

Passed by the Faculty Council of the College of Arts and Sciences on October 11, 2012 by a vote of 35 yes, 2 no, and 1 abstention.

MOTION:

Whereas the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences is committed to the mission, welfare, and reputation of Saint Louis University, we express no confidence in President Biondi's leadership with respect to the retention of VPAA Patankar on the grounds that Fr. Biondi has continued to express his full support and confidence in Dr. Manoj Patankar despite overwhelming no confidence votes in the Faculty Council and the Faculty Senate.

JUSTIFICATION

- The University faces many challenges at present, including a dramatic decline in national rankings, a stagnant endowment, low salaries, and low morale.
- The College of Arts and Sciences is committed to the mission, welfare, and reputation of Saint Louis University, and to reversing these trends. We believe shared governance can be reinvigorated, and both faculty morale and the standing of the University can be restored. We can accomplish this by making maximum and transparent use of existing policies, procedures, and bodies.
- The faculty has, however, lost all confidence in the current leadership, especially that of Vice President for Academic Affairs Manoj Patankar, to reverse these trends. In fact, Dr. Patankar has contributed to the decline, harming the reputation of the university and repeatedly demonstrating a failure to understand and employ basic principles and best practices of academic leadership.
- The faculty has already expressed their lack of confidence in Dr. Patankar through overwhelming votes in the Faculty Senate and in the Faculty Council of the College of Arts and Sciences. Nonetheless, President Biondi continues to express his full support for him, and to minimize and misrepresent faculty concerns.
- Therefore, because President Biondi has expressed his continued full support for and confidence in Dr. Patankar, the Faculty Council has lost its confidence in the leadership of President Biondi.