

## Part 25

**Questions directed to President Martha Saunders at her deposition on April 12 and 13, 2010--Q is question; A is President Saunders' answer.**

Q. What specific representations [according to Interim Dean Alvin Williams] did Dr. Depree make that were not based on fact?

A. I don't know.

Q. Did you ask?

A. I don't remember.

Q. Did you rely on what Dr. Williams told you there [three years ago in a letter], that the statements were false? [The statements in question were about plagiarism that are fully documented, has been peer review and published, and will be the subject of a series of usmnews reports.]

A. I relied on that, yes.

Q. Did you ask Dr. Williams which faculty had departed because of the website [usmnews]?

A. I don't recall...

Q. So nobody told him that they had left because of the website that he's identified?

A. (Saunders looks at document.) He [Williams] said he believes he heard from people over years, but he doesn't specify.

Q. If the statements made in Dr. Williams' letter are inconsistent with his sworn testimony, do you intend to continue to rely on his letter [which she has admitted several times in her deposition to be false] to justify your action involving Dr. Depree --

A. Yes.

Q. -- and exclude his testimony? You do not intend -- let me make sure I'm clear. You have no intention of considering his [Williams'] sworn testimony?

A. I can't say that.

Q. When can you say that?

A. When his sworn testimony is a factor, becomes a factor in the decisions I have before me.

Q. When will it become a factor in the decisions before you?

A. I don't know.

Q. When will you know?

A. I don't know.

Let's be clear about Saunders' testimony. Williams contradicted his accusations against Dr. DePree. Saunders relied on the letter from Williams to punish Dr. DePree for his speech. When Williams testified – under oath – that the statements made by him were not true, Saunders did not know when those statements made under oath would become a factor in deciding when to stop punishing Dr. DePree. How difficult is it to believe that a responsible, competent University President does not know when she'll consider sworn testimony which contradicts a letter that Saunders relies on to justify spending millions of dollars to punish the speech of Professor DePree.

“When will it [evidence DePree was falsely accused] become a factor in the decisions before [Dr. Saunders]?” Three years? Three years have already passed. Four years? Five years? Or Saunders has no intention of correcting her decision? That too is an abuse for which Saunders must be held accountable.

Dear colleagues, when will you find yourself isolated and abused? Accused of matters for which there is no evidence? Banned from your classroom? Denied access to your office?

What is your tenure worth?