

We regret having to write this letter, but the facts about the suspensions of The Daily Illini editor in chief and opinions editor needs to be stated.

The suspensions were initiated at the request of the student newsroom staff because Acton Gorton and Chuck Prochaska failed to consult key student leaders in The Daily Illini newsroom before publishing the anti-Muslim cartoons. Gorton and Prochaska did not allow meaningful input to occur from the other student members of The Daily Illini editorial board and executive team.

A task force made up of student staff members of the newsroom will be exploring how this situation was allowed to happen and will be making a recommendation to the Illini Media Co. Board of Directors and the remaining student members of the paper's executive team as to what should happen to both Gorton and Prochaska. Gorton and Prochaska will still be paid during the suspension, and are thereby still employees of the Illini Media Co.

We are embarrassed that this situation has come to this. We hope this is the last we have to say about this so we and the rest of the student staff at The Daily Illini can get back to doing our job of reporting the news.

Jason Koch and Shira Weissman
Co-Interim Editors in Chief and Managing Editors
The Daily Illini
217-337-8343