Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, June 6, 2024

Email: isaac47@tutanota.com

Name: Isaac Hawkins

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, June 6, 2024

Agenda Item: IDEA8a & IDEA-8b

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Opposition

Comment:

While antisemitism is a serious issue that needs addressing, it must be balanced against the principles of free speech, ensuring that any measures taken do Not infringe upon our academic freedom and the ever-growing exchange of ideas surrounding the attacks against Israel on October 7th, 2023. The resolution is entirely problematic and is harmful to our core values as a nation who upholds freedom of speech. Many in our community believe this resolution goes against our first amendment rights while simultaneously setting a precedent to unjustifiably silence political discourse that may be falsely or unjustly perceived as hateful.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, June 6, 2024

Email: liebsam@gmail.com

Name: Samuel Lieb

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, June 6, 2024

Agenda Item: Item 8

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Opposition

Comment:

My name is Samuel Lieb and I firmly oppose the proposal on antisemitism. As a proud Jew I do not believe that criticizing Israel, including questioning its right to exist as a state, constitutes antisemitism. In doing so it equates zionism with judaism, which in itself is antisemitic. Currently and traditionally Jews have held a multitude of political beliefs, many of which are not compatible with zionism, nationalism, and colonialism. Adopting this resolution will not make Jews safer, but it will make it more difficult to respond to real antisemitic incidents as they occur by inflating numbers and obscuring the scope of the problem.

Additionally, this resolution will have an outsize impact on arab and muslim students in the community. Adopting this new definition of antisemitism will not make anyone safer.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, June 6, 2024

Email: rubalcabap.ricardo@gmail.com

Name: Ricardo Rubalcaba Paredes

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, June 6, 2024

Agenda Item: Agenda Item 8a and 8b

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Opposition

Comment:

Hi, my name is Ricardo Rubalcaba Paredes, and I am an alum of the University of Nevada, Reno.

I will begin today by referencing the following. On November 3rd, 2022, 128 Leading Scholars in Anti-Semitism submitted a statement addressing the UN, asking the organization not to adopt IHRA's definition of anti-Semitism on the premise that the definition "is instrumentalized to deter free speech and shield the Israeli government from accountability for its actions." Dr. E.Tendayi Achiume, former UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of Racism, has described the language of this definition as vague and incoherent.

For example, the definition states that manifestations of anti-semitism can not include criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country. However, the definition also states that denying the Jewish people their right to Self-Determination, such as by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor, contradicts the previously mentioned statement. This definition conflates the dependence of Jewish identity with the existence of the apartheid state. We are not here today denying the Jewish individuals' right to self-determination. However, I ask the committee, why are you not taking action to protect both your Jewish AND Palestinian and SWANA student populations? I advocate that the committee NSHE must adopt protections that are culturally responsive to the present moment and inclusive of Palestinian and Jewish student bodies.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 6-7, 2024

Email: nklein234@gmail.com

Name: Nicholas Klein

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting, June 6-7, 2024

Agenda Item: Agenda Item IDEA Item Number 8

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Opposition

Comment:

This proposed action is a complete failure to address the alleged purpose of reducing discrimination on campus. Adoption of the IHRA definition of antisemitism is WIDELY recognized as problematic, and in fact in practice serves to increase the very concerns it purportedly seeks to address. This needs to be tabled or otherwise completely scratched.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--