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From: Tommy Wilde tomwilde@mac.com 

Subject: The University of California

Date: April 29, 2020 at 11:09 AM

To: Nick Goldberg Nicholas.Goldberg@latimes.com, david.lazarus@latimes.com, michael.hiltzik@latimes.com, howard.blume@latimes.com



Dear David, Howard, Michael, and Nick,

Over some years now, I've written e-mails to each of you at the Los Angeles Times, so I hope you'll be able to recognize my name and then perhaps pull up any saved e-mails from me to refresh ideas about who I am and what I think about.

I'm attaching below two things: a document and a telephone recording. The document is an e-mail that I sent over three weekdays, from April 17 to April 22, 2019. By my own count, I sent this single e-mail to just over 5,000 UCLA faculty, administrators, staff, and a small number of UCLA graduate students. Each e-mail was individually addressed, titled, named and sent. And importantly in this case, I used my UCLA-issued ucla.edu e-mail account to send almost all of them. (UCLA graduates receive a life-time ucla.edu account.)

The recording is a telephone "interview" that UCLA offered to me as Step I—Informal Grievance Resolution, from its Academic Personnel Manual (APM), 140-31 (<https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-140.pdf>), held on June 17, 2019. The recording is just over 24 minutes, due to my side of the call being very repetitive. Also, you'll hear that I'm not an articulate speaker, and I clumsily dropped important questions, answers, ideas and trains of thought when I should have carried them further. Nevertheless, I urge you to listen to the recording very closely.

I'm sending this e-mail and this recording to you because I'm confident that when you put them together, you'll come to the same conclusion that I did: I was fired from my 12-year position as an English language instructor at UCLA Extension's American Language Center because UCLA determined that the content of my e-mail was not "in the best interests" of UCLA, as you'll hear "moderator" Katrin Kaehler say to me in this telephone interview. This conclusion must then be considered under Constitutional laws protecting free speech, laws by which this still-public university is still bound.

In fact, of all the content of my e-mail, I urge you to focus on the two documents mentioned and the statements quoted, which were made to me by those UCLA faculty members I named. And then please ask yourself this crucial question: How does my allowing UCLA to expel students with these facts and these UCLA faculty statements make UCLA a better, stronger public university?

Also, I urge you to seriously consider this question: What would you do if a child in your family came home to you with these facts and these UCLA faculty statements, and thereafter, nobody said a single word further about your child's expulsion from UCLA?

Finally, it must be said that here in the world's fifth-most powerful economy, the power of the University of California cannot ever be fully understood with the mountains of facts and figures collected from this massive public university system; its real power is simply beyond measure.

Yes, I'm only one (obviously, powerless) person coming to you asking for your help in dealing with grotesquely abusive treatment by administrators working for this globally influential institution and under its immense global economic power. And though I do not hope to persuade you that our Catholic Church scandal and, more recently, our Hollywood movie industry scandal are the correct analogies here within the University of California, I'll tell you this: my story at UCLA shows that a student who challenges the university's purveyors of mind-fucking indoctrination is going to be expelled into the same social environment that once allowed hundreds if not thousands more children to be grotesquely abused by Catholic priests and dozens more women to be grotesquely abused by Harvey Weinstein.

Only when our "free press" finally decided to step in was the horrific abuse by those priests and Harvey Weinstein finally stopped—which then brought out many more of their victims. Today, as only one

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powerless person following in the same footsteps as those earlier children and women, I know I can only sincerely plead that you step in now to stop this deeply damaging abuse from continuing to happen to me and other students within the University of California.

Sincerely,
Tom Wilde



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**UCLA e-mail (final draft)
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