Resolution on Ancel-Giljum Labor Studies Course at the University of Missouri

Whereas, the right-wing blogger Andrew Breitbart created a deceptive videotape purporting to show that Judy Ancel and Don Giljum used a labor studies course, "Labor, Politics, and Society," at the University of Missouri to endorse the use of violence and coercion in union campaigns; and

Whereas, Breitbart has a history of fabricating malicious videos intended to damage the reputations of individuals and organizations on his enemies list, including in this instance labor studies faculty, and in earlier instances African American federal officials and staff at ACORN; and

Whereas, subsequent investigations have found that the Breitbart videos misrepresented the facts in all cases and had been doctored to distort the truth; and

Whereas, the University of Missouri also found that the videos "depict statements…in an inaccurate and distorted manner by taking their statements out of context and reordering the sequence in those statements…so as to change their meaning…" and reaffirmed its "commitment to the importance of academic freedom, freedom of speech and the free-flowing discussion of challenging topics in our courses;" therefore be it

Resolved, that the Professional Staff Congress applaud officials at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the University of Missouri-St. Louis for their statements and their professed belief in academic freedom; and also urge them to investigate allegations of misconduct before taking action against the accused; and call on the University of Missouri-Kansas City to confirm in writing Donald Giljum's appointment to teach two courses.

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