

MOTION 6: Ward, Modrak, Toyama 9-16-20

WHEREAS President Mark Schlissel has yet to produce a model, analysis, or scientific data predicting the risk levels for the Fall 2020 reopening plans;

WHEREAS the Ethics and Privacy Committee appointed by the President Schlissel has declared that the re-opening plan does not meet “the reasonable standard for safety recommended by our report,” and President Schlissel did not use the Ethics Committee's report to inform plans, did not respond to the committee, and did not make the report public;

WHEREAS staff, graduate students, undergraduate students, and faculty have exhausted all channels of communication to express their grave concerns about the re-opening plans, and President Schlissel has shown little substantial changes in policy in response to expressed concerns;

WHEREAS, by saying that large-scale testing could lead to an increase in risky behavior--“[That happened](#) in the HIV epidemic when people got a negative test and they presented it to their sex partners and spread disease nonetheless, so testing is challenging at the scale you’re talking about”--President Schlissel publicly reinforced negative stereotypes about the gay community, perpetuated the stigma around HIV, dismissed testing as an important tool, and abdicated the university's responsibility to test in order to contain outbreaks.

WHEREAS President Schlissel failed to properly and effectively address reports of Martin Philbert’s misconduct, despite the university receiving information "various times over the course of more than [15years](#), including during key periods when he was under consideration and later selected for senior positions within the university."

WHEREAS President Schlissel has explicitly [refused](#) to accept personal responsibility for the consequences of his administration's decisions;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Michigan has no confidence in President Mark Schlissel's leadership.

Motion submitted by:

Stephen Ward, Associate Professor, Afroamerican and African Studies, LSA
Supported: Rebekah Modrak, Professor, Art and Design, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design
Supported: Kentaro Toyama, W.K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information, Professor of Information, School of Information

Results: Yes, 957; No, 953 Motion PASSED

Link to News Item:

<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/faculty-senate-and-clinical-faculty-ballots-the-results-are-in/>