



Daniel Weiss <dweiss@haverford.edu>

Re: Robert Birgeneau

Michael Rushmore <mrushmor@haverford.edu>
To: Daniel Weiss <dweiss@haverford.edu>

Mon, May 5, 2014 at 8:32 PM

Dear President Weiss,

We were disappointed by the language and implications of your and Dr. Robert Birgeneau's response to our original letter. While we have no intention to shame Dr. Birgeneau, we are seriously engaging the question of what it means for the Haverford community to honor Dr. Birgeneau's leadership.

Although Dr. Birgeneau has a long record of public service, he has also been widely criticized in public forums for failing to prevent a forceful and inappropriate police response to student protest. We believe that the chancellor of the university has a responsibility to set policy against the inappropriate use of force and that we must ask Dr. Birgeneau to engage in public dialogue and to use his experience to advocate for policies of nonviolence in line with his public statements.

Unlike the speakers whom we invite to share their views and accomplishments throughout the year, Dr. Birgeneau will be honored by Haverford College as a part of the class of 2014. We feel that our letter is an appropriate way for students and members of the community who did not consent to a decision made by Commencement Committee to register their disagreement. The firmness of our language reflects a belief that the principles of nonviolence and free speech are at the core of both public and private education; students, faculty, and administrators must be held to such principles.

We look forward to discussing this issue further at a forum open to all students, faculty and staff. Thank you for your time.

Signed,

Taha Ahsin, Haverford College 2014

Ben Bergman, Haverford College 2014

Brian Brown, Haverford College 2014

Allison First, Haverford College 2014

Ian Gavigan, Haverford College 2014

Daniel Gordon, Haverford College 2014

Julia Hunter, Haverford College 2014

Nicole Hurd, Haverford College 2014

Jonathan Laks, Haverford College 2014

Ariel Levin, Haverford College 2014

Siena Mann, Haverford College 2014
Emily Mayer, Haverford College 2014
Gregory Nisbet, Haverford College 2014
Paul Raccuglia, Haverford College 2014
Brian Rucker, Haverford College 2014
Michael Rushmore, Haverford College 2014
Kelsey Ryan, Haverford College 2014
Thy Vo, Haverford College 2014
Patrick Williams, Haverford College 2014
Helen Wistman, Haverford College 2014
Dan Wriggins, Haverford College 2014
Ruthie Cartwright, Haverford College 2015
Michael De Wolf, Haverford College 2015
Ryan Gilliom, Haverford College 2015
Dawit Habtemariam, Haverford College 2015
Alicja Kielczewska, Haverford College 2015
Shelby Lyons, Haverford College 2015
Shahzeen Nasim, Haverford College 2015
Nicholas Seltzer, Haverford College 2015
Marilyn Baffoe-Bonnie, Haverford College 2016
Joshua Bulos, Haverford College 2016
Luke Jensen, Haverford College 2016
Katherine Poje, Haverford College 2016
Dylan Reichman, Haverford College 2016
Charles Szczurek, Haverford College 2016
Levi Bowers, Haverford College 2017
Ana Colon Garcia, Haverford College 2017
Will Holden, Haverford College 2017
Ben Miltenberg, Haverford College 2017
Can Mutlu, Haverford College 2017

Tionney Nix, Haverford College 2017

Hiram Ruiz, Haverford College 2017

Aidan Snyder, Haverford College 2017

Kathryn Sommer, Haverford College 2017

Jeremy Waterkotte, Haverford College 2017

Seung Yu, Haverford College 2017

Laurie Hart, Berkeley M.Arch., Edmund and Margiana Stinnes Professorship in Global Studies and Professor of Anthropology, Haverford College

Maud Burnett McInerney, Berkeley PhD 1993, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of English, Haverford College

John Muse, Berkeley PhD 2007, Visiting Assistant Professor, Independent College Programs, Haverford College

Elizabeth Rock, Bryn Mawr College 2014

Samantha Abbott, Bryn Mawr College 2015

Ana Reina, Bryn Mawr College 2015

On Sun, May 4, 2014 at 11:42 AM, Daniel Weiss <dweiss@haverford.edu> wrote:

Dear Michael:

I am in receipt of Dr. Birgeneau's response to your letter, which is attached to this message, along with a letter from me, and a letter from Sarah Willie-LeBreton, a current member of the Board and Corporation and an alum. I would ask that you forward these three letters to all of the individuals who signed the letter to Dr. Birgeneau.

As you will read in my letter, I will be calling a community meeting for further discussion of these important issues. This meeting will include members of the Honorary Degree Committee, the Administration, students, and Board members, as well as the group of signatories.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Dan Weiss

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Daniel Weiss
President, Haverford College
370 Lancaster Avenue
Haverford, PA 19041
[610.896.1021](tel:610.896.1021)