



February 14, 2021

Statement by the Association following the interview of Jacques Frémont

The Association deplors the comments made by the Rector in the interview conducted by Alain Gravel on Saturday on the program *Les faits d'abord*.

Once again, the Rector is attacking and sullyng the reputation of a University of Ottawa professor by reporting false and inaccurate facts.

The Association has repeatedly called on the University of Ottawa administration to hold an independent investigation to shed light on the arbitrary suspension of our member. However, this request has gone unanswered (see the Association's letter to the Senate and Board of Governors dated December 9, 2020).

However, we note the Rector's statement regarding academic freedom on campus, but would like to point out that the University's position was diametrically different at the time of the events. In October 2020, the University of Ottawa published on social networks and also communicated to students that "[t]he language used [by Ms. Lieutenant-Duval] is offensive and totally unacceptable in our classrooms and on our campus."

It was following this statement and for these reasons that Professor Lieutenant-Duval was suspended in the absence of a fair and equitable process.

Thus, we are disappointed to see the Rector publicly report, in the media and in communications to the university community, erroneous facts in an attempt to justify the mismanagement of his administration, to the detriment of the truth, the reputation of Professor Verushka Lieutenant-Duval, and ultimately the reputation of the University of Ottawa.

Association of Part-Time Professors of the University of Ottawa