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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2176 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100 MINORITY MEMBERS:

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June 26, 2025

Dr. Wendy Raymond, President Haverford College 370 Lancaster Avenue Haverford, PA 19041

Dear Dr. Raymond:

The Committee on Education and Workforce (Committee) is continuing to investigate and gather information about the rise of antisemitism on college campuses, including reported antisemitic incidents at Haverford College (Haverford). While the Committee appreciates your appearance on May 7th to discuss these concerns, your lack of transparency about how, if at all, Haverford has responded to antisemitic incidents on its campus was very disappointing. Among other things, despite repeated requests, you failed to share any data, even in the aggregate, on faculty and student disciplinary actions taken in response to antisemitic incidents on your campus.

As you know, postsecondary institutions that receive federal funds must maintain a safe learning environment and fulfill all obligations under Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964* (Title VI) and its accompanying regulations.<sup>1</sup> This includes the obligation to promptly address discrimination, including harassment that creates a hostile environment, wherever such circumstances may be found to exist. Under Title VI, even speech that is protected by the First Amendment may contribute to an unlawful hostile environment for Jewish students on college campuses.<sup>2</sup> Title VI requires colleges to promptly address and eliminate hostile environments. This can be done through a variety of methods, including investigating incidents that give rise to hostile environments and imposing appropriate discipline; and condemning the statements made; implementing policy changes such as time, place, and manner restrictions; providing training to combat antisemitism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See U.S. Dept. of Educ., Office of Federal Student Aid Data Center, Title IV Program Volume Reports, https://studentaid.gov/data-center/student/title-iv. According to the most recent U.S. Department of Education information obtained by the Congressional Research Service, Haverford students received approximately \$3.5 million in Title IV student loans and grants in award year 2022-2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Andrea Jane Martin, *Balancing Freedom of Expression and Equality on College Campuses in the Wake of Intensified Antisemitism*, 90 BROOK. L. REV. 67 (2024), https://brooklynworks.brooklaw.edu/blr/vol90/iss1/2/.

Jewish students may experience calls for violence against Israel or the destruction of the Jewish state as antisemitism, because these are effectively calls for the killing of Jews that also deny the Jewish people their right to self-determination.<sup>3</sup> When faculty and administrators applaud violence against Israel, therefore, many Jewish students perceive these statements as threatening not only to the state of Israel but to themselves.<sup>4</sup> Such statements—especially when made repeatedly and by individuals in a position of authority—can contribute to a hostile environment that universities are obligated to respond to under Title VI.<sup>5</sup>

For the Committee to conduct oversight of the efficacy of Title VI and the rise of antisemitism on Haverford's campus, the Committee must understand not only whether there was a hostile environment on Haverford's campus towards Jewish students but also whether the college adequately responded to incidents that created or contributed to the environment, such as those described during the May 7th hearing and detailed in our April 21, 2025, letter to you.<sup>6</sup> Thus, information pertaining to student and faculty disciplinary actions is crucial for the Committee's investigation.

To better understand Haverford's compliance with Title VI and the statements that you made at the hearing, the Committee requests that the following items be produced to the Committee no later than July 10, 2025:

- 1. When asked about the number of students suspended and expelled for antisemitic conduct from October 7, 2023, to the present, you stated, "We don't publicize those numbers, and we use suspension and expelling as normal parts of our disciplinary process," and "We do not talk about those numbers publicly."
  - a. When did Haverford first adopt this policy or position?
  - b. Have there been any changes to the policy or position since it was first adopted? If so, what are those changes and when did those changes occur?
  - c. Provide a copy of the Haverford policies underlying your refusal to publicize or publicly discuss these numbers, whether individually or in the aggregate.
- 2. When asked about a statement made by Bi-Co Faculty and Staff for Justice in Palestine (FSJP) that praised a terrorist ("[The terrorist] [s]acrificed herself for her country, and fought for the freedom of many Palestinians") who led an attack in 1978 that killed 28

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Under Title VI, harassment is measured from the perspective of a reasonable person and considers "the relevant particularized characteristics and circumstances of the victim." *See* OCR, Racial Incidents and Harassment against Students at Educational Institutions: Investigative Guidance, 59 Fed. Reg. 11,448, 11,449 (Mar. 1994).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Jewish News Syndicate, *Three-quarters of Jewish college students believe antisemitism is rampant on campus, poll shows*, N.Y. POST, Mar. 5, 2025, https://nypost.com/2025/03/05/us-news/74-of-jewish-college-students-think-antisemitism-is-rampant-on-campus-new-poll-reveals/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Kestenbaum v. President & Fellows of Harvard Coll., 743 F. Supp. 3d 297, 303–05, 309–10 (D. Mass. 2024); Martin, supra note 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Beyond the Ivy League: Stopping the Spread of Antisemitism on American Campuses, H. COMM. ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE, https://edworkforce.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412359; Letter from Rep. Tim Walberg, Chairman, H. Comm. on Education and Workforce, et al. to Dr. Wendy Raymond, President, Haverford Coll., et al. (Apr. 21, 2025),

https://edworkforce.house.gov/uploadedfiles/haverford\_letter\_requesting\_documents\_4.21.25.pdf.

Israelis, including 13 children, you agreed that such a statement praising the murder of Jews violated Haverford policies.

- a. Please provide all documents and communications from October 7, 2023, through the date of your response to this request, including but not limited to those involving the Office of the President, the Dean's Office, the Office of the Provost, and the Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access Division, that refer or relate to complaints, investigations, or disciplinary actions against FSJP involving antisemitism; harassment or crimes against Jewish students; violence against Jews, Israelis, or Zionists; support for U.S.-designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs), including Hamas; or the violent destruction of a Jewish state.
- 3. When asked whether you abided by student calls for a boycott of Federal Donuts and whether these donuts were available to students at commencement, you said, "Yes, they were available during the commencement."
  - a. Please explain what you meant by "available during the commencement" and confirm whether these donuts were actually served to students at the 2024 Haverford Commencement.
  - b. Please provide all documents and communications from January 1, 2024, through the date of your response to this request that refer or relate to Federal Donuts or to the blood donuts incident, including but not limited to those involving the Office of the President, the Dean's Office, the Office of the Provost, and the Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access Division.
  - c. Has Haverford ordered from Federal Donuts since that incident? If so, please provide documentation or communications to evidence such orders.
- 4. After the October 7th Hamas terrorist attacks, Haverford professor Tarik Aougab reposted on X a message stating that, "We should never have to apologize for celebrating these scenes of an imprisoned people breaking free from their chains. This was a historic moment to be recorded in their history books." When asked about whether Professor Aougab was investigated for this statement, you said, "Investigations happen in all such cases."
  - a. Please confirm that Professor Aougab was investigated for his repost.
  - b. Please provide all documents and communications, from October 7, 2023, through the date of your response to this request that are from, to, or in the possession of, the Office of the President, the Dean's Office, the Office of the Provost, and the Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access Division, that refer or relate to complaints, investigations, or disciplinary actions against Professor Aougab, relating to: antisemitism; harassment or crimes against Jewish students; violence against Jews, Israelis, or Zionists; support for FTOs, including Hamas; or the violent destruction of a Jewish state.

- 5. When asked whether Professor Aougab was investigated for his above-referenced repost, you repeatedly stated that "investigations happen in **all such cases**." (emphasis added)
  - a. Was Assistant Professor Christopher Rogers investigated for reposting an image of Palestinian bulldozers with the caption, "beautiful sights to wake up to this morning," on the day of the October 7th terrorist attacks?
  - b. Was Professor Guangtian Ha investigated for his August 2024 X post stating that, "The state of Israel must be dismantled and the society de-Nazified. ... Zionism is Nazism, it is fascism. Zionists are racists"?<sup>7</sup>
  - c. Was Professor Ha investigated for his comments that "...the only way to deal with [Z]ionists is to stop talking to them and refuse to let them waste your time. Liberal [Z]ionists in particular. And I learned a new term, 'reluctant Zionist,' and I guess there were plenty of reluctant Nazis, too. Perhaps [a] majority of them were."?<sup>8</sup>
  - d. Please provide all documents and communications, from October 7, 2023, through the date of your response to this request that are from, to, or in the possession of, the Office of the President, the Dean's Office, the Office of the Provost, and the Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access Division, that refer or relate to complaints, investigations, or disciplinary actions against Professor Guangtian Ha, Assistant Professor Christopher Rogers, and any other faculty members relating to: antisemitism; harassment or crimes against Jewish students; violence against Jews, Israelis, or Zionists; support for FTOs, including Hamas; or the violent destruction of a Jewish state.

When producing documents, please do not alter them in any way, including but not limited to the application of redactions or watermarks. Additionally, digital copies should be provided in a format that enables their printing and copying.

Congress' oversight powers are derived from the U.S. Constitution and have been repeatedly affirmed by the United States Supreme Court.<sup>9</sup> Under House Rule X, the Committee's legislative and oversight jurisdiction is broad, extending to "education or labor generally" and "laws, programs, and Government activities relating to domestic educational programs and institutions and programs of student assistance within the jurisdiction of other committees."<sup>10</sup> This includes enforcement of Title VI and other antidiscrimination laws by the Department of Education.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> When faculty compare Israel to the Nazis, this may constitute antisemitism under the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of the term. "Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to [...] Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis." *Working definition of antisemitism*, INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE,

https://holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definition-antisemitism (last visited June 4, 2025). <sup>8</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See generally U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 8; *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135, 174 (1927) (holding that "the power of inquiry—with process to enforce it—is an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function"); *Eastland v. U.S. Servicemen's Fund*, 421 U.S. 491, 504 (1975) (holding that "the power to investigate is inherent in the power to make laws"); *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 111 (1959) (holding that "the scope of power of inquiry … is as penetrating and far-reaching as the potential power to enact and appropriate under the Constitution.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 119th Cong. at 7 (Jan. 16, 2025), https://rules.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/rules.house.gov/files/documents/houserules119thupdated.pdf.

Should you have any questions please contact Jenna Berger at jenna.berger@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Timbalberg

Tim Walberg Chairman