



Association for Higher Education

Vote of No Confidence Summary

Full-time, tenured faculty have carried out a vote of no confidence with an almost unanimous result calling for the immediate removal of Jim Richardson as president of Wenatchee Valley College.

The two charges against President Richardson are aligned to:

1. His failure to uphold the duties he has been tasked with in his employment contract by not behaving in a professional manner and by injuring the reputation of the college.
2. The effects his mismanagement has had on the college's mission statement, specifically related to the college now being impaired in its ability to serve the educational needs of the community and to deliver high quality education.

The main support for the charges includes:

- President Richardson's fiscal mismanagement resulting in two financial crises in the last three years.
- Multiple layoffs and furlough days for classified and exempt employees with the possibility of more in the future affecting all college employees.
- Numerous capital projects leading to mounting debt.
- President Richardson's divisive manner in handling the crisis since it was made public.
- The president's lack of leadership by his complete evasion of any responsibility for the crisis and misrepresentation to college employees and the media about the cause of the current financial crisis.
- The president's high salary and the college's low student FTEs in comparison to other presidents and community colleges.
- The negative effect the crisis is having on students.

The most significant reason why faculty is demanding President Richardson's immediate removal is the negative effect his mismanagement is having and will have on students. The current financial crisis has resulted in a reduction in essential support services on both the Omak and Wenatchee campuses. Students have every right to expect all of the services they are paying for.

Making an analogy to professional sports, when a highly paid head coach has a losing record, that coach is relieved of their duties in short order. Wenatchee Valley College is losing...badly. The college as an institution, its employees and students cannot afford President Richardson's leadership any longer.

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