

October 4, 2013

Subject: Re: Prof. Klein's unlawful webpage

Dear President Harrison,

You state unequivocally that “we do not consider Education Code 89005.5 or any part thereof to have been violated in any way” by Professor Klein’s CSUN-hosted "Boycott Israel Resource Page". You make that statement, despite the new evidence of September 25 that the Trustees did **not** give permission to Prof. Klein for the name of the University to be displayed in connection with "the support, endorsement, advancement...of...boycott.”

According to the law, without permission from the Trustees, a CSUN website advocating boycott is a potential misdemeanor. As such, it is not protected speech.

Yet, you dismiss this issue without explanation.

We call on you to explain to us, as well as to Jewish community members and California taxpayers, why you contend that California Education Code 89005.5 has not been violated.

We believe that you, as President of a California State University campus and a public servant of the State of California, owe us an explanation.

Sincerely,

Tammi Rossman-Benjamin
Co-founder, AMCHA Initiative

Leila Beckwith
Co-founder, AMCHA Initiative

On Oct 4, 2013, at 10:40 AM, Harrison, Dianne F wrote:

Ms. Benjamin:

This matter has been reviewed by the university in consultation with General Counsel, as well as by the State Attorney General’s Office. The university’s position and findings in this matter have been expressed in prior statements; however, to respond directly to your latest question, we do not consider Education Code 89005.5 or any part thereof to have been violated in any way.

As I have said in a past public statement on this issue, I do not agree with Dr. Klein’s positions and, particularly, the manner in which he has chosen to present them. However, I support the rights that have been afforded him to do so. Support for the university’s position can be found in the American Jewish

Committee's policy statement on anti-Semitic and anti-Israel Incidents on U.S. College and University Campuses, approved by the AJC's Board of Governors on June 25, 2012 and posted at

<http://www.ajc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=7oJILSPwFfJSG&b=8510915&ct=12943089>

, which noted that while remedies exist for combating harassing anti-Semitic behavior or intimidation, care must be taken not to suppress protected speech.

We respect your views on this matter but have explained the university's position. As any further engagement on this matter would not be productive or result in a change in the university's position, the university considers this matter closed and will not engage in further communications on this issue until and unless there is new evidence of alleged wrong doing.

Dianne F. Harrison, Ph.D.
President
California State University, Northridge