WHY ARE THE TRUSTEES FAILING COLUMBIA?

WHY HAS COLUMBIA'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES FAILED TO SECURE AND RETAIN EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE LEADERSHIP?

Within the past two years, Columbia has had four different Presidents. Why with its most recent appointment is the Board of Trustees disregarding the University Statutes and Middle States accreditation requirements by appointing its co-chair as Acting President?

WHY HAS THERE BEEN NO ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE ROBERT HADDEN SEXUAL ABUSE CASE?

Why have no individuals been held responsible for ignoring, covering up, or enabling Robert Hadden's decades of sexual violence, which resulted in harm that affected over a thousand victims, cost the university more than $1 billion, and has severely damaged its reputation?

WHY DID THEN-BOARD CO-CHAIR CLAIRE SHIPMAN MAKE UNFOUNDED CLAIMS ABOUT ANTISEMITISM TO CONGRESS?

Why did Claire Shipman, now Acting President, tell Congressional Republicans in 2024 that "We have a specific problem right now on our campus… that is rampant antisemitism," despite the absence of any thorough investigation or findings—thereby providing the pretext for the very assault from the Trump administration we now face?

WHY IS THE BOARD TARGETING THE UNIVERSITY SENATE?

Why has the Board launched a sudden, urgent, and opaque "review" of the University Senate—the only elected body representing faculty, students, and staff empowered to facilitate shared governance —while failing to invite an open and collective examination of its own shortcomings?

WHY IS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESISTING TRANSPARENCY?

Why does the Board of Trustees continue to hold closed meetings, when other universities allow students and faculty to attend and observe? Why are all Board of Trustee meeting minutes without exception subject to a 50-year embargo?

WHY ARE SERIOUS MISCONDUCT ALLEGATIONS NO REASON FOR RESIGNING AS TRUSTEE?

Why does Shoshana Shendelman remain a trustee, despite facing a lawsuit for securities fraud, FDA criticism for regulatory violations, and her 2024 termination from Applied Therapeutics, the pharmaceutical company she founded?

This Alumni Weekend, we urge you to raise these questions—and more (scan the QR code)—directly with Columbia's leadership.

We need a Board of Trustees that does better! Columbia deserves a Board that fulfills its fiduciary duties and serves our university with integrity!