



September 22, 2005

TO: Dean Gerardo Gonzalez

FROM: David Flinders

CC: Policy Council, Peter Kloosterman, Cary Buzzelli

RE: Resignation as Acting Chair of Policy Council

SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

Dear Dean Gonzalez,

This letter constitutes my resignation as acting chair of Policy Council effective at the close of the Council's meeting on September 28, 2005. The last item of business at that meeting will be to elect a new Chair from among the regular Policy Council membership.

Gerardo, you know I am not averse to contributing to faculty governance. In the past I have served on many faculty committees, and on Policy Council both as a member and as its chair. However, the irregularities of my appointment by Policy Council and the Agenda Committee last spring do not allow me to continue in this role. Initially I was asked last April to substitute for a Policy Council alternate member for the fall semester only while the alternate member was on sabbatical. As an "alternate to an alternate," I was neither elected to Policy Council nor was my name ever entered into nomination. While it is certainly unwise from any practical standpoint to have someone serve as chair for only one semester, there is a more important issue at stake. The right of faculty to select their representatives is fundamental to faculty governance. Moreover, under the present circumstances many colleagues would rightly view me as an interloper should I continue as acting chair.

I will honor my original agreement to stand in for the alternate member of the Council until he returns at the beginning of spring semester.

Thank you for understanding my decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Flinders".

David Flinders
Associate Professor