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Sponsors: Senator Chelsea Moses, Senator Ahmad Shareef, Senator Will Fischer, Senator Hugo Salinas, Senator Max Ballands, Senator Issam Kadiwala, Senator John Fields, Senator Alan Garza, Senator Brandon Wilke

Committee: Administration and Finance

No Confidence in the Division of Administration and Finance

Whereas, Efforts of previous Student Government Association administrations to address students' concerns regarding contractors, auxiliary services, and departments under the purview and oversight of the Division of Administration and Finance have been ignored; and

Whereas, The Student Government Association has brought student concerns regarding HigherOne, Aramark Food Services, Parking and Transportation, bus contracts, and Aramark/VenuWorks management of facilities forward to the Division of Administration and Finance in the form of resolutions, bills, No Confidence Votes, private meetings and correspondence which have yielded no results; and

Whereas, The Student Government Association has brought student concerns regarding HigherOne forward to the Division of Administration and Finance in the form of a University Bill- 49002-No Confidence in HigherOne; and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has required HigherOne to pay restitution and penalties in excess of \$11 million for a violation of consumers' rights, which include: charging an excessive fee per transaction, delaying student refunds, and instituting inactivity penalties; and

Whereas, The Student Government Association has brought student concerns regarding Aramark Food Services forward to the Division of Administration and Finance in the form of Student Government Association Resolution-50002-Halal and Healthy Food Options in addition to holding countless meetings on students' complaints regarding the quality and cost of Aramark provided food, which the division has failed to address; and

Whereas, The Student Government Association has brought student concerns regarding Parking and Transportation forward to the Division of Administration and Finance in the form of Student Government Association Resolution-51002-Opposition of Compulsory Auxiliary Services' Fees; and Esmerelda Valdez, in her capacity as the Executive Director of Auxiliary Services, failed to properly budget and allocate funds for busing and transportation on campus, and sought to create a new student service fee to offset the costs that Auxiliary Services accrued; and

Whereas, The Student body voted on the Student Service Fee Referendum to Support Athletic Facilities, which included a Memorandum of Understanding, on January 31 and February 1, 2012, which passed by a margin of 73.9% with 7,334 votes in the affirmative; and

Whereas, The Division of Administration and Finance under the leadership of Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci, Associate Vice President Emily Messa, and Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez

were responsible for oversight of both the construction and subsequent management of the new football stadium and Hofheinz Arena, as set forth in the Student Service Fee Referendum to Support Athletic Facilities; and

Whereas, The Memorandum of Understanding, as approved based on the referendum voted on by the student body, allocates half of the available funds to be utilized for the renovation of Hofheinz Arena, and half allocated to the construction of the football stadium. The Division of Administration and Finance failed to construct the football stadium on-budget and chose to use money allocated to the renovation of Hofheinz Arena to fund the additional cost of construction of the football stadium in direct conflict with the Memorandum of Understanding; and

Whereas, The task for the football stadium failing to be completed on-time and on-budget falls upon the Division of Administration and Finance Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci, Associate Vice President Emily Messa, and Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez; and

Whereas, Aramark/VenuWorks submitted a nonconforming bid on the Request for Proposal for management of facilities including the football stadium and Hofheinz Arena, which was accepted despite the concerns expressed by athletics' senior administrators regarding Iowa based VenuWorks' ability to manage a 40,000 seat stadium, and compete in a major metropolitan market; and the nonconforming bid was accepted over the objections of both the Office of General Counsel and Internal Audit; and

Whereas, Executive Vice President Carl Carlucci and Associate Vice President Emily Messa both stated on several occasions that as part of the Request For Proposal Aramark/VenuWorks would guarantee \$1 million per annum to the University of Houston; however the final contract does not have a \$1 million guarantee, resulting in a nonconforming bid; and

Whereas, The Student Government Association has brought student concerns regarding Aramark/VenuWorks ability to effectively manage facilities forward to the Division of Administration and Finance in the form of private meetings and correspondence; and

Whereas, Aramark/VenuWorks has clearly demonstrated an inability to both manage facilities and monetize campus facilities; and has consequently resorted to dramatically increasing facility usage fees for student organizations and University of Houston departments; and

Whereas, Esmerelda Valdez, in her capacity as Assistant Vice President is responsible for overseeing Aramark/VenuWorks, failed to properly manage and oversee the operations of Aramark/VenuWorks, but was nevertheless recently promoted despite the inability to adequately manage the task assigned; and

Whereas, Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci, Associate Vice President Emily Messa, and Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez failed to honor the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding until this Student Government Association made its objections publicly known which resulted in negative publicity in the Houston Chronicle; and

Whereas, Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci and Associate Vice President Emily Messa refused to present to the Student Fees Advisory Committee in a public forum, despite all other Student Service Fee funded units being required to; and

Whereas, the Student Government Association understands the need for, and supports, the construction of a Basketball Practice Facility, the Division of Administration and Finance failed to request the permission of the Student Government Association and/or the Student Fees Advisory Committee before reallocating \$5 million from the football stadium/Hofheinz Arena fund to the Basketball Practice Facility, a violation of the terms set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding and the Student Service Fee Referendum to Support Athletic Facilities; and

Whereas, Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci and Associate Vice President Emily Messa agreed to meet with only part of the Student Fees Advisory Committee in a private forum, but instead had Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez attend in their absence where she failed to give substantive answers to the Student Fees Advisory Committee's questions; and

Whereas, Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci presented before the Student Government Association Senate on November 19, 2014 on issues regarding the Memorandum of Understanding where he misled the Student Government Association with his statements that Aramark/VenuWorks is not responsible for facilities management of the football stadium, Hofheinz Arena, baseball fields, softball fields, tennis courts, and Cullen Performance Hall at the University of Houston; and

Whereas, Given the aforementioned issues, it is abundantly clear that Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci, Associate Vice President Emily Messa, and Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez have created a culture within the Division of Administration and Finance that has institutionalized the marginalization of students; and

Whereas, The Student Government Association has exhausted all means of diplomacy and communication to resolve the aforementioned issues;

Therefore be it resolved by the Fifty-First Administration of the University of Houston Student Government Association, that on behalf of the student body of the University of Houston, we submit a vote of NO CONFIDENCE in Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci, Associate Vice President Emily Messa, and Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez; and

Be it further resolved, that on behalf of the student body of the University of Houston, we call for the immediate resignations of Executive Vice President Dr. Carl Carlucci, Associate Vice President Emily Messa, and Assistant Vice President Esmerelda Valdez.