

## Open letter to the President of APEEE Woluwe

Giles Houghton-Clarke

7 October 2021 at 15:41

To: Fabricio Santos <[fabricio.santos@thewoluwediaries.blog](mailto:fabricio.santos@thewoluwediaries.blog)>

Cc: WARDYN Lukasz, Administrative Board, Pim

Gesquiere, Anna Yavorska, WOL DIRECTOR

"OSG-secretary-general@eursc.eu", Pere Moles-Pallenja

Helen & Neil Valentine, APEEE Secretariat

Dear Fabricio,

I do believe you have not understood the reason for my call to Lukas, who I know through his involvement over a number of years in the LSC. It was simply to reconfirm that there has been no change in the staff unions and/or LSC's approach to the Woluwe APEEE. I am not aware of your work relationship to Lukas, he made no mention of it and it was never discussed.

What triggered this call was that a senior officer of one of the trade unions, who is also a member of the LSC, has started a public blog that seems only to denigrate the Woluwe APEEE and attacks individual Board members. Most organisations have policies to ensure that individuals do not act in ways on social media that undermine the positions of the organisation itself. Therefore, I wanted to understand if this represented a change of stance towards the Woluwe APEEE by the staff unions and LSC. The APEEE values its relationship with both so naturally is concerned if it appears there are problems. For your information Lukas confirmed there was no change in the relationship. I did not ask Lukas to mediate on this matter with you.

As a general point, the APEEE is a volunteer parents organisation. People contribute their time to help ensure the APEEE Services are delivered, and the interests of parents and their children are well represented within the school system. This is often challenging and necessitate individuals giving a great deal of their free time. There are always different points of view, but I find it very sad that in the last couple of years a few individuals have decided to import into this environment the negativity now so common elsewhere on social media and in populist politics; disinformation, personal attacks, use of private social media groups to spread distortions and untruths. There was even an attempt, as you will have witnessed, to disrupt the Woluwe APEEE AGM. I hope you agree none of this helps advance the interests of the parents and pupils. It certainly does not help get the overcrowding problems fixed or the shortage of teachers or improve pupil wellbeing or address the challenges of teaching, learning, and delivering APEEE services in the pandemic, which is what the APEEE is mostly concerned with. Rather it creates extra work, unnecessary unpleasantness and discourages people from wanting to volunteer.

I trust that addresses your points.

Regards

Giles Houghton-Clarke

On 1 Oct 2021, at 16:56, Fabricio Santos <[fabricio.santos@thewoluwediaries.blog](mailto:fabricio.santos@thewoluwediaries.blog)> wrote:

Dear Mr Houghton-Clarke,

Please find attached a letter to your attention.

This is an open letter that is also being posted on my blog. I therefore took the freedom to, upfront, place a few persons in CC that I believe will be interested in the matters presented in it.

Sincerely,

Fabício Santos  
[fabricao.santos@thewoluwediaris.blog](mailto:fabricao.santos@thewoluwediaris.blog)

<The Woluwe Diaries.png>

<Open letter to the President of APEEE Woluwe.pdf>