

Dr. Gregory Crawford, President  
Miami University, Roudebush Hall  
501 East High Street  
Oxford, OH 45056

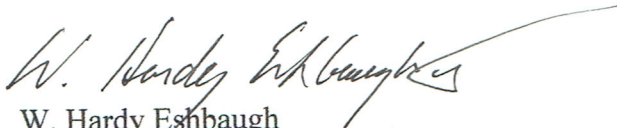
18 July 2019

Dear Greg:

Usually the Miami community is delighted to see articles and stories about the institution in newspapers, scholarly articles and the media but those of the last month have reflected poorly on the university and its administration. Unfortunately, many of these articles have appeared in major newspapers and media outlets at both the national and international level. I fear that your success as Miami University's 22<sup>nd</sup> president is being jeopardized by the incompetence of your staff that simply jumped to conclusions and has taken you and the university into a very dark place. The multiple failures of your staff in handling what was a delicate situation has only been made worse because they failed to adequately inform themselves and research the issue at hand. I am forced to ask if what these three individuals did was so horrific why didn't the DEA press charges and prosecute them?

I will not repeat the insights set forth in Daniel E. Hall's essay "Seeds of Injustice" or past president Jim Garland's response to the article that appeared in the Journal of Higher Education but agree with both authors that the situation Miami University has created through its own ineptness is "from start to finish a case study in boneheadedness." How you and the institution finally handle this situation remains to be seen but I firmly believe it will have a lasting impact on the reputation of the university, morale of the faculty, student enrollment, and alumni support of the institution.

Sincerely yours,

  
W. Hardy Eshbaugh  
Professor Emeritus