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PHC Alumni Association: Dr. Walker Resignation - October 2014

# PATRICK HENRY COLLEGE

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni,

I have been officially informed that as of 4:30 PM (EDT) today, Dr. Graham Walker has resigned his duties as President of Patrick Henry College. A search committee will be formed under the direction of the Board of Trustees to find a long term replacement. In the interim, Dr. Walker's duties as president will be split between two officers of the college. Provost Dr. Gene Veith has accepted the position of interim president and will oversee the academic and operations functions of the college, while Chancellor Michael Farris will be assisting with development and admissions. The explanation that I have been given is that Dr. Walker was brought to PHC at a time when the college needed stability (which has now been achieved), but, today, what PHC needs is to grow. There have been fundamental disagreements on how to achieve this growth, and, in this light, these decisions have been made.

It is no secret that there has been tremendous friction between the alumni community and Dr. Walker during the independent review process and even as recently as our alumni business meeting. Perhaps some of Dr. Walker's obfuscation at that meeting can be attributed to his working through these very issues. Questions over issues of PHC's maturation and growth have been on the minds of everyone at every level of the PHC community. As someone who has worked with the trustees and members of the administration, I see this as a positive change. Alumni should play a major and crucial role in the growth of the college, and in the past we have seen institutional barriers spring up, almost inexplicably, to prevent that. I think this change is a great step toward a bigger and more successful future for Patrick Henry College. I would encourage you all to show your support for the future of the

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college at this time in whatever way you like, be it letters of support, emails, and especially donations, so that they can know we are behind them. Regardless of where you fall on the spectrum of opinions about PHC, we can all unite in hope that Patrick Henry College's best days are ahead.

Thank you all, and I will continue to communicate any information as I receive it.

Daniel Noa  
President, PHCAA

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