DO WE WANT DEMOCRACY OR A DICTATOR AT KUMC?

Who is the top administrator at KUMC: **Barbara Atkinson**

An MD from Pennsylvania with specialty in Pathology
Became Dean of Hahnemann School of Medicine in 1996.
This school declared bankruptcy in 1998.
Became Dean at KUMC in 2002. Became Executive Vice Chancellor in 2005.

Faculty that have left their administrative posts at KUMC* during this Dean's tenure because they were fired, forced to "resign", marginalized, or left because they apparently found it impossible to interact with the Dean.

. Irene M. Cumming – head of KU Med Hospital
. Don Hagen – KUMC Executive Vice Chancellor
. Joan Hunt – Vice Chancellor for Research
. Susan Pingleton – Chair of Medicine
. Patricia Thomas – Chair of Pathology + Minority Program
. Karen Kelley – Cancer Center – Head of Clinical Research
. Leslie Heckert – Co-director of Reproductive Biology Center
. Bell Kensey – Co-director of Reproductive Biology Center
. Curt Hagedorn – Director of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
. Darell Quarles – Director of the Kidney Center
. Steve Weinman – Hepatologist – took his laboratory space in HLSIC that was promised him in his hiring contract
. Curtis Klaassen – Chair of Pharmacology, Toxicology, and Therapeutics

All of the actions by the Dean were apparently done without faculty committee input (no joint governance). These people expressed their opinions (no freedom of speech).

Does not follow University Guidelines

. She hires faculty and Chairs without search committees.
. She does not provide yearly written evaluations of faculty that report to her.
. Hired many people in Cancer Center without search committees.

Ability to work with faculty

. Promotion and Tenure Committee denied tenure for 9 faculty last year, and Dean Atkinson overturned 8 of 9.
. Most faculty won't run for faculty governance committees, or it they do, they don't attend meetings because it is the "Deans way or the highway".
. **There is no real joint governance at KUMC.**

Education Programs

. Requested the faculty relinquish their leadership of the medical education program.
. Directed the faculty to change the medical curriculum.
. Scores on part one of national boards decreased.
. Indicated to the KC Life Sciences that she would increase the number of graduate students, but the number of PHD students has remained constant.

Cancer Center

. Should excellent programs at KUMC be marginalized in order to have a Cancer Center?
. Should KUMC build a new research building rather than remodel a 50-year old building for cancer research, when a new building would have been less expensive, much better space for this century's research, and solved the research space problem at KUMC?
. **Again, there is no joint governance. The faculty have no input on major decisions at KUMC.**

Financial solvency of KUMC

. There is a decrease in state funding each year, the departments receive less money, but the Dean initiates additional expensive programs.
. Is it appropriate that the faculty have to take a cut in salary this summer to pay the residents' pay raise?
. The Dean reports that she has provided $350 million to the Cancer Center. Apparently, KUMC has received $50 million from philanthropy. The question is where did the other $300 million dollars come from, or are they being charged to the future? (Charging to the future is sometimes referred to as "slum-landlord financial management".)

Where is the money coming from to pay for the following items, 5-10 years from now?

- Wichita Medical Campus
- Salina Medical Campus
- School of Public Health
- HLSIC
- Wahl Hall renovation for Cancer Center
- Cancer Center Faculty Salaries after start-up funds end
- KC Cancer Center Physicians Salaries
- Rent of Endowment Building for School of Public Health

Where is the transparency?

The bottom line is that here in the USA, the center of democracy, KUMC appears to be autocratic.

. **There appears to be no freedom of speech.**
. **There appears to be no joint governance.**
. **There appears to be no transparency**

* This is common knowledge at KUMC; however, because there is no transparency, this information might not be 100% accurate.