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July 6, 2015

Jon Butler, President
Organization of American Historians
112 N. Bryan Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47408-4141

Dear Dr. Butler,

Thank you and the entire Executive Committee of the Organization of American Historians for the strong support of academic freedom and tenure in Wisconsin and across the nation. As noted in your letter, academic freedom is a linchpin of intellectual inquiry in American Higher Education.

As the proposed biennial state budget nears adoption we have been faced with enormous challenges with respect to the anticipated budget cuts to the UW System, as well as changes to how we currently operate and uphold our valued tenets of shared governance, tenure and indefinite status. These are changes that have very direct and personal impact – on our climate, our operations, and our own futures.

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is fully dedicated to fulfilling the pledge of the Wisconsin Idea and I am wholeheartedly committed to the ideals upon which our university was founded. The Wisconsin Idea serves as the heart of public higher education in our state. It must remain a part of our identity. I sincerely appreciate the support of OAH and the more than 20 fellow scholarly associations that have issued such an important statement on tenure and shared governance.

Best regards,



Mark A. Mone, PhD
Chancellor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee