

Resolution of No Confidence in Provost Elizabeth Hudson and the Office of the Provost

Drafted for the Consideration of the University Faculty Council / Faculty Senate

July 2026

WHEREAS, the Faculty Handbook constitutes a binding operational contract between the academic body and the institution, mandating shared governance, transparent communication, and structured faculty oversight of academic matters; and

WHEREAS, Provost Elizabeth Hudson has engaged in a systemic breach of contract with every faculty member of this institution by deliberately refusing to communicate Board-approved restructuring plans through established faculty governance structures, despite repeated and formal requests from the faculty to do so; and

WHEREAS, Provost Hudson has operated in documented bad faith by utilizing highly selected, curated meetings with small groups of faculty to falsely claim "collaboration," actively bypassing the elected University Faculty Council and thereby obscuring the true sentiment of the faculty from the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Provost's office, in coordination with administrative leadership including Vice Provost Kevin Cassel, has been complicit in the deconstruction of the university's student success infrastructure, resulting in a catastrophic, preventable collapse in first-year retention (from a historical baseline of 86% down to between 74 and 81%), actively cannibalizing millions of dollars in continuing enrollment revenue and contradicting the administration's claims of financial prudence; and

WHEREAS, Provost Hudson and Vice Provost Cassel have engaged in the active maladministration of faculty-approved programs by enforcing unilateral rule changes entirely outside of the mandated shared governance approval process, constituting a further explicit breach of contract with the faculty; and

WHEREAS, Provost Hudson has overseen unilateral, uncommunicated changes to institutional rules governing research misconduct, creating an untenable liability that constitutes either an egregious breach of contract with every faculty member or a profound risk of misrepresentation to federal oversight agencies regarding institutional compliance; and

WHEREAS, under this administration, the Office of Sponsored Research has suffered a catastrophic diminishment in operational capability, leading to severe failures in the proper handling of both pre- and post-award research documentation, stalling critical projects, and risking the direct loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars in research funding; and

WHEREAS, Provost Hudson has demonstrated a pervasive lack of transparency and bad faith not only toward the faculty, but also toward the students and the dedicated staff members of this institution, actively withholding critical operational information and causing systemic administrative paralysis; and

WHEREAS, these unilateral actions and intentional subversions of shared governance severely misrepresent institutional realities to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), invalidating the university's prepared Assurance Argument on the eve of a critical Fall site visit; and

WHEREAS, this trajectory of bad faith and structural dismantling places the institution at immediate, existential risk of an HLC Letter of Concern, Censure, Probationary Status, or the ultimate loss of accreditation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty of the Illinois Institute of Technology expresses NO CONFIDENCE in the leadership, integrity, and administrative competency of Provost Elizabeth Hudson and the Office of the Provost; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate demands that the Board of Trustees immediately acknowledge this systemic breach of contract, intervene to halt the unilateral restructuring process to ensure a compliant and effective one instead, and remove Provost Hudson and her administrative team from all authority regarding the academic reorganization of the university to protect the institution from imminent regulatory and financial collapse; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted immediately and directly to the full Board of Trustees, the President of the University, and the Higher Learning Commission site visit team upon their arrival.