

Dear President Lovell and members of the Executive Leadership Team,

As a Marquette (student/parent/alum/stakeholder), I am writing you with deep concern about Marquette's current direction. While accepting federal stimulus money, intended to preserve jobs, and maintaining a multi-million dollar budget surplus, Marquette has laid off numerous faculty. While faculty are the backbone of our university--the ones who directly provide students with the education that Marquette exists to offer--Marquette has not even afforded the fired faculty the dignity of stating how many of them were sacrificed to further administration's financial goals. This same year, Marquette laid off valued staff, who staffed the libraries, managed information technology, advised students, and directed programs that are crucial to Marquette's transformational Jesuit education. Marquette's employees are its heart. I am deeply dismayed and troubled that you would sacrifice even one valued member of our community while collecting federal stimulus money and running a budget surplus. No surprise that faculty and staff morale is at an all-time low--your actions have created a climate of fear and distrust.

My family and I value Marquette because of its community--its small class sizes, personal attention, and the surrounding resources that make for a transformational, high-quality education. I am deeply concerned that if people continue to be sacrificed to the bottom line, Marquette's distinctive quality will further suffer.

I am asking you today to commit to employing all current staff and faculty through the 2021-22 school year, to maintain Marquette's stability as we emerge from the pandemic. Students, their parents, alumni and supporters deserve to know that Marquette will maintain the community that has earned it national distinction and made it the place we love.