

TIMELINE OF KARL EIKENBERRY'S DIS-APPOINTMENT AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

FALL QUARTER, 2015

> **Late August to Early September-Campus interviews**

Karl Eikenberry and another candidate for "Leader" of Buffett Institute for Global Studies interview on campus. Eikenberry meets selected Northwestern University (NU) trustees. NU Board chaired by William Osborn, a director for military contractors General Dynamics (GD) and Caterpillar. Buffett Search Committee chair, former NU President Henry Bienen, reports directly to Osborn. Bienen still employed full-time by NU as "former President."

Bienen has consulted for Boeing, the CIA, and the Qatar dictatorship. Other NU trustees are past or current directors and CEOs of Boeing and GD. [Military firms use "educational offsets"](#) (U.S. university and military education and funding) in weapons deals. Eikenberry an expert on these transactions and has elite foreign contacts beneficial to NU trustees. Provost Dan Linzer refuses to release names of trustees Eikenberry met.

> **September 13-Discovery of Eikenberry candidacy**

Faculty learn of these visits and query colleagues for more information on search status.

> **September 30-Letter sent to Buffett Search Committee**

Letter requesting search be reopened and candidates give public talks signed by 15 core Buffett Institute Program Directors and faculty participants sent to Bienen, and copied to search committee members. As a courtesy, letter also copied to Linzer, who is not on the committee.

> **September 30-Linzer replies**

Email from Linzer received. Linzer forwards to Buffett faculty signatories an email sent earlier in the day to the search committee members. Email apprises search committee of the status of the search, indicates that one candidate [Eikenberry] will be invited back, and that there will be no public talk. Bienen, to whom email is addressed, does not reply.

> **Late October-"Confidential" Eikenberry campus visit announced**

Faculty confirm rumors that Eikenberry is front-runner for the position to run the Buffett Institute and is preparing for a campus visit. Linzer selects small number of faculty for meeting Eikenberry, requests confidentiality about visit.

-Several faculty who meet him report Eikenberry has no vision for how to run the Institute and conveys little interest in research. Faculty convey perplexity at his selection to lead a research institute. Tepid to negative reported responses raise hopes the appointment will not go through.

> **November 21-Faculty letter to oppose hiring Eikenberry is circulated.**

Faculty circulate letter addressed to President Morton Schapiro and Linzer opposing the appointment and requesting new search that is transparent and inclusive. Deadline for signatures Monday, November 23, the date letter will be sent.

> **November 23-67 faculty sign letter opposing Eikenberry appointment**

Signatories of letter to President Morton Schapiro and Linzer include those who met Eikenberry and numerous department chairs throughout Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences.

> **November 23-Eikenberry appointment announced**

NU, Schapiro and Linzer, likely alerted to letter being circulated, announces Eikenberry's appointment, effective September 30, 2016.

> **THANKSGIVING BREAK, FINALS AND GRADING, WINTER BREAK**

Winter Quarter, 2016

> **February 9- 46 Northwestern faculty publicly call on NU to withdraw appointment**

Daily Northwestern [publishes letter](#) calling on Schapiro and Linzer to withdraw the Eikenberry appointment and appoint an independent search committee for the position.

> **February 11-Letter from Schapiro and Linzer**

Daily Northwestern [publishes letter](#) from Schapiro and Linzer supporting the appointment, stated the committee "goal was to identify someone who would complement, and not simply supplement, the expertise we already have at Northwestern, and Karl will do exactly that."

> **February 11-Bienen says he was unaware of concerns, calls faculty letter "foolish"**

Daily article quotes Bienen insulting faculty, expresses "full confidence in the former ambassador's leadership ability." Claims this was the first he'd heard that faculty were dissatisfied.

> **February 25-Bienen admits he had been previously informed of faculty opposition.**

"I was wrong in that recollection," he states in email. NU junior Matt Herndon and NU senior Neha Reddy read Schapiro and Linzer letters, and Bienen comments, and are concerned by their dismissal of valid faculty concerns.

> **February 29-Petition on Change.org posted**

Dissatisfied by Schapiro and Linzer's response, [faculty post petition](#) on behalf of "Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends in Support of Academic Integrity." 231 signatures obtained, over 200 from Northwestern faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

> **March 2-Faculty Senate Hears Presentations on Eikenberry Appointment**

At the request of Faculty Senator Professor Michal Ginsburg, Department of French and Italian, Faculty Senate schedules time for presentations of objections to the Eikenberry appointment by Associate Professor Jorge Coronado, Chair Spanish and Portuguese, and Professor Jacqueline Stevens, Political Science. Faculty Senate President Ed Hughes invites Linzer and Vice President for Research Jay Walsh to "provide information." [Ginsburg addresses Senate](#) stating her concerns. Stevens and Coronado make their presentations, interrupted and hurried along by Hughes. Hughes turns floor over to Linzer and then Walsh, whose presentations and comments Hughes at no point interrupts. Time constraints limit faculty discussion.

--Senior Neha Reddy observes Senate meeting, and is frustrated by low quality of faculty engagement. She speaks with Professor Coronado after the meeting, during which he describes the power student voices can have.

> **March 4-meeting recording released**

March 2 meeting recording released to faculty with approval of Hughes.

> **March 7-Concerned students meet with faculty**

Coronado and Stevens meet with Reddy and Herndon. Reddy and Herndon express interest in proposing ASG resolution opposing the Eikenberry appointment.

> **March 31-ASG Resolution opposing Eikenberry introduced**

[Reddy and Herdon introduce ASG resolution](#) requesting withdrawal of Eikenberry appointment, vote and full debate schedule for April 6.

> **April 5-Social media alert on ASG meeting and Eikenberry's Rwanda ties**

Change.org "Petition Update" provides new information on Eikenberry's unequivocal support of Rwanda's military, despite assassinations and other abuses condemned by the United States State Department and the international human rights community.

> **April 6, 2 pm - approx. 6:15 pm, Faculty Senate holds sham meeting**

2:34 pm Hughes sends email to Coronado, Ginsburg, and Stevens that at the meeting to begin in two and a half hours the FS will be "discussing the issue of the Leadership of the Buffett Institute." Hughes omits reference to Executive Committee (EC) plan to introduce motion.

-At meeting large packet is distributed. Faculty senators protest that they have not had time to read the material before discussion of its contents. (One item confirms earlier reports that search committee held just one substantive meeting to produce its list of finalists (11). This is not discussed.)

-Coronado and Stevens ask why the suspension of Faculty Senate rules on advance distribution of agendas and motions. EC member indicates Linzer informed EC that Eikenberry cancelled a campus visit. EC member characterized this as a "crisis" that merited an immediate response supporting Eikenberry. Stevens asked if this meant Eikenberry indicated he was withdrawing from the position. Linzer stated not too much should be read into the cancellation and that Eikenberry is a "busy man."

-The rationale for the urgent vote shifted. EC member then mentioned the upcoming ASG vote and that the faculty owed the students their guidance.

-Hughes used the bulk of the discussion period to faculty reading serially long testimonials from the packet, uninterrupted by questions or discussion.

-Professor Bruce Carruthers, Director Buffett Institute, and Brian Hanson, Buffett Associate Director, endorse the Eikenberry appointment, over four months after it is first announced.

-Meeting climate hostile to discussion. A Faculty Senator who wishes to remain anonymous wrote to the Senate President to express concern: "Even more disturbing was the treatment of Jackie Stevens and Jorge Coronado, who did not hear until the last minute about the proposed action. I'm troubled that neither of them was allowed to make a single uninterrupted speech either last month [March 2] or this month [April 6]. The gentleman who cut Jorge off, only one sentence into his remarks, was extremely rude. If there was to be a motion to end debate, Jorge should at least have been allowed to finish the statement he had begun. In effect, he and Jackie were shouted down from the floor."

➤ **April 6, ASG meeting, Linzer claims resolution and its support could trigger defamation lawsuit**

-Moments before the meeting, ASG President tells Herndon and Reddy that Linzer requested he warn them that they could be sued for defamation. Stevens told of this and queries Linzer. Linzer says portions of resolution could be construed as defamatory, but he does not know what they are. "I am not a lawyer," Linzer tells Stevens.

-In stark contrast to the FS meeting, the ASG meeting proceeded in an orderly fashion. Herndon and Reddy presented their reasons for requesting that the ASG support the withdrawal of the appointment. Coronado, Ginsburg and Stevens were asked by Herndon and Reddy to attend and spoke at their request in support of their motion. Linzer, Hughes and two other faculty spoke in opposition. Students in attendance asked questions and made statements in favor and against the motion. After much discussion, the ASG agreed to table the motion for two weeks in order to acquire any new information that would help the student senators make an informed decision, in stark contrast to the hasty and uninformed actions of the Faculty Senate.

➤ **April 10-Eikenberry's Rwanda statements and military training promises revealed**

Stevens emails Eikenberry requesting he disclose how much money he has earned from the Rwandan government and reiterates her February 29 request for his resumé. Eikenberry does not reply.

➤ **April 12-North by Northwestern article opposes Eikenberry**

Jason Mast, "[The Controversy over Eikenberry, Explained](#)," links to Stevens' post on [Eikenberry's support of Rwanda](#).

April 12-Provost denies student request for Eikenberry's resumé

Linzer tells Herndon and Reddy to consult Wikipedia and Stanford website for Eikenberry bio.

➤ **April 13-Faculty respond to request for testimonials**

Coronado at request of students solicits testimonials from faculty indicating grounds for their opposition to the Eikenberry appointment. Faculty and students prepare for ASG forum on April 20.

> **April 14-LINZER ANNOUNCES EIKENBERRY DIS-APPOINTMENT!!!**

Linzer sends out opaque [announcement](#), on Buffett and not Provost letterhead, indicating Eikenberry's dis-appointment. Linzer and Eikenberry do not respond to inquiries by *Daily* reporters.

> **April 15-FS President refuses to allow access to meeting recording**

Hughes orders FS Secretary not to release recording of April 6 FS meeting and disregards faculty requests for date when they may expect access to it.