

Dear President Kennedy,

I am in full agreement with Mr. Brophy's message below. Knowledge of the classical languages and literatures is the very essence of what a genuine "Liberal Education" is. Without them, we can no longer consider ourselves a Liberal Arts University, that is, an institution of "higher learning," nor shall we be perceived as one for much longer. In this, my twenty-eighth year teaching on the full-time faculty at UMaine, I have never seen liberal education held in such low repute, despite all the "talk" from administrators about the high esteem in which it is held at his university. I published an article some fifteen or twenty years ago in which I complained that at UMaine the distinction between "higher learning" and further learning (i.e. job training for the "market") was in the process of being lost---indeed---no longer understood even by most faculty, let alone the students, to whom we are supposed to "profess" something more important than how to make a lucrative income out in the so-called "real world," and my worst fears are on the brink of coming true.

Respectfully,

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