



The following resolution herewith has been proposed by the following parties:

Alex Landy (Tufts University) and Elliot Bachrach (Brandeis University)

Jewish on Campus supports multiple efforts to address recurring incidents of antisemitism at Tufts University.

Resolution 2

Guidelines for Addressing Antisemitism at Tufts University

Introduction

In recent months and years, as antisemitism has spread across college campuses in the United States, countless antisemitic incidents have been recorded at Tufts University. Incidents include Mezuzot (holy Jewish objects) being taken down from Jewish students' doorposts and the attempted removal of a Jewish student government member due to his Zionism. By swiftly dismissing these incidents and merely sending generic statements, Tufts University has condoned these hateful acts, failing to provide a safe environment for its Jewish students. To properly address these incidents and foster a safe and welcoming environment for Jewish students at Tufts, we support the following solutions, including critical policy changes to be adopted by the Tufts University administration. These solutions aim to prevent future antisemitic acts by altering Tufts' internal policies on such cases, starting with the adoption of an internationally-recognized definition of antisemitism.

Assumptions

This resolution has been endorsed based on the following assumptions:

1. Current policies have been ineffective at preventing antisemitic incidents at Tufts. Jewish students are continually at risk.
2. The IHRA definition of antisemitism, as explained in Resolution 1 from the Jewish on Campus Ambassador Program, is meant as an identification tool, rather than an enforcement tool.
3. Free speech is protected within the United States under the First Amendment of the Constitution, even if said speech is hateful or targets a group (*R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul*). Such speech is not protected when it demonstrates a "clear and present danger" (*Schenck v. United States*). In conjunction with these two cases, the following can be assumed:
 - a. Students cannot be punished based on mere speech unless it passes the "clear and present danger" litmus test. However, such speech can be used to identify malicious intent and hate crimes. As aforementioned in Assumption 2, IHRA is not to be used for enforcement but rather to identify whether certain actions or speech are antisemitic.
 - b. The recent incidents that occurred at Tufts do not fall under mere free speech and are not protected by the First Amendment. Removal of Mezuzot is considered destruction of property and inhibits Jewish

students' freedom of expression and freedom of religion. These are enforceable actions.

Articles

Article I: Adopt the IHRA Definition of Antisemitism

- I. IHRA is defined as the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.
- II. Note the spelling of the word “antisemitism” as written throughout this resolution, rather than the incorrect yet often-used spelling of “anti-Semitism”.
 - A. According to the IHRA website, using the spelling of “anti-Semitism” is incorrect because it leads to the idea that the term opposes “Semitism” (a “pseudo-scientific racial classification” notably used by Nazis) or “Semites” (the peoples who spoke the Semitic languages originally from the region of the Middle East).
 - B. The source goes on to state that ever since the coining of the term “antisemitism,” it was meant to define the hatred and discrimination that the Jewish people faced historically and continue to experience.
 - C. Therefore, the correct spelling of this term is “antisemitism” and is written as such throughout this resolution.
- II. The IHRA definition of antisemitism is as quoted below:
 - A. “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”
 - B. This definition is in use by the U.S. Department of State and by approximately 30 colleges and universities within the United States.
- III. Examples of antisemitic incidents under this definition, as listed on the IHRA website, include:
 - A. Making stereotypical statements against Jews, especially using common historical antisemitic tropes such as:
 1. Claiming that Jews control the world, governments, banks, or other institutions
 2. Blaming Jews for various historical events
 3. Other classic antisemitism, such as the blood libel
 - B. Denying the Holocaust or denying the seriousness of the Holocaust

- C. Accusing the Jewish people of dual loyalty and being more loyal to Israel than their own country
- D. “Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination”
- E. More specifics regarding the IHRA definition can be found on their website.

Article II: Update Harassment and Hate Speech Policies

- I. Tufts must empower the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) to address the following incidents of antisemitism:
 - A. Destruction of property
 - B. Physical or verbal abuse
 - 1. Whether in a classroom or non-classroom settings
 - 2. Includes social media cyberbullying and abuse
 - 3. Intimidation or abuse based on a student’s Judaism
- II. Freedom of Speech and Expression
 - A. Tufts should adopt university guidelines that clarify students’ rights to express their opinions in a non-violent and peaceful manner.
 - 1. Students have a right to express themselves and their views on campus.
 - 2. Voicing discriminatory opinions or vulgar language to express such views in a disruptive manner in classroom or non-classroom settings (including on social media) should be condemned by the Tufts administration, particularly with regard to the targeting of specific students and/or groups.
 - 3. When speech presents a clear danger to students, Tufts must take action.
- III. Tufts University students who manifest antisemitic behavior or discriminatory conduct against any Jewish students or faculty must undergo anti-bias training in accordance with the Office of Equal Opportunity’s anti-bias training program (see Article IV).
 - A. The Office of Equal Opportunity must establish a tracking mechanism to monitor antisemitic speech and behaviors by both students and faculty for this purpose.

Article III: Disciplining Clubs, Student Groups, and Individual Students For Antisemitic Conduct and Language

- I. The Tufts administration and Office of Equal Opportunity must acknowledge the negative effects of antisemitic acts, particularly degrading and hurtful language,

violence, and speech targeted at Jewish students when handling investigations of allegedly antisemitic acts and incidents.

A. Antisemitism creates a hostile and unsafe environment for Jewish students at Tufts and universities across the U.S.

II. Condemning the Actions of Individual Students

A. The Tufts University administration must publicly condemn the actions of students who actively take part in verbal or physical discriminatory actions against other Tufts students following thorough investigation/s by the Office of Equal Opportunity.

1. Discriminatory actions include making inherently bigoted and threatening statements, posting on social media, or using classroom settings to target specific students and/or groups.

a) Bigoted and threatening statements, in this case, are defined as the expression of language on campus such as “Kill the Jews” or “Hitler was right about the Jews”.

2. Publicly condemn is defined as sending a statement of condemnation to all Tufts students, faculty, and employees following the occurrence of any antisemitic actions or behaviors as described in this resolution

a) Statement(s) must be emailed to all Tufts students, faculty, and employees with descriptions of the incident that took place (without naming individuals involved) and condemning such acts and incidents in genuine terms

III. The Tufts University administration must establish guidelines for student protection within school-sponsored clubs and groups.

A. Discrimination against school-sponsored clubs and groups is defined as the specific bigoted and isolated targeting of certain students or peoples through classroom or non-classroom settings.

B. Discrimination, whether verbal, physical, or on social media, is not tolerated in any form, whether initiated by or against any school-sponsored group.

C. Refer to Article II for further guidelines on discrimination.

IV. Disciplinary Action

A. School-sponsored clubs and groups will be subjected to reductions in funding by the administration upon numerous violations of Article III Section I.

B. The Office of Equal Opportunity will address incidents of discrimination as they relate to school-sponsored clubs and groups through both comprehensive investigations and, if deemed appropriate, disciplinary

action to reduce administrative funding to such clubs and groups (as Article III, Section II, Clause A identifies).

Article IV: Anti-Bias Training on Antisemitism for Tufts University Faculty

- I. Enact anti-bias training on antisemitism for all Tufts University faculty, including academic and non-academic employees.
 - A. The Office of Equal Opportunity must require that all faculty undergo comprehensive training to understand what antisemitism is, how it is manifested, and the historical dangers of antisemitism.
 1. Include a comprehensive history of the Holocaust and oppression of Jews during the Hitler regime in Europe.
 2. Include the history of antisemitism in the United States, as well as the growing similarities between age-old antisemitic tropes originating in Europe and those currently used against Jews today in the U.S.
- II. Tufts University employees who manifest antisemitic behavior or discriminatory conduct against any Jewish students or faculty must undergo further training in accordance with the Office of Equal Opportunity's anti-bias training program.

Article V: End Political Indoctrination in the Classroom

- I. The Office of Equal Opportunity must adopt guidelines for academic employees on the subject of discussing Israel, Israeli politics, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the classroom.
 - A. Academic employees are defined to include professors, assistant professors, adjunct professors, and teaching assistants.
 - B. Double standards against Jews and Israel cannot be expressed by academic employees in classroom settings.
 1. Criticism of the Israeli government is permitted, however, antisemitic tropes and language must be excluded from such conversations and lessons to provide safe classroom spaces for Jewish students at Tufts.
 - C. Professors are permitted to uphold classroom rules and standards including professionalism and respect, but they are not to impose on a student's right to express a differing opinion. This applies to situations including but not limited to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
 - D. Unfair targeting of Jewish students in classroom settings when discussing or conversing Israeli-related topics by academic employees is not permitted.

- E. Any demonization of Israel as a nation, as well Israeli and/or American Jews, by academic employees is not permitted.
 - 1. This includes explicit vitriol and degradation (in the form of commentary or language) against the state of Israel and/or its people (which are not political disagreements).
 - F. Students who express views related to Israel, Israeli politics, or the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in respectful and appropriate manners (see Article II) cannot be silenced or removed from classroom settings purely based on their expression and/or possession of any opinions on such matters.
- II. Explicit and/or implicit bias and discrimination against Jewish students in the classroom or on academic assignments by academic employees are not permitted.
- A. The Office of Equal Opportunity must respond to student accusations and reports against academic employees for biased or discriminatory behaviors.
 - 1. The Office of Equal Opportunity must investigate such allegations in a comprehensive manner while keeping the identities of such students confidential.

Amendments

- I. Definition of Zionism: Zionism is the belief that Jews have the right to self-determination in their ancestral homeland of Judea, modern day Israel, and that Israel has the right to exist. Zionism promotes a state for Jews to always be welcome, but not exclusively for Jews.
- II. Double standards against Jews and Israel include but are not limited to:
 - A. Claiming that Jews don't have the right to live in Israel but not applying this same standard to other countries
 - B. Holding Jews collectively responsible for the actions of Israel, but not people of other countries
 - C. Singling out Israel for human rights violations but not applying this same standard to other human rights abuses around the world
 - D. Colleges and universities may still offer courses specific to the Israel-Palestine conflict and other Israeli issues, with the understanding that such courses and other courses generally don't hold Israel to a standard different from what can be expected of any democratic nation, as explained in the IHRA Working Definition.

Conclusion

In recent years, the Tufts University administration has condoned antisemitic behavior, effectively allowing a climate of antisemitism to fester. To work toward effectively responding to and eliminating antisemitism on campus, Tufts University must adopt specific measures and procedures in a timely manner. Doing so will work toward establishing a much-needed sense of security and comfort for Jewish students at Tufts University.

Voting

27 Ambassadors voted “yea.” 0 voted “nay.” 3 abstained. 4 were not present.
Voting occurred on 10/25/2021.

Representative of American Musical and
Dramatic Academy, **Yea**

Representative of Duke University, **Yea**

Representative of Barnard College/List
College, **Yea**

Representative of Georgia Institute of
Technology, **Yea**

Representative of Binghamton
University, **Yea**

Representative of Middlebury College,
Yea

Representative of Boston University,
Yea

Representative of Northern Michigan
University, **Abstain**

Representative of Brandeis University,
Yea

Representative of Northwestern
University, **Absent**

Representative of Brown University,
Yea

Representative of Oregon State
University, **Yea**

Representative of California State
University (Long Beach), **Yea**

Representative of Queen’s University,
Absent

Representative of Columbia University,
Absent

Representative of Ryerson University,
Yea

Representative of Stanford University,
Yea

Representative of Tufts University, **Yea**

Representative of University at Buffalo,
Yea

Representative of University of
California (San Diego), **Yea**

Representative of University of Chicago,
Absent

Representative of University of Florida,
Yea

Representative of University of Miami,
Yea

Representative of University of
Michigan, **Abstain**

Representative of University of Notre
Dame, **Yea**

Representative of University of
Pennsylvania, **Vote**

Representative of University of
Pittsburgh, **Yea**

Representative of University of
Vermont, **Yea**

Representative of Vanderbilt University,
Yea

Representative of Vassar College,
Absent

Representative of Wake Forest
University, **Yea**

Representative of Washington
University in St. Louis, **Yea**

Representative of West Virginia
University, **Abstain**

Representative of Western Washington
University, **Yea**

Approvals

Approved by Rosemarie Goldstein and Hannah Siegel (Co-Presidents) 10.20.2021

Approved by Ruthy Attias (Ambassador Coordinator) 10.26.2021

Approved by Jewish on Campus 10.26.2021