Date: 10/26/22

To: CPP Enterprise Foundation Board of Directors

CC: Executive Team Members

Good afternoon Board Directors,

Yesterday the Poly Post published an article entitled <u>Lawsuit Filed Against CPP</u>. While the article is not strictly about the Foundation, numerous claims are made including a reference to the embezzlement discovered in February 2020. As you know from our many discussions in 2020 and 2021, it is accurate that an employee defrauded our organization in the years prior to 2020. However, much of the other information presented regarding that case is inaccurate. It is also important to note that none of the funds were State, grant, or student funds. All were enterprise dollars under the responsibility of our 501(c)(3) non-profit auxiliary corporation. We also carry insurance to cover such incidents.

Managing the fraud response was complicated, particularly in the Zoom environment where COVID was often dominating our collective bandwidth. With that said, I am proud of the job we did as individuals and as an organization. I found the University and System leadership to be nothing but supportive in this process. They provided guidance and resources that, coupled with advice from our legal counsel, enabled me to navigate this unfortunate situation with integrity and care.

This embezzlement was a black eye on our organization and undermined the hard work of the 1,750+ students and staff that are doing their best to positively impact the university. A great deal of work, with the help of many partners, has been done to enhance our control environment. While strengthening our organization is a continuous process, we are now in a significantly better position than we were when this issue was discovered. Your regular insight and support have played no small part in helping us get there. I am grateful for your continued service to our organization.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me should you have any questions, concerns, or input.

Sincerely,

Jared Ceja

Jared Ceja, MBA, CASP Executive Director & CEO

Foundation
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