



Fordham SJP Fwd: Decision3 messages

Thu, Dec 22, 2016 at 1:25 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: December 22, 2016 at 1:24:18 PM EST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Decision

Begin forwarded message:

From: Keith Eldredge <eldredge@fordham.edu>
Date: December 22, 2016 at 1:16:35 PM EST
To: [REDACTED], Ahmad Awad <aawad1@fordham.edu>, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: Glenn Hendler <ghendler@fordham.edu>, Dorothy Wenzel <dwenzel@fordham.edu>, Fordham USGOpsLC <usgopslc@fordham.edu>
Subject: Decision

After consultation with numerous faculty, staff and students and my own deliberation, I have decided to deny the request to form a club known as Students for Justice in Palestine at Fordham University. While students are encouraged to promote diverse political points of view, and we encourage conversation and debate on all topics, I cannot support an organization whose sole purpose is advocating political goals of a specific group, and against a specific country, when these goals clearly conflict with and run contrary to the mission and values of the University.

There is perhaps no more complex topic than the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and it is a topic that often leads to polarization rather than dialogue. The purpose of the organization as stated in the proposed club constitution points toward that polarization. Specifically, the call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions of Israel presents a barrier to open dialogue and mutual learning and understanding.

In a statement announcing their vote to approve the club, United Student Government at Lincoln Center acknowledged the need for open, academic discussion and the promotion of intellectual rigor on campus; however, I disagree that the proposal to form a club affiliated with the national Students for Justice in Palestine organization is the best way to provide this. I welcome continued conversation about alternative ways to promote awareness of this important conflict and the issues that surround it from multiple perspectives.

Sincerely,

Dean Eldredge

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Keith Eldredge

Dean of Students at Lincoln Center

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<Student Affairs Value Image.jpg>