Reply to Chancellor Subbaswamy: 84 organizations request clarification from UMass Faculty Senate

SENT VIA EMAIL

November 7, 2019

Dear Chancellor Subbaswamy,

Thank you for your response to our letter. We greatly appreciate and applaud you for launching this important discussion about departmental event sponsorship and wanted to take the opportunity to clarify our belief that such a discussion must include a specific conversation about whether using the name and resources of the university to promote an activist political agenda is a legitimate use of academic freedom or an abuse of it. Such a discussion would provide answers, at a minimum, to the following questions: Does the Faculty Senate condone behavior that undermines the academic mission of the university and propagates political, ethnic and religious hatred on your campus? If not, will the Senate take necessary steps to prevent such abusive behavior in the future?

As stakeholders, members of the concerned public, and members of a community recently targeted on your campus, we are all eager to learn the answers to these critical questions.

Thank you very much for your leadership on this issue,

Academic Council for Israel Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity (AEPi) Alums for Campus Fairness - National Alums for Campus Fairness - UC Davis Alums for Campus Fairness - UC Riverside Alums for Campus Fairness - UCLA AMCHA Initiative America Israel Cooperative Enterprise American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists American Institute for Jewish Research American Truth Project American Values Americans Fighting Antisemitism Americans for Peace and Tolerance B'nai B'rith International **BEAR: Bias Education, Advocacy & Resources Bnai Zion Foundation** Bobcats for Israel at Ohio University **Boston Israel Action Committee** Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law Bulldogs for Israel (Brooklyn College) California Association of Scholars Campus Anti-Semitism Task Force of the North Shore Center for Combating Antisemitism Center for Righteousness and Integrity Christians and Jews United for Israel Club Z Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA) **Conference of Jewish Affairs** Dartmouth Students for Israel **Davis Faculty for Israel Eagles Wings** Endowment for Middle East Truth (EMET) Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME) **Fuel For Truth** Grandchildren of Holocaust Survivors Hasbara Fellowships Herut North America, U.S. Division Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel Iranian American Jewish Federation Iranian Jewish Women's Organization Israel in NYC **Israel Matters** Israel Peace Initiative (IPI) Israeli-American Civic Action Network Israeli-American Civic Education Institute Israeli-American Coalition for Action Israeli-American Council (IAC) Jewish American Affairs Committee of Indiana Jewish War Veterans of the USA Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa (JIMENA) Librarians for Fairness

Middle East Forum

Middle East Political and Information Network (MEPIN)

National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel

National Council of Young Israel

NCSY

NH4Israel

North Carolina Coalition for Israel

Proclaiming Justice to the Nations

Rabbinical Alliance of America

Religious Zionists of America

Rhode Island Coalition for Israel

Russian Jewish Community Foundation

Scholars for Peace in the Middle East

Simon Wiesenthal Center

StandWithUs

StandWithUs Saidoff Legal Department

Stop Anti-Semitism Now

Stop BDS on Campus

Students and Parents Against Campus Anti-Semitism

Students Supporting Israel at Columbia

Students Supporting Israel at Drake University

Students Supporting Israel at UCLA

Students Supporting Israel National

Swarthmore Alumni Against Antisemitism on Campus

The Israel Christian Nexus

The Lawfare Project

Tufts Friends of Israel

WoMen Fight Antisemitism

World Jewish Congress North America

Young Jewish Conservatives

Zachor Legal Institute

Zionist Organization of America

Cc: University of Massachusetts President, Marty Meehan Chair Commonwealth of Massachusetts Joint Committee on Higher Education, Anne M. Gobi Chair Commonwealth of Massachusetts Joint Committee on Higher Education, Jeffrey N. Roy

On Nov 6, 2019, at 8:32 AM, Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy wrote:

Thank you for writing. As you note, the Faculty Senate is, at our urging, considering the question of departmental sponsorship of events.

Sincerely,

Kumble R. Subbaswamy Chancellor 374 Whitmore Administration Building University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA 01003 Phone: (413)545-2211 FAX: (413)545-2328