

STEVE WILSON

September 29, 2015

Governor Steve Beshear
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Governor Beshear:

For the past three years, it has been my great honor and pleasure to serve as one of your appointees on the Board of Trustees of the University of Louisville. Shortly before my appointment, there had been a great deal of controversy about a plan for the University medical system to merge with the Catholic Health Initiatives system, a plan you declined to endorse.

Since that time, I have appreciated your support of me as an independent voice in favor of enhanced governance and improved transparency. Working with other distinguished members of the Board, we have recently made great strides in that direction. For example, I called for an independent audit by the State Auditor and I am hopeful that his report helps clarify and restructure the relationship between the University's and Foundation's governing boards. And, we have recently elected a new Board Chair, Larry Benz, along with a new slate of officers and committee chairs. I am confident we are on the path of enlightened reform.

When I accepted your appointment, I certainly intended to serve out a full term. However, like many others in our community, I am concerned about the current lack of diversity on the Board, a concern I know you share. As a premier metropolitan research university, U of L's board should reflect its community and I fear the lack of racial diversity on the board may hinder the positive progress the board has started to make under the leadership of Chairman Benz.

I have no doubt that you would fulfill your commitment to appoint an African American member of our community at your next opportunity but, without a resignation, there will not be another vacancy until next year. I don't think we should wait that long. Therefore, I hereby resign my position on the Board of Trustees of the University of Louisville, so that you have the opportunity to make a new appointment immediately.

Sincerely,



Steve Wilson