



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

March 17, 2010

Honorable John Kline  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kline:

The U.S. Department of Education continues to work with institutions of higher education to ensure that students will receive access to higher education regardless of the economic climate. Additionally, with pending Congressional legislation, we are working with institutions to assist with the transition to the Direct Loan program should Congress pass such legislation. In short, our efforts have been focused on imparting critical information and ultimately ensuring students continue to have access to college.

I understand you have requested an investigation by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) into the activities of the Department. As with all OIG reviews, we take this very seriously. My staff recently met with the OIG, and it is my understanding that the OIG review is well under way. Like you, we are hopeful the review will be conducted in an expeditious manner.

Thank you for inquiring about our communications with institutions of higher education. We appreciate your concern and feedback on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arne Duncan".

Arne Duncan