Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ort, Shirley A" <sao@unc.edu>
Date: January 30, 2014 at 2:13:41 PM EST
To: "Miller, Christopher" <Christopher.Miller@ed.gov>
Cc: "Asbury, Phillip Keith" <phil_asbury@unc.edu>
Subject: Department of Education Inquiry

Dear Chris –

As follow up to our recent phone conversation, I am providing you with a complete list of students enrolled in an anomalous course within the Department of African American and Afro-American Studies at any time since July 1, 2010. This list includes all aided and non-aided students, regardless of present enrollment status. All award years were reviewed, per your request, including 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14. The issue was identified and remedied resulting in no enrollment subsequent to the 2010-11 year.

Please let me know if you should need any supplemental information (such as social security numbers).

Regards,

Shirley

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Shirley A. Ort
Associate Provost and
Director of Scholarships and Student Aid
UNC-Chapel Hill
172 East Franklin Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-2300

Email: sao@unc.edu
Telephone: 919-962-9246
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MEMORANDUM

January 29, 2014

To: Shirley Ort
   Associate Provost and
   Director of Scholarships and Student Aid

From: Leslie Chambers Strohm
   Vice Chancellor and General Counsel

Re: Inquiry from U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid

I am writing to provide additional information in follow-up to our telephone call on January 21, 2014 with Christopher Miller and Charles Engstrom of the U.S. Department of Education. In that call, we discussed academic irregularities that occurred in the Department of African and Afro-American Studies over a number of years. I know you are going to be submitting a spreadsheet to the Department, and I thought this background information might be helpful.

In 2011, the University discovered academic irregularities in the Department of African and Afro-American Studies. We immediately took steps to stop the irregularities, to understand exactly what happened, and to put in place new policies and procedures to ensure that nothing similar could ever happen again. Over the past 30 months, four internal reviews and three external reviews of these issues have been completed.

In addition, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (“SACSCOC”) also conducted a review, including a site visit, to ensure that the University was in compliance with its accreditation obligations. SACSCOC voted not to sanction the University in connection with the past academic irregularities in the Department of African and Afro-American Studies. The University was asked, however, to provide a monitoring report by June, 2014, on its continued progress with academic procedures in the Department. Correspondence with SACSCOC regarding their review is enclosed.

The University takes its responsibilities under federal and state law very seriously. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if you require additional information regarding this matter.