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## Concerns from a Former Student Regarding the Proposed True Commitment Plan

1 message

Tristan Loveless

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To: president@utulsa.edu, fdorwart@fdlaw.com, amy-freiberger@utulsa.edu, janet-levit@utulsa.edu Bcc: tu.plan.email@gmail.com

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Tristan Loveless and I am an alumnus of the University of Tulsa. I graduated in the summer of 2018 with a degree in Political Science and a minor in Philosophy and was immediately offered a position with an education non-profit here in Tulsa. Since graduating I have worked in over 20 schools in the Tulsa area, including every high school in Tulsa Public Schools, and I have encouraged all of my students graduating to apply to the University of Tulsa. I was extremely proud of my students, many graduating from high-poverty schools and planning to be the first-generation college students, for getting accepted into the University of Tulsa.

However, I am now worried with the recent announcement that I have done my students a disservice. The reason I encouraged my students to attend TU was because of phenomenal programs like the political science department, the philosophy department, and the honors program. I knew that these programs would be helpful for many of my students that plan to attend law school after finishing their undergraduate degree since these programs encourage critical thinking and writing skills at an unparalleled level. I also knew that even those with other career plans would benefit massively from participating in these programs since the skills they provide are universally helpful.

In short, I helped many of my students go from students who had not been considering college to students who not only wanted to attend college but believed that they could attend one of the most prestigious colleges in the region. I repeatedly told them about how great the programs at TU are, about how generous the University was with scholarships so they shouldn't be deterred by the sticker price, and about how much the administration cared and helped their students. I now fear this is no longer true and I worry about my students that have been accepted and plan to attend the University and I worry they will not have the same quality of education or opportunities as I did when I attended. It is because of this that I encourage the administration to go back to the drawing board and work with faculty, students, and alumni on a new plan for the University's future.

-- Tristan Loveless