

From: Tammi Benjamin <tbenjami@ucsc.edu>

Subject: Re: concerns about possible retaliation for Title VI complaint

Date: February 25, 2013 at 10:12:22 AM PST

To: chancellor@ucsc.edu

Cc: President <President@ucop.edu>, regentsoffice@ucop.edu, Charles Robinson <charles.robinson@ucop.edu>, "Jesse M. Bernal" <jesse.bernal@ucop.edu>, Carole Rossi <crossi@ucsc.edu>, herbie@ucsc.edu, Ashish Sahni <ashish@ucsc.edu>, alma@ucsc.edu, sfujioka@ucsc.edu, fjcrosby@ucsc.edu, E James Carter <ejcarter@ucsc.edu>, Helen Shapiro <hshapiro@ucsc.edu>, dslater@ucsc.edu, Juan Poblete <jpoblete@ucsc.edu>, Adrienne Waite <ajwaite@ucsc.edu>, dej@ucsc.edu

Dear Chancellor Blumenthal,

I am very disappointed that you have not responded to the letter I sent you more than 10 days ago (see attached), in which I raised serious concerns about possible violations of the federal whistleblower protections I have as a Title VI complainant as well as the harassment and defamation directed at me for speaking out about antisemitism on UC campuses.

As a further example of this campaign of harassment and defamation, please see the two emails below. The first was sent last night to all of the west coast chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine by UCSC senior Rebecca Pierce, head of the UCSC Committee for Justice in Palestine (CJP) and author of the petition targeting me, urging SJP members to widely circulate on their campuses and through their social media networks defamatory statements and posters about me. The second is an email sent out this morning by "CJP" to an extensive recipient list that includes hundreds of UCSC students and local community members, asking for help in posting on campus bus stops the defamatory flyers about me and other flyers about "Israel Apartheid Week," and reporting that Ms. Pierce has already posted many flyers on campus and that CJP co-chair Sami Abed will be delivering copies of the fliers to College RAs for their wide distribution at each of the Colleges.

Please understand that the actions of Ms. Pierce, Mr. Abed, and other members of the SOAR-sponsored and University-funded CJP are part of a pervasive pattern of unethical and illegal behavior, which, as I pointed out in my previous letter to you, is being undertaken by students, faculty, and administrators on our campus, and whose impact includes the harassment, intimidation, and silencing of Jewish students and faculty who speak out against anti-Jewish bigotry.

I ask you again: What steps do you intend to take to address the poisonous atmosphere for Jewish students and faculty who speak out against anti-Jewish bigotry, and how will you ensure our physical, emotional, and intellectual safety and freedom of expression on this campus?

Unless this matter is resolved quickly, I will be initiating another complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, for retaliation by the University

against me for having filed my original complaint as well as for my speaking out about the serious problem of campus antisemitism.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Tammi Rossman-Benjamin
Lecturer in Hebrew