



Official Statement on the Resignation of UC Regent Norman Pattiz

The University of California Student Association celebrates the victory that Regent Norman Pattiz has been forced by student and public advocacy to resign from the UC Board of Regents, following allegations of sexual harassment and workplace gun threats¹. However, this resignation is being facilitated on his own terms and timeline, without the Board of Regents addressing the central reasons for this crisis and public outrage.

First, the Board of Regents have continually failed to act for the full year between when the allegations first broke and when Regent Pattiz announced his resignation. They did not censure Regent Pattiz for his behavior, nor did they protect the UC community from an individual clearly exercising behavior antithetical to the values of the university. Although a small group of Regents - led by Student Regent Paul Monge and Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson - publicly called for Pattiz's resignation, the Board of Regents as a collective body ignored the comprehensive list of demands² from the UC Student Association that would have showed an active commitment to UC's expressed will to end sexual violence. Due to the Board's failure to implement any of these demands regarding Regent Pattiz by the end of 2017, the UC Student Association voted to hold no confidence in the University of California/Board of Regents' ability to handle matters of sexual violence and harassment.

Second, the hands of the Board of Regents are disturbingly tied when it comes to disciplining or removing Regents. The State and UC must rectify this so there is path for discipline in future incidents. There must also be preemptive efforts to prevent Regents who may exercise inappropriate and dangerous behavior from getting appointed in the first place. The Governor is constitutionally mandated to convene a committee, including students, that consults on Regent selection, but it has not met in decades³. The time is now to enact disciplinary measures and reconvene the selection committee.

Third, Regent Pattiz's resignation is not immediate. While soon, it is of his own convenience, and his statements, as well as those made by the Board Chair, still do not acknowledge the sexual assault accusations and audio evidence driving him to resign⁴. This is fundamentally disrespectful to survivors of sexual and workplace violence, as well as the larger UC community.

In conclusion, we are proud that student power forced Regent Pattiz to resign, but UC students deserve more from those professing themselves as our leaders.

¹ <http://triton.news/2017/12/uc-regent-pattiz-resign-amid-sexual-harassment-gun-threat-allegations/>

² <https://ucsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/A-Resolution-Demanding-Regent-Pattizs-Dismissal.pdf>

³ <http://www.sfchronicle.com/education/article/For-decades-UC-has-selected-board-of-regents-11209660.php>

⁴ <http://m.sfgate.com/news/article/UC-Regent-Norm-Pattiz-accused-of-sexual-12460438.php>