

Dear Students,

This Thanksgiving weekend, your deans and faculty senate have been organizing to do all that they can to reverse the decision to fire our President Richard Lariviere. Many of you have done the same, while many more of you may have questions or concerns about what is happening and why.

The movement to reinstate Lariviere began when his dismissal was handled in a highly unusual way and announced right before the holiday. On Monday, the OUS Board will meet in Portland to officially determine President Lariviere's status as UO President.

President Lariviere's dismissal has mobilized faculty from every corner of campus to work together—on short notice, amidst a holiday, and on the edge of finals. This level of response makes this a significant moment within our community. We want to be sure that you know what is happening and have the chance to voice your questions, concerns, and opinions.

Your faculty—whether working to reinstate Lariviere or not—are deeply committed to providing you with a premium education at an affordable rate. We work hard because we believe that your education is invaluable. Whatever happens on Monday, this commitment will not change. Important programs at the University of Oregon, such as the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies (CLLAS), have thrived under Lariviere's watch, but it is the energy of our faculty and students that will maintain that momentum.

If you'd like to learn more about what has been happening, information links are provided below.

Sincerely,

Lynn Stephen
Distinguished Professor of Anthropology
Director (on leave AY 2011-2012)
Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies

David Vazquez
Associate Professor of English
Interim Director (AY 2011-2012)
Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies

The following resources cannot fully represent the views of any department, program, or faculty member, but they have been helpful touchstones re: what is happening and why.

For more information:

URL: [http://tinyurl.com/UOsenatepres + uomatters.com + weloveourpres.blogspot.com](http://tinyurl.com/UOsenatepres+uomatters.com+weloveourpres.blogspot.com)

TWITTER: @weloveourpres, #weloveourpres, #keepariviere, #westandwiththemat

FACEBOOK: Lariviere-for-UO-President

If you would like to show your support for Lariviere, you can:

—Sign the UO Senate petition: <http://tinyurl.com/7ea247k>

—Contact Governor Kitzhaber and let him know that you support President Lariviere's commitment to excellence at the UO and across the state (gov.kitzhaber@state.or.us; 503-378-4582).

—Join all those who care about Excellence in Higher Education at the State Board meeting on Monday afternoon. For more on this, go to <http://tinyurl.com/OUSmtg> or <http://tinyurl.com/6sfl49d>