

Subject: TU Eliminated from Last Will and Testament due to "True Commitment" - that's my commitment.

Dear President Clancy, Provost Levit, TU Board of Trustees, and Alumni Relations:

My name is Dr. Matthew Wilburn King. I am writing to inform you that my wife and I have directed our attorney to eliminate TU from our Last Will and Testament after reading the "True Commitment" plan in detail. I have already communicated this to Ms. Amy Freiburger in the Alumni Relations Office but wish to formally articulate my concerns to each of you too.

Any donations from my wife and I to TU will no longer be considered until "True Commitment" has been abolished as a plan for TU's future. I have lost full faith and confidence in the direction of the university after reading the plan. My goal is to make this known so that the university may correct course from its "True Commitment." Undermining a strong liberal arts education at TU will destroy a highly respected university. There is no better way for me to honor the commitment that the university originally made to me as an undergraduate student than to take these actions.

I graduated in 1998, eventually completing my master's degree at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and my Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge, England. I can attribute my educational success to the College of Arts and Science, the Department of Political Science, my undergraduate Advisor, Dr. Jeffrey Hockett, and the former Dean of University, Dr. Jim Vanderlind, among many others.

My undergraduate education at TU challenged me in ways that I could have never imagined. The proposals in True Commitment are an insult to me and to the legacy of the university. The academic rigor demanded by professors such as Dr. Hockett, my exposure to empirical research, critical thinking, and strong academic writing (skills many lack) in the College of Arts and Sciences set me on a path to meet the competitive demands at institutions such as the University of Cambridge.

My education as well as the practical experience gained through TU's public service internship program provided the foundation for me to eventually serve as United States Presidential Management Fellow during both the Clinton and Bush Administrations (1999-2001) as well as a successful career working in international activities for the US government while advancing the State Department's public diplomacy goals in Latin America.

I was honored to have returned to TU in 2010 as the Distinguished Alumnus Lecturer in Politics and Law and to encourage current students to stay committed to the path that I once traveled.

Unfortunately, TU's "True Commitment" clearly eliminates the path that led me to a vibrant and successful career. It is to my own chagrin that I chose to attend a university that would even consider the propositions stated in the plan, "True Commitment." The abandonment of Arts and Sciences and innumerable other programs at the university is highly disconcerting and verges on appalling in the context of higher education and our children's future.

It is in this regard that I demand the university correct course and create a plan that is inclusive of alumni, faculty, current students, and people who have a deep understanding of academia, the value of the liberal arts, and TU's legacy in establishing an environment that prizes academic rigor over money and private interests.

Respectfully,



Dr. Matthew Wilburn King



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