

Office of the President

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May 9, 2018

Dr. J. Mark Blackwell
Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Director, International Programs
President, AAUP - SC
Francis Marion University
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4822 E. Palmetto St.
Florence, SC 29506

Dear Dr. Blackwell:

Thank you for your correspondence dated April 20, 2018. As you reference in your letter, your position is based on information that is disputed. Because there is a pending civil action involving the University, I have been advised by University counsel not to comment any further. I will be available to discuss this matter with you once Dr. Turner's lawsuit has ended if Dr. Turner signs a consent permitting such a discussion.

Sincerely,

David A. DeCenzo, Ph.D.

President

cc: Dr. J. Ralph Byington, Provost and Executive Vice President

Mr. Tim Meacham, Esq., University Counsel

Dr. Jose Sanjines, AAUP—CCU Chapter President

Dr. Daniel Cross Turner