



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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VIA EMAIL

Chancellor Kevin M. Guskiewicz
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
103 South Building, Campus Box 9100
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-9100

Dear Chancellor Guskiewicz:

We write on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), the oldest pro-Israel organization in the U.S., dedicated to fighting antisemitism and anti-Israel bias in schools and on college campuses. You will recall that the ZOA filed a complaint against the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, after UNC co-sponsored and hosted an anti-Israel and blatantly antisemitic "academic" conference in March 2019. The ZOA's complaint triggered UNC to enter into a Resolution Agreement with OCR in October 2019, which requires UNC to take "all steps reasonably designed to ensure that students enrolled in the University are not subjected to a hostile environment."

We are deeply concerned that UNC will be violating its obligations under the Resolution Agreement if it permits a course to proceed this fall which will be taught by an overt Israel-basher who has made it clear that she has zero tolerance and contempt for anyone who disagrees with her views. Jewish students, pro-Israel students, and other students who do not share this Israel-basher's views will thus surely be subjected to a hostile environment in this class, in violation of the Resolution Agreement. We urge you to cancel the class or ensure that it is taught by someone else who will not be promoting a personal anti-Israel agenda in the classroom at the expense of history and the facts, and who will be tolerant and welcoming of different points of view.

UNC's Course will be Taught by a Documented Israel-Basher, Intolerant of Other Views

The upcoming course, titled "The Conflict over Israel/Palestine" is scheduled to be [taught](#) by Ph.D. student Kylie Broderick. At least [two news articles](#) document in detail Ms. Broderick's vicious animus toward Israel, including the following:

- Broderick has posted on Twitter that "[All of Israel is occupied Palestinian territory](#)," which means that Broderick denies Israel's right to exist and is calling for its elimination.
- Broderick has publicly pressed "[everyone at UNC](#)" to single out the one Jewish state in the world for condemnation and punishment, by supporting the anti-Israel and antisemitic boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement. She has publicly [urged](#) the UNC community to "boycott Israeli products," "investigate UNC investments," and "agitate in your departments for Palestinian liberation."

- Broderick has publicly stated that boycotting Israel is “[the only choice](#).” She has publicly demanded that [no one buy](#) any Israeli products. And she has publicly urged all Middle East Studies centers and programs to issue statements condemning “[Zionist colonial violence against Palestinians](#).”

Should you or anyone else at UNC think for one moment that Broderick has any tolerance for views that differ from her own, Broderick herself has made it crystal clear that she does not. She has nothing but contempt for views that are not hateful and hostile to Israel. Broderick has publicly rejected those who do not support the “[liberation of Palestine](#)” – i.e., the destruction of Israel – and she has issued this pointed and crude directive to them: “[Don’t be a coward](#)” and “[speak the f—k up](#).”

To Broderick, there is no room for differing points of view. When it comes to Israel and the conflict in the Middle East, she says that “[there is only side – the oppressed – versus imperialist propaganda](#).” The facts do not matter.

Broderick is so committed to her view that the Palestinian Arabs are being victimized by Israel that she will not and cannot acknowledge the fact that she is defending a regime that incentivizes terrorism against innocent Israeli men, women and children. The Palestinian Authority (PA) actually pays terrorists and/or their families generous lifetime pensions for murdering Jews and Americans like Taylor Force. The PA glorifies terrorism, naming schools, streets and sports teams after terrorist murderers of Jews. Broderick will not and cannot acknowledge the fact that the U.S.-designated terrorist group Hamas, which rules the Palestinian Arabs in Gaza, is equally horrific, launching thousands of rockets into Israel and deliberately targeting innocent civilians. She will not and cannot acknowledge the fact that Hamas is committed in its charter to Israel’s destruction and the murder of every Jew.

Based on Broderick’s own statements, it is impossible to think that her classroom can be welcoming or safe for Jewish students, pro-Israel students, or any students who question or fail to share her false anti-Israel views.

UNC is Creating a Hostile Antisemitic Environment, as UNC has Done Before

We were shocked to learn that UNC has dismissed the many justifiable concerns that have been raised about Broderick teaching this class. In an [email](#), you, the Provost and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences expressed that you are “confident” that students enrolled in Broderick’s class “will benefit from a thoughtful presentation of information relevant to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.” This confidence is undeserved. It flies in the face of the evidence from Broderick herself – that the facts don’t matter; there is only side and it is Israel as the oppressor and the Palestinian Arabs as the oppressed, and that Israel does not even have the right to exist.

Unfortunately, UNC’s response now is consistent with UNC’s reaction in March 2019, when we and others raised concerns about the conference UNC co-sponsored and hosted, titled “Conflict over Gaza: People, Politics and Possibilities.” In addition to being one-sided and hostile to Israel, the conference was antisemitic, featuring a rapper who announced to the audience that he was going to sing “my antisemitic song” and encouraged the audience to join in, telling them “I can’t be antisemitic alone.” Together, the rapper and the audience sang the refrain, “Oh! I’m in love with a Jew.”

There is video evidence of this shameful incident, including audio of the audience – which presumably included university staff, students, faculty, “scholars” and others – singing along and laughing. As we reported to OCR in our Title VI complaint, it was sickening and disgusting – and was made more so by UNC’s response.

UNC initially attacked the veracity of the video, instead of condemning the anti-Israel, antisemitic content of the conference. Eventually, when pressed, you issued only weak criticism of the rapper's performance, describing it as "[contain\[ing\] disturbing and hateful language](#)." You did not condemn the antisemitic rapper by name nor did you condemn the conference organizers for inviting him and tolerating his antisemitism. And, you did not address at all the fact that this "academic" conference was one-sided and hostile to Israel.

In short, UNC wrote off the incident, as UNC is unfortunately doing now, regarding the course to be taught by Broderick. Now, however, there is a signed agreement committing UNC to taking several specific steps, including "all steps reasonably designed to ensure that students enrolled in the University are not subjected to a hostile environment." By proceeding with the course with Broderick – despite all the evidence supplied by Broderick herself that she will make the classroom environment hostile for Jewish, pro-Israel and other students who dare to question her views – UNC will be violating the Resolution Agreement.

Making matter worse, we understand that Broderick is scheduled to teach an online [course for educating K-12 teachers](#) about "Understanding the Modern Middle East." Offered by the National Humanities Center, the course has been "designed with the generous support" of UNC (and Duke University, which separately entered into its own Resolution Agreement with OCR, also triggered by the ZOA's Title VI complaint).

Broderick openly demonizes Israel, denies Israel's right to exist, and holds Israel to a standard that she holds no other country to. These are all manifestations of antisemitism, according to the [definition](#) adopted by the U.S. government and more than 30 countries around the world. It is incomprehensible that UNC would support Broderick teaching this course and no doubt indoctrinating K-12 teachers to hate Israel based on lies. This again shows UNC's indifference to and tolerance of anti-Israelism that crosses the line into antisemitism.

Our Recommendations

Consistent with UNC's obligations under the Resolution Agreement we urge you to (1) cancel the "The Conflict over Israel/Palestine" course at UNC this fall; or (2) replace Broderick with a professor who is committed to teaching historical facts and truths rather than to pushing a personal agenda of anti-Israel falsehoods, and who will be welcoming and tolerant of a variety of views. In addition, UNC should immediately withdraw its support for Broderick teaching the National Humanities Center's course for K-12 teachers.

Please advise us by August 18, 2021, as to whether UNC will be taking these steps. Otherwise, we must inform OCR of UNC's breach of the Resolution Agreement.

Very truly yours,



Morton A. Klein
National President



Susan B. Tuchman, Esq.
Director, Center for Law and Justice