

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 5:00 PM
To: 'Kate.Wood@sunysa.org'; 'corianna.lipira@sunysa.org'; 'Bryce.Mack@sunysa.org';
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'Chester.Bennett@sunysa.org'; 'bradley.hershenson@sunysa.org';
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'mashaal.bhatti@sunysa.org'; 'justas.klimavicius@sunysa.org';
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'mitchel.smigel@sunysa.org'; 'yamilex.taveras@sunysa.org'; 'zion.sherin@sunysa.org'
Cc: 'jahad.hoyte@sunysa.org'; 'Austin.Ostro@sunysa.org'
Subject: The Important Role of the Student Assembly -- Backstory to the SUNY Board of Trustees' closed-door meetings, since Monday, to appoint James Malatras as SUNY's new chancellor
Attachments: 8-14-20-confirmation-of-receipt.pdf; 8-2-18-note-to-schultz-rockefeller-institute.pdf

TO: Student Assembly Executive Committee

On Friday, August 14th, I learned from the Board Coordinator of the SUNY Board of Trustees that your president Austin Ostro – whose name still appears on your website as your president – had “left early” on July 11, 2020 – and that your new president is Jahad Hoyte, who your website lists as “Agriculture, Technology and Statutory Campuses Representative”.

With all respect to Mr. Hoyte, I do not understand how he became president. Shouldn't your listed vice-president, Kate Wood, have become president -- or your “acting vice president”, listed as Corianna Lipira, who is also listed as chief of staff?

In any event, earlier today, I sent two e-mails to Mr. Hoyte because, as your president, he is a member of the SUNY Board of Trustees. Indeed, he is the ONLY member of the SUNY Board of Trustees, not appointed by the Governor, who votes. The two other members of the Board of Trustees not appointed by the Governor are the president of the University Faculty Senate and the president of the Faculty Council of Community College, but they are each non-voting members of the SUNY Board of Trustees.

The e-mails I sent to Mr. Hoyte are below and furnish the backstory to the SUNY Board of Trustees' closed-door meetings, since Monday, to appoint James Malatras as SUNY's new chancellor – meetings assumedly including Mr. Hoyte. Because of their seriousness – and because the Student Assembly has a vital role to play in ensuring a proper search for, and vetting of, SUNY's new chancellor, I request that each member of the Student Assembly Executive Committee review the e-mails so as to be apprised of what has been going on – and so that you can discuss and vote on proper action and advocacy based thereon.

Certainly, this is an ideal story for “watchdog” investigative reporting by SUNY student newspapers and by SUNY students interested in journalism.

I am available to answer questions and assist – and would welcome your calls.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 9:01 AM
To: 'gwen.kay@oswego.edu' <gwen.kay@oswego.edu>; 'Christy.fogal@suny.edu' <Christy.fogal@suny.edu>;
'jahad.hoyte@sunysa.org' <jahad.hoyte@sunysa.org>; 'espiro@maglaw.com' <espiro@maglaw.com>;
'ecorngold@fklaw.com' <ecorngold@fklaw.com>

Subject: #2 -- Were SUNY Board of Trustees' members furnished with my Aug 14th e-mail as to Mr. Malatras' unfitness to be chancellor -- & the unlawfulness of the "confidential search"?

TO: SUNY Board of Trustees
Gwen Kay/President – Faculty Senate
Christy Fogal/President – Faculty Council of Community Colleges
Jahad Hoyte/President – Student Assembly

My e-mails to Board of Trustees Members Edward Spiro, Esq. and Eric Corngold, Esq. each bounced back as “rejected due to security policies”. Please, therefore, forward my e-mail to them, as well.

Additionally, I take this opportunity to annex the single attachment to my August 14th e-mail which inadvertently dropped out when I re-sent the e-mail on August 17th. It is my August 2, 2018 handwritten transmittal letter – also posted on CJA’s substantiating evidentiary webpage for the August 14th e-mail with the appeal papers it transmitted. The direct link is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/force-of-law-commissions/part-e-chapter60-laws-2015/malatras-suny.htm>.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower
914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 7:58 AM
To: 'gwen.kay@oswego.edu' <gwen.kay@oswego.edu>; 'Christy.fogal@suny.edu' <Christy.fogal@suny.edu>;
'jahad.hoyte@sunysa.org' <jahad.hoyte@sunysa.org>; 'espiro@maglaw.com' <espiro@maglaw.com>;
'ecorngold@fklaw.com' <ecorngold@fklaw.com>

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