

June 4, 2018

Dear Mr. Carlini and Members of the Board of Trustees,

We write to you on behalf of the Faculty Assembly of The Catholic University of America, a body established in 1965 and open to all full-time and emeritus faculty, to inform you of multiple and overwhelming votes of no confidence in the Provost and the President.

At its May 29 meeting, by secret ballot, those present voted 63-0-2 to express No Confidence in the Provost, and 62-0-1 to express No Confidence in the President. In a subsequent electronic faculty-wide vote, **of the 225 faculty who voted, 76% have no confidence in the Provost while only 12% affirm confidence, and 78% have no confidence in the President while only 13% affirm confidence.** Additional details on the votes are available at cuafacultyassembly.com.

The faculty, through various committees, town halls, and surveys have expressed numerous reasons for having no confidence in the Provost and the President. To be sure, the “Academic Renewal” process highlighted a number of serious deficiencies in their leadership. The Provost and the President showed (and continue to show) disregard for the Faculty Handbook by claiming the right to fire tenured faculty without cause. They repeatedly misrepresented research and knowingly used discredited data in their efforts to justify their planned cuts to faculty. All the while they dismissed the input and perspectives of the faculty. Indeed, they seem unconcerned that an action like breaking tenure would do irreparable damage to the reputation of the University.

We wish to be clear that the faculty’s lack of confidence in the Provost and the President did not begin with the events of recent months. The faculty has been painfully concerned about the continuing declines, year after year, in enrollments and revenues under President Garvey. The Provost and the President continue to blame our poor performance on external factors, such as demographics. This is simply not the case, as a comparison to our competitors demonstrates (see Figures 1 and 2). We have no confidence that our leadership will solve a problem that they are unwilling even to acknowledge.

The faculty’s reasons for the votes of no confidence are not only limited to those mentioned above. The problems we see are numerous, urgent, and call for genuine leadership effective immediately. We wish to make a full presentation of these matters to the Board at a meeting in the very near future. We request a response at your earliest convenience.

Please accept our best wishes for your meetings on campus this week, and our thanks and respect for your work on behalf of the University.

Sincerely,

Members of the Executive Board of the Faculty Assembly:

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Figure 1. Freshmen Recruitment Trends

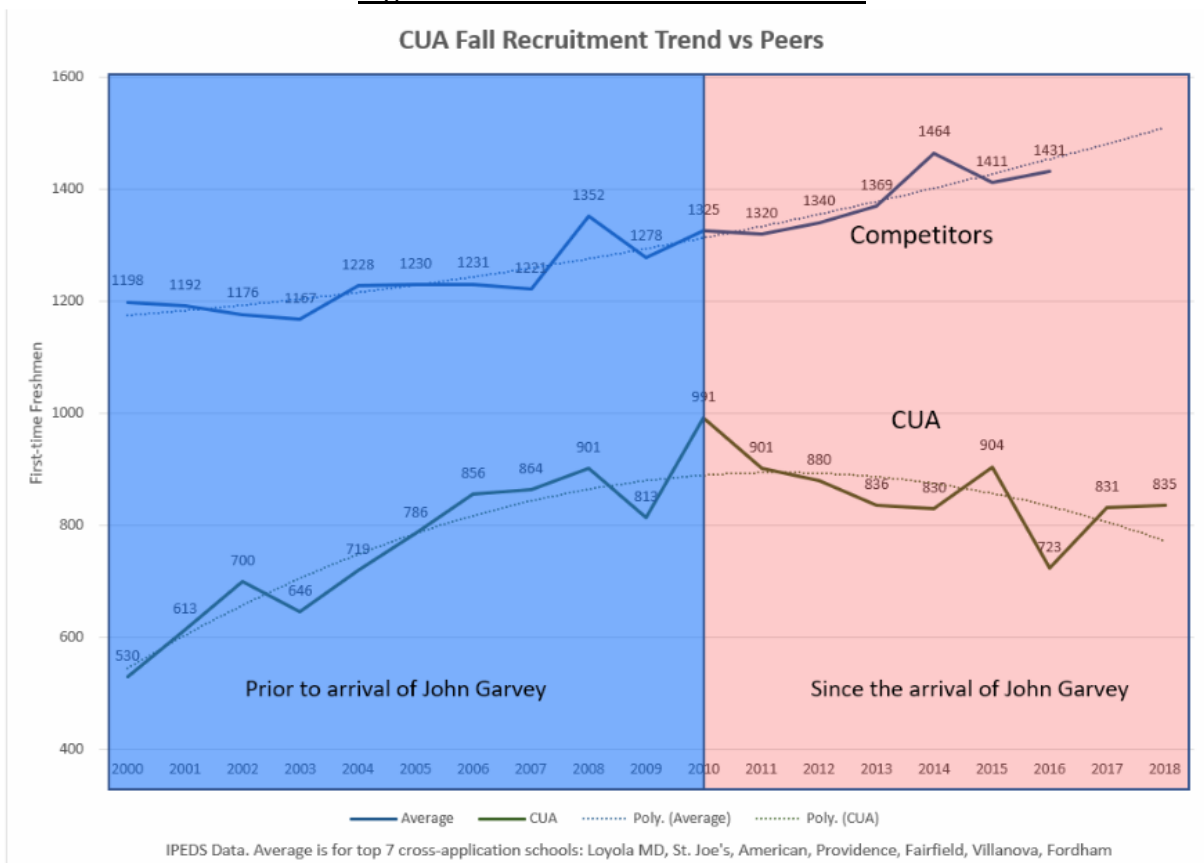


Figure 2. Revenue Growth

