## Faculty Petition Regarding Dr. James Kilgore

5 May 2014

**Dr. James Kilgore is a respected researcher, writer, educator and criminal justice activist.** He has been open about having felony convictions resulting from his activities in the 1970s and about having served time in prison. For the past three years he has worked at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as a temporary faculty member, teaching classes in Global Studies, Urban Planning and the College of Fine and Applied Arts. Student evaluations of his work have been overwhelmingly positive, landing him on the University's Excellent Teacher list in 2013. Each of his supervisors has given him glowing performance reviews and they had plans to employ him in the 2014-15 academic year.

On <u>February 9th</u>, <u>16th</u>, and <u>23rd</u> of this year, the local paper, the <u>News-Gazette</u> published attack pieces on Dr. Kilgore, highlighting his criminal background, political activities of the 1970s and questioning the U of I for hiring a person with such a history. The article also pointed to his work in opposing the construction of a new jail.

On March 22nd University of Illinois spokesperson Robin Kaler told the *Chicago Sun-Times* Dr. Kilgore was doing a "great job" and that he was a "good example of someone who has been rehabilitated." On April 9, the University Provost, in a private meeting, informed Dr. Kilgore that the University would not approve any future contracts to employ him, declining to provide any explanation as to why, how and by whom this decision had been made.

We, the undersigned scholars, believe that the University of Illinois gave in to political pressure and refused to approve future employment contracts for Dr. Kilgore on the basis of his background and sensationalist media coverage, rather than on his job performance. Refusing to approve Dr. Kilgore's employment contracts represents a blow to academic freedom and transparency in universities but also has serious implications for the **fifteen million Americans** who have felony convictions and face a constant battle to access employment. We call on the University of Illinois to immediately restore Dr. James Kilgore's employment status.

## Summary of signatures below

- 310 signatures
- From 80 departments or academic units on our campus
- 89 from Full Professors (not including Emeritus Professors)
  - o Professors from more than 40 units on campus

	Name	Title	Department
1	William Cullivan	Drofosoor	Landagana Arabitaatura
2	William Sullivan Bruce Reznick	Professor Professor	Landscape Architecture  Mathematics
3	Zohreh T. Sullivan	Professor Emerita	English
4		Associate Professor	•
	Stacy Harwood		Urban and Regional Planning
5	Merle L. Bowen	Associate Professor	Political Science
6	Tariq Ali	Assistant Professor	History
7	Cary Nelson	Jubilee Professor	English
8	Bruce Rosenstock	Associate Professor	Religion
9	Dan Gilbert	Assistant Professor	School of Labor and Employment Relations
10	Monica Bielski Boris	Assistant Professor	LER
11	Behrooz Ghamari	Associate Professo	History/Sociology/Global Studies
12	Harriet Murav	Professor	Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature
13	Dana Rabin	Associate Professor	History
14	Barry Pittendrigh	Endowed Chair Professor	Entomology
15	Mary Mallory	Associate Professor	University Library
16	David Wilson	Professor	Geography
17	David Green	Policy Analyst	Institute of Government and Public Affairs
18	Faranak Miraftab	Professor	Urban and Regional Planning
19	Al Kagan	Professor of Library Administration Ereritus	University Library
20	Jesse Ribot	Professor	Geography
21	Amanda Ciafone	Assistant Professor	Media & Cinema Studies
22	James R. Barrett	Professor	History
23	Jan D. Brooks	Teaching Associate	Human and Community Development
24	Alma Gottlieb	Professor	Anthropology
25	David Roediger	Babcock Professor of History	History
26	David Prochaska	Professor	History
27	Inger Stole	Associate Professor	Communication
28	Mark Steinberg	Professor	History
29	Robert W. McChesney	Gutsgell Endowed Professor	Communication
30	Kenneth M. Cuno	Associate Professor	History
31	Susan G. Davis	Professor	Communication
32	Zsuzsa Gille	Associate Professor	Sociology
33	Mark Leff	Associate Professor Emeritus	History
34	Ryan Griffis	Associate Professor	School of Art & Design
35	Kirstin Wilcox	Senior Lecturer	English

	Name	Title	Department
36	Stephen Kaufman	Emeritus Professor	Cell & Developmental Biology
37	Megan McLaughlin	Professor	History
38	Erik McDuffie	Associate Professor	African American Studies/History
39	M. K. Brussel	Professor emeritus	Physics
40	Thomas J. Bassett	Professor and Director	Geography & GIS & LAS Global Studies
41	C. G. Estabrook	Visiting Professor (ret.)	Sociology/History/Religion
42	Richard Laugesen	Professor	Mathematics
43	Colin Wraight	Professor	Biochemistry
44	Lucia Trimbur	Assistant Professor	Sociology
45	Gilberto Rosas	Anthropology & LLS	Anthropology
46	Nancy Blake	Professor	CWL
47	Julian Rappaport	Emeritus Professor	Psychology
48	Robert Warrior	Professor	American Indian Studies, History, and English
49	Brian Dolinar	Visiting Lecturer	History
50	Sharon Irish	Adjunct Lecturer	GSLIS
51	Howard Berenbaum	Professor	Psychology
52	Michael Mauer	Visiting Lecturer	LER
53	Alex Winter- Nelson	Professor	Agricultural and Consumer Economics
54	Ruth Aguilera	Associate Professor	Business Administration
55	Brett Kaplan	Associate Professor	Comparative Literature
56	Robert Tierney	Associate Professor	EALC
57	Ming Kuo	Associate Professor	Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences
58	Kathleen Holden	Retired	Office of the Chancellor
59	Ken Salo	Lecturer	Urban and Regional Planning
60	Angela Williams	Associate Director	Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
61	Dan Schiller	Professor	GSLIS
62	Eleonora Stoppino	Associate Professor	SIP
63	Emanuel Rota	Associate Professor	Spanish, Italian And Portuguese
64	Teresa Barnes	Assoc. Professor	History and Gender/Women's Studies
65	Aaron Ebata	Associate Professor	Human & Community Development
66	Hadi Salehi Esfahani	Professor	Economics
67	Caroline Szylowicz	Associate Professor	University Library
68	Brian Ruppert	Associate Professor	EALC, Religion
69	Ramona Oswald	Professr	Human and Community Dev
70	Carol Spindel	Adjunct Lecturer	English
71	Robert W. Barrett, Jr.	Associate Professor	English
72	Emily E. LB. Twarog	Assistant Professor	School of Labor and Employment Relations
73	Robert McKim	Professor	Religion, Philosophy
74	Allyson Purpura	Curator, Arts of African	Krannert Art Museum

	Name	Title	Department
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75	Helen Neville	Professor	Ed Psych
76	Daniel Schneider	Professor	Urban and Regional Planning
77	Chantal Nadeau	Professor and Chair	Gender and Women's Studies
78	Thom Moore	Retired	Psychology
79	Lisa Rosenthal	Associate Professor	School of Art + Design
80	Asef Bayat	Professor	Sociology
81	Robert Olshansky	Professor	Urban and Regional Planning
82	Assata Zerai	Associate Professor	Sociology
83	Kathryn Oberdeck	Associate Professor	History
84	Rolando J Romero	Associate Professor	Latina/Latino Studies
85	Rebecca Ginsburg	Associate Profesor	Education Policy
86	Antoinette Burton	Professor	History
87	Timothy Wedig	Associate Director	LAS Global Studies
88	Abdul Alkalimat	Professor	GSLIS & African American Studies
89	Linda Herrera	Associate Professor	EPOL
90	Thomas Weissinger	Librarian	University Library
91	Jennifer Monson	Professor	Dance
92	LeAnne Howe	Professor	American Indian Studies
93	Carol Symes	Associate Professor	History
94	Dick Detzner	Senior Web Designer	College of Applied Health Sciences
95	Onni Gust	Visisting Assistant	IPRH
00	V/L A .l	Professor	0
96	Vikram Adve	Professor	Computer Science
97	Jessica Greenberg	Assistant Professor	Anthropology
98	Cynthia Oliver	Professor	Dance SHS
100	Torrey Loucks Philip Graham	Assoc professor Professor	
101	Kirstie Simson	Assistant Professor	English/Creative Writing
101	Valerie Hoffman	Professor	Dance Religion
103	Jayadev Athreya	Assistant Professor	Mathematics
104	Maimouna Barro	Associate Director	center for African Studies
105	Steven Errede	Professor	Physics
106	Stephanie Foote	Associate Professor	English and Gender and Women's Studies
107	Peter Fritzsche	Professor	History
108	Ikuko Asaka	Assistant Professor	History
109	Laura Davis	Academic Professional	Anthropology
110	Roderick Wilson	Assistant Professor	History/EALC
111	David L. Cooper	Associate Professor, Director	REEEC
112	Dorothee Schneider	Lecturer	History
113	Mimi Thi Nguyen	Associate Professor	Gender and Women's Studies
114	Augusto Espiritu	Associate Professor	History and Asian American Studies
115	Jerry Davila	Professor	History
116	Jennifer O'Connor	Visiting Lecturer	Art and Design
117	Kristin Hoganson	Professor	History

	Name	Title	Department
118	Nils Jacobsen	Associate Professor	History
119	Nancy Abelmann	Harry E. Preble Professor	Anthropology; East Asian Languages & Cultures; Asian American Studies
120	Jose Capino	Associate Professor	English
121	Ron Kovatch	Professor Emeritus	School of Art and Design
122	Prita Meier	Asst Professor	School of Art and Design
123	Rana Hogarth	Assistant Professor	History
124	Poshek Fu	Professor	Hisotry
125	Mahir Saul	Professor	Anthropology
126	Maria Todorova	Gutgsell Professor	History
127	Pat Gill	Associate Professor	Communication, GWS
128	Lawrence Gray	Associate Professor	Music
129	Samuel M. Smith	Engagement Director	Krannert Center FAA
130	Alex Mobley	Visiting Lecturer	Media and Cinema Studies
131	Harry Liebersohn	Professor	History
132	Alistair Black	Professor	Library & Information Science
133	Steven Bradlow	Professor	Mathematics
134	Diane Koenker	Professor and Chair	History
135	Latrelle Bright	Program Coordinator/Faculty	Theatre/Counseling
136	Marc Hertzman	Assistant Professor	History
137	Eugene Lerman	Professor	mathematics
138	David Wright	Associate Professor	English
139	Mary Anne Wilson	Research Specialist	Institute of Government and Public Affairs
140	Patrick Vargas	Assoc. Prof.	Advertising
141	Feisal Mohamed	Professor	English
142	Viktoria Ford	Exhibition Designer, retired	Krannert Art Museum
143	Kevin Mumford	Professor	History
144	Roger Koenker	McKinley Professor of Economics	Economics
145	Ahalya Satkunaratnam	Postdoctoral Research Associate	Gender and Women's Studies
146	Jessica Birkenholtz	Assistant Professor	Religion
147	Anke Pinkert	Associate Professor	Germanic Languages and Literatures
148	Siobhan Somerville	Associate Professor	English, GWS
149	Marcelo Bucheli	Associate Professor	Business Administration
150	Lance Cooper	Professor	Physics
151	Fred Davidson	Professor	Linguistics
152	David Bullock	Professor	Agriculture and Consumer Economics
153	Bruce Murray	Resident Director	Germanic Languages and Literatures
154	Lisa Cacho	Associate Professor	Asian American Studies & Latina/o Studies
155	Jensen Beach	Lecturer	English
156	Monica McDermott	Associate Professor	Sociology
157	Marian Huhman	Assistant Professor	Communication
158	Fiona Yao	Assistant Professor	Business

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	Name	Title	Department
159	Nicole Allen	Associate Professor	Psychology
160	John Randolph	Associate Professor	History
161	Kenny Cupers	Assistant Professor	Architecture
162	Tanu Kohli	Lecturer	LAS Global Studies
163	Sundiata Keita Cha-Jua	Associate Professor	African American & History
164	Nicole Lamers	International Education Specialist	SAAO-LAS/EPOL-COE
165	Cara Finnegan	Associate Professor	Communication
166	Justine Murison	Associate Professor	English
167	Matthew Winters	Assistant Professor	Political Science
168	Lynne M. Rudasill	Associate Professor	University Library
169	Ruth Hoffman	Assistant Dean	College of Liberal Arts and Science student academic affiars.
170	Stoyan Toshkov	Senior Researcher	Nuclear Engineering
171	Julia Bello	Assistant Director	IPS/CAS
172	Joseph Mahoney	Professor	Business Administration
173	Mara R Wade	Professor	Germanic Langs & Lits
174	Lesley Wexler	Professor	Law
175	Ikemefuna Agbanusi	Postdoctoral Research Associate	Mathematics
176	Andrew Orta	Associate Professor and Head	Anthropology
177	Lauren Goodlad	Professor	English
178	D Fairchild Ruggles	Professor	Landscape Architecture
179	David L. Hays	Associate Professor	Landscape Architecture
180	Karen Tabb Dina	Assistant Professor	SSW
181	Lou Turner	Academic Advisor	African American Studies
182	John Caughlin	Professor	Communication
183	Bruce Levine	JG Randall Professor	History
184	Thomas Turino	Professor Emeritus	Music/Anthropology
185	Albert J. Valocchi	Professor	Civil & Environmental Engr
186	Oscar E Vazquez	Associate Professor	Art History - School of Art&Design
187	Ann Reisner	Associate Professor	Media and Cinema Studies
188	Margarethe Hoenig	Professor	VCM
189	Heather Hyde Minor	Associate professor	Architecture
190	Laurence Miller	Professor	University Library
191	Eduardo Fradkin	Professor	Physics
192	Peter A. Davis	Associate Professor	Theatre
193	John T Newcomb	Professor	English
194	Eman Saadah	Lecturer	Linguistics
195	Ericka Beckman	Associate Professor	Spanish, Italian and Portuguese/Comparative Lit
196	Jeffrey Friedman	Coordinator	International Programs & Studies

	Name	Title	Department
197	Ashley Emmert	Lecturer	English
198	Mardia Bishop	Director of Public Speaking	Communication
199	Dale Bauer	Professor of English	English
200	Louis Bergonzi	Professor	Music
201	Cameron McCarthy	Coordinator Global Studies in Education	EPOL
202	Marsha Woodbury	Former Lecturer	Computer Science
203	Shawn Gilmore	Lecturer	English
204	Ruby Mendenhall	Associate Professor	Sociology, African American Studies, Urban and Regional Planning, Social Work
205	Mara Thacker	Assistant Professor	University Library
206	Jake Bowers	Associate Professor	Politucal Science
207	Fiona Ngo	Associate Professor	AAAS and GWS
208	Ellen Moodie	Associate Professor	Anthropology
209	William Moersch	Associate Professor	Music
210	Marilyn Parsons	Professor	Curriculum & Instruction
211	Karen Fresco	Associate Professor	French
212	Robert Bruno	Professor	LER
213	Joseph Grohens	Senior Instructor	English
214	Samantha Frost	Associate Professor	Political Science; Gender and Women's Studies
215	Thomas Frazzetta	Professor	Animal Biology
216	Moon-Kie Jung	Associate Professor	Sociology, Asian American Studies
217	Ben Montez	Senior Research Associate retired	Biotechnology Center
218	Walter Feinberg	Professor Emeritus	Education
219	James R. Brennan	Associate Professor	History
220	Francois Proulx	Assistant Professor	French
221	Gayle Magee	Associate Professor	School of Music
222	John S. Hughes	Principal Research Engineer (Retired)	Micro & Nanotechnology Laboratory
223	Kristina Riedel	Lecturer	Linguistics
224	Cara Wong	Associate Professor	Political Science
225	Brenda Farnell	Professor	Anthropology
226	Ronald Bailey	Head	African American Studies
227	Anna Stenort	Associate Professor and Director of the EU Center	EUC Center
228	Valeria Sobol	Associate Professor	Slavic
229	Marcus Keller	Assoc. Prof.	French
230	Michael Rothberg	Professor and Head	English
231	Rajeev Malik	Acting Associate Director	International Programs & Studies
232	Linda Larsen	Instructor	English
233	Peter A. Loeb	Professor Emeritus	Mathematics
234	Yvonne Ziegler	Research specialist	MIP
235	Ramona Curry	Association Professor	English
236	Adrian Burgos, Jr.	Professor	History
237	Karen Flynn	Associate Professor	Gender and Women's Studies Department

	Name	Title	Department
238	Rochelle Gutierrez	Professor	Curriculum and Instruction
239	Matti Bunzl	Professor	Anthropology
240	Melissa Orlie	Associate Professor	Political Science
241	Bonnie Mak	Assistant Professor	GSLIS
242	C. Reid Alexander	Professor	School of Music
243	Christina Bashford	Associate Professor	Music
244	Anna María Escobar	Associate Professor of Spanish and Linguistics	SIP
245	Alejandro Lleras	Associate professor	Psychology
246	Chris Lubienski	Professor	EPOL
247	Andrea Stevens	Associate Professor	English, Theatre, Medieval Studies
248	Audrey Petty	Associate Professor	English
249	Terri Weissman	Assistant Professor	Art and Design
250	Kate Grim- Feinberg	Lecturer and Academic Advisor	LAS Global Studies
251	Bruce Berndt	Professor	Mathematics
252	Angelina Cotler	Associate Director	Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
253	Jorge Chapa	Professor	Sociology
254	Ernesto Scott	Associate Professor	School of Art+Design
255	Atoma Batoma	African Studies Librarian	University Library
256	Elizabeth Hanauer	Associate Director	IPS/LAS
257	Alison Anders	Assistant Professor	Geology
258	Oliver Ferguson	International Programs Coordinator	Agricultural and Consumer Economics
259	Andrew Bauer	Assistant professor	Accountancy
260	Bumsoo Lee	Assistant Professor	Urban and Regional Planning
261	Joseph Rotman	Professor Emeritus	Mathematics
262	Laurie Johnson	Associate Professor	Germanic Languages and Literatures
263	Deke Weaver	Associate Professor	School of Art & Design
264	Mark Aber	Associate Professor	Psychology
265	James Rounds	Professor	Educational Psychology
266	Teresa Fuentes Peris	Lecturer	Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese
267	Huck Beng Chew	Assistant Professor	Aerospace Engineering
268	Gordon Hutner	Professor	English
269	Mary Arends- Kuenning	Associate Professor	Agricultural and Consumer Economics
270	Martin Gruebele	Professor	Chemistry
271	Ralph Mathisen	Professor	History, Classics, Medieval Studies
272	James Hansen	Associate Professor	English
273	Michelle Wander	Professor	NRES
274	Stephen Taylor	Associate Professor	Music
275	Robert Morrissey	Assistant Professor	History
276	Terry Weech	Associate Professor	GSLIS
277	Kevin Hamilton	Associate Professor	Art and Design
278	Jaya Yodh	Research Professor	Physics

	Name	Title	Department
279	Patricia M. Phillips-Batoma	Instructor	Center for Translation Studies
280	Vicki Mahaffey	Kirkpatrick Professor	English and GS
281	Frederick Hoxie	Professor	History
282	Trish Loughran	Associate Professor	English
283	Michelle Perry	Professor	Educational Psychology
284	Ron Bridgewater	Associate Professor	Music
285	Barrington Coleman	Associate Professor of Voice	MUSIC
286	Matthew Thibeault	Assistant Professor	Music
287	Tim Liao	Professor	Sociology
288	Kate McDowell	Associate Professor	GSLIS
289	Edna Viruell- Fuentes	Associate Professor	Latina Latino Studies
290	Marina Terkourafi	Associate professor	Linguistics
291	Iwan Duursma	Professor	Mathematics
292	Kate Clancy	Assistant Professor	Anthropology
293	Richard L. Bishop	Professor Emeritus	Mathematics
294	John E. Wetzel	Professor Emeritus	Mathematics
295	Yasemin Yildiz	Associate Professor	Germanic Languages and Literatures
296	Manisha Basu	Assistant Professor	English and African Studies
297	Marc Doussard	Assistant Professor	Urban and Regional Planning
298	Angharad Valdivia	Research Professor	Institute of Communications Research
299	Ralph Alexander	Professor Emeritus	Mathematics
300	Mary Edwards	Associate Professor	Urban and Regional Planning
301	Yoon Pak	Associate Professor	Education Policy, Organization & Leadership
302	Jeffery Poss	Professor	Architecture
303	Sarah Lubienski	Professor	Curriculum & Instruction
304	Bruce Branham	Professor	Crop Sciences
305	Betsy Kruger	Associate Professor	University Library
306	Ronald Peters	Professor Emeritus	Labor & Employment Relations
307	George Gasyna	Associate Professor	Slavic Languages
308	CL Cole	Professor	Media & Cinema Studies
309	Paula Treichler	Professor Emeritus	Institute for Communications Research
310	Jennifer Greene	Professor	Educational Psychology