



The Regents of the University of California
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Mark Yudof
President of the University of California
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

August 14, 2012

Dear University of California Regents and President Yudof,

We, the undersigned, are members and supporters of the California Jewish community. Many of us are University of California alumni, students, parents and donors.

We are appalled by the recent decision of the UCLA Academic Senate Committee on Academic Freedom to allow a professor to promote an anti-Semitic boycott of Israeli academics and educational institutions on his class website. By designating this political and anti-Semitic behavior as "meeting scholarly standards," the Committee has revealed a deplorable decline of the University of California's once-lofty standards of scholarship and a shameful acceptance of the basest political propagandizing in the place of academic excellence. No less troubling is the fact that UC administrators have refused to fulfill their legal and moral obligations to keep the University "aloof from politics," to ensure that the classroom is not used for political indoctrination, and to protect Jewish students from anti-Semitism.

We are also deeply disappointed that you are unwilling to respond in this matter. Although you have said that you do not "sanction anti-Semitism at the University of California or anywhere else," we believe that through your silence you have condoned the UCLA Academic Freedom Committee's decision and enabled the establishment of a dangerous precedent that tolerates anti-Semitism under the guise of academic freedom.

Therefore, we urge you to do the following:

a. publicly affirm the Regent's Policy on Course Content that states:

“They (The Regents) are responsible to ensure that public confidence in the University is justified. And they are responsible to see that the University remain aloof from politics and never function as an instrument for the advance of partisan interest. Misuse of the classroom by, for example, allowing it to be used for political indoctrination... constitutes misuse of the University as an institution.”

b. direct the UC-wide Academic Senate and all campus Academic Senates to outline how they will enforce this Regents Policy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned