

## REPLY FROM AMCHA AND ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESIDENT HILL

*Via Email*

May 31, 2016

Dear President Hill,

Thank you for your thoughtful response to our letter. We appreciate your commitment to ensuring the well-being of your students and the steps you have taken to mitigate the hostile climate that Jewish students have been experiencing. However, when we shared your letter with the Vassar students who originally contacted us, they remained concerned that the alarming levels of anti-Jewish hostility on campus had not been fully addressed and that the anti-Semitism they were experiencing would continue.

For example, one student, whose response sums up these students' sentiments, wrote:

*"While I do agree with President Hill that the administration has made their position on the BDS movement clear (particularly to alumni and parents more so than students), I really don't think that they have addressed anti-Semitism adequately on this campus; they still have not defined where anti-Israel and anti-Zionism becomes anti-Semitism. And while President Hill talks about the need to call out anti-Semitism, I have not seen that done clearly and forcefully on our campus. There must be clear statements and emails sent to the whole campus community when anti-Semitism occurs again."*

While we commend you for the steps you have taken, we urge you to be more public in your condemnation and intolerance for anti-Semitism, by:

- (1) Accurately identifying when criticism of Israel crosses the line into anti-Semitism;
- (2) Swiftly, forcefully and publicly acknowledging and condemning each act of anti-Semitism; and
- (3) Sharing the condemnation with the entire campus community, even when the act is anonymous, so that everyone is aware that hateful behavior will not be tolerated.

Representatives from our groups would be happy to meet with you or your staff to share our best practices for addressing and preventing anti-Semitism on your campus. Please let us know when is best for you. Our organizations stand ready to help in your commitment to fighting all forms of bigotry at Vassar College.

Sincerely,

Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity (AEPi)  
Alums for Campus Fairness  
AMCHA Initiative  
AMCHA UCLA Alumni  
American Institute for Jewish Research  
Americans for Peace and Tolerance  
BEAR: Bias Education, Advocacy & Resources  
Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law  
Club Z  
Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA)  
CUFI on Campus  
Davis Faculty for Israel

Eagles Wings  
Endowment for Middle East Truth (EMET)  
Fairness to Israel  
Fuel For Truth  
Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel  
Iranian American Jewish Federation  
Israeli-American Council (IAC)  
Jerusalem U  
National Conference on Jewish Affairs  
Middle East Political and Information Network (MEPIN)  
Proclaiming Justice to the Nations  
Project Genesis  
Scholars for Peace in the Middle East  
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Pi  
StandWithUs  
Stop BDS on Campus  
Students and Parents Against Campus Anti-Semitism  
The Israel Christian Nexus  
The Israel Group  
The Israel Institute  
Training and Education About the Middle East (T.E.A.M.)  
Zionist Organization of America

Cc: Christopher Roellke, Dean of the College  
David D.B. Brown, Dean of Students  
William Plapinger, Chairman of the Board of Trustees