

*Dear usmnews.net*

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I saw a number of reports that [Alcorn State's president had resigned](#). The fact that the IHL couldn't or wouldn't just let him resign with a claim that it was time to leave because he had accomplished everything he set out to do, was tired, etc. (a la Martha Saunders) speaks volumes. At this point all we know (or think we know) is that there is an ongoing investigation concerning purchasing practices.

From the faculty's point of view, the central issue is not whether Dr. Brown did something wrong [regarding institutional purchasing practices]. The bigger problem is the fact that the IHL keeps hiring presidents in secret. These secret hires almost inevitably fail because they have not "enjoyed" the kind of scrutiny that even the lowest level assistant professor would endure before receiving a job offer.

Name withheld

Dear Name withheld,

As Justice Louis D. Brandeis said, "Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman." Unfortunately, there is far too little light of any kind surrounding the selection of Mississippi's university presidents or the reasons for their removal. As a result, the IHL continues to select far too many ill qualified presidents with the resultant turnover. In any event, given the IHL's track record, could a truly public process produce any worse results?

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