

September 6, 2006

Eastern Michigan University AAUP
33B East Cross Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Dear Professor Bunsis:

Thank you for your letter of this afternoon inviting the University to consider binding arbitration as a means of concluding the negotiations between EMU and the EMU-AAUP. As Regent Valvo and I communicated to Dr. Homel on September 3, 2006, the University is committed to concluding the negotiations promptly and without further harm to our students. We are very desirous of having the faculty resume the performance of their full professional responsibilities to the University and our students as soon as possible.

Under the Michigan Constitution, the Board of Regents has been charged with general supervision of the University. The Board of Regents takes its responsibilities very seriously and, accordingly, must decline to make the proposed delegation of authority to any other person or entity.

However, the Michigan Public Employment Relations Act provides other dispute resolution procedures for Michigan public universities and their organized employee groups. In lieu of binding arbitration, we ask that you consider ending the illegal strike, asking the faculty to immediately return to work, and, with the University, making a joint application for fact-finding in accordance with the procedures of the Michigan Employment Relations Act. A second, and perhaps more expeditious alternative, would be ending the strike, asking the faculty to immediately return to work, and resuming mediation as quickly as possible.

I look forward to a prompt response.

Sincerely,

Dr. John A. Fallon, III,
President

cc: Dr. Hartmut Hoft
Dr. Donald Loppnow
Ms. Karen Quinlan Valvo