
Thanks for contacting me yesterday

1 message

Louis Fosu <loufosu@uri.edu>

Fri, Mar 20, 2020 at 1:49 PM

To: "R. Anthony Rolle" <anthony_rolle@uri.edu>

Cc: Kathleen Jacquard <kjacquard@uri.edu>

Thanks for contacting me yesterday. I have enjoyed meeting with you and having detailed discussions about the Interim Director position at the School of Professional and Continuing Studies in Providence.

The job is important, and I was honored to be offered the opportunity to apply for the position of Interim Director. However, after thoughtful consideration, I have decided to turn it down. Everything in our lives has changed and I need to consider the impact on our students and department during this coronavirus crisis. I cannot in good conscience redirect my focus away from our students for another job at this time.

Even though it's not explicitly stated, I have a responsibility to my department and College to help with our students and any other unforeseen issues or assignments that may arise during this pandemic. My department's Chair is managing during an unprecedented period in history and we need to all pitch in to help when needed.

We are all navigating through the unplanned consequences of this coronavirus crisis; hence, we are receiving several requests to identify resources and help with interviews, resumes, internships, recommendations, and sometimes just to talk. Therefore, I need to remain present to reassure our students so they remain calm and motivated, especially our graduating seniors. I have web/phone meetings daily with anxious students and those requests will certainly increase as classes resume online.

I appreciate all you have accomplished to empower life-long learning through the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies. Thanks for all you negotiated to provide me with a highly favorable offer, and I hope you understand my decision during this emergency period (we can revisit your offer later after this crisis).

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