



Chair of the Faculty

FACULTY CENTER

1216 East Mabel Street
PO Box 210456
Tucson, AZ 85721

Ofc: 520-621-1342
Fax: 520-621-8844

facultygovernance.arizona.edu

April 6, 2026

President Suresh Garimella
Old Main Room #200
1200 E. University Boulevard
P.O. Box 210021
Via Email

Dear President Garimella,

As I have mentioned several times before, I will not participate in the commencement tradition of leading the procession of faculty and carrying the University mace due to your egregious violation of academic practice and Arizona statute (ARS 15-1601b) in attempting to bypass the confidential review and formal approval of candidates for honorary doctorates by the elected members of the Faculty Senate. I will also discourage other members of the faculty from standing in for the Chair of the Faculty in this role. When the recipients of your "honorary degrees" are made public, I will notify them formally of your breach of protocol and law through legalistic machinations which some speculate may have been engineered to secure for you an "at-risk" salary increment from the Arizona Board of Regents.

May I suggest that you carry the University mace yourself in the procession, or have one of your appointed friends or political or financial advisors do so?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leila Hudson'.

Dr. Leila Hudson
Chair of the Faculty

cc: Rachel Reinhardt, Chief of Staff
Patricia Prelock, Provost
Clifton Iler, General Counsel
Theodore Downing, C11 Chair
Mona Hymel, Vice Chair of the Faculty
Katie Zeiders, Secretary of the Faculty
Doug Goodyear, Chair, ABOR
Chad Sampson, Executive Director, ABOR

LH/jwc