news/article_80eedf70-b53c-11e3-b702-0017a43b2370.html (accessed April 28, 2014).

First Reading: April 8, 2014

Second Reading: April 15, 2014

Resolution 5-14-S Resolution to Encourage President Ransdell to Consider a Reduction in His Salary

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to encourage President Gary A. Ransdell to consider a downward revision of his base salary for the 2014-15 fiscal year and/or beyond.

WHEREAS: Western Kentucky University is experiencing its most severe budget crisis in some time, and

WHEREAS: President Gary A. Ransdell is compensated very well, earning \$423,588 in 2013-14,³ and

WHEREAS: This resolution should not be construed to convey any judgment of President Ransdell's job performance, and

WHEREAS: President Ransdell has demonstrated his commitment to Western Kentucky University and is not likely to depart for a higher salary elsewhere, and

WHEREAS: Western Kentucky University will face difficult decisions on personnel and services for the 2014-15 budget, and

WHEREAS: A reduction in President Ransdell's salary could free up funds to soften the blow of budget cuts elsewhere, and

WHEREAS: Accepting such a reduction would demonstrate shared sacrifice in the midst of crisis, and

WHEREAS: The Student Government Association recognizes that only the Board of Regents can amend the President's contract, and

WHEREAS: A permanent reduction of President Ransdell's salary would result in longer-term savings.

³ "Budgeted Salary Information," 2013-14, available at <http://bloximages.newyork1.vip.townnews.com/wkuherald.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/6/bf/6bf04f36-83f6-11e3-a2e6-001a4bcf6878/52e0b4dc42069.pdf.pdf> (accessed March 24, 2014).

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University supports President Gary Ransdell considering the reduction of his salary for fiscal year 2014-15, and

THEREFORE: Be it further resolved that the Student Government Association encourages President Gary Ransdell, in coordination with the Board of Regents and in consultation with the campus community, to consider making such a reduction permanent.

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