

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Fred Biggs and I'm a member of both the Department of English and the AAUP. My remarks support the others you'll hear today: President Maric, will you repeal your five-year financial plan?

But it is to Board in your capacity to direct the expenditure of funds that I'd like to direct my comments.

I have a handout, to help me keep my language under control because I am indeed very angry with the way the administration has used the threat of cuts to beat us all semester. And now we are again back to square one. A waste of time, a brutal indeed horrific way to treat anyone. When will this stop?

On one side of the handout is the medieval historian Bede presenting one of his books to friend and bishop, Acca of Hexham. It is, I'm arguing, a selfie.

But I'd like to it today to recall the UConn I arrived at 30 years ago. It was too male and too white; UConn is a much better place today,

a point I make to show that academics don't oppose change.

But not all new ideas should be put into practice.

So, which is driving the administration to make changes overwhelmingly opposed by the faculty?

On the other side of the handout is one example of how Huron advertises its services. I've circled the evidence.

We are not a higher education industry.

Now, you may criticize me for jumping to conclusions too quickly.

But I'd still ask you to require the administration to end all contracts with Huron.

In these difficult financial times there is no excuse for spending millions of dollars to produce what our administrators are hired to do.

And firing Huron may encourage them to turn back to working with the faculty to solve UConn's financial problems.

Thank you.