



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MICHAEL K. YOUNG
President

September 28, 2020

Mr. John Sharp
Chancellor
301 Tarrow Street
College Station, Texas 77840-7896

Dear Chancellor Sharp,

I received your letter today with regard to my comments to the Faculty Senate on Monday. I deeply and sincerely apologize for any role I played that might have put the Board or you in a bad light or otherwise created misunderstanding with regard to the Board's role in the budget process. I understand your disappointment and am deeply sorry.

The Faculty Senate and staff inquire on a regular basis about the status of merit funds in reserves. I made a very poor choice in words and sincerely regret doing so. I hope you know, I have tremendous respect for your leadership and that of the Board, and their passion to make the university the very best it can be. I appreciate that the current environment, in respect to costs of COVID-19, make this an especially difficult time in terms of resources and it is clear that I handled this badly.

This week has been one of clear progress in our fight against COVID-19 and the campus response of faculty, staff and students preparing for and successfully remaining in-person in classes. That this comment might dampen this time of hope and take attention away from the remarkable work being done at the university, and your and the Board's tremendous support and leadership that makes this possible, is particularly distressing to me and I am very sorry.

I bear sole responsibility and profoundly apologize to you and the Board as I know you are all true advocates for our students, faculty and staff and that the Board's commitment to excellence in supervision and stewardship is unmatched anywhere.

Please accept my deepest apology.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael K. Young". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "M" and a long, trailing "f" at the end.

Michael K. Young