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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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August 25, 2025

Dr. Steven M. Dubinett  
Dean of Geffen School of Medicine  
Geffen Hall  
885 Tiverton Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Dear Dr. Dubinett,

The Committee on Education and Workforce (the Committee) is investigating antisemitism at the University of California, Los Angeles Geffen School of Medicine (UCLA Med), including whether there was or is a hostile environment against Jewish students on UCLA Med's campus and whether the university is fulfilling its obligation under Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964* (Title VI) to end any harassment, eliminate any hostile environment and its effects, and prevent any harassment from recurring. This investigation will aid the Committee in considering whether potential legislative changes, including legislation to specifically address antisemitic discrimination, are needed.

The Committee has become aware that Jewish students and faculty have experienced hostility and fear at the hands of peers, colleagues, and administrators at UCLA Med, and it has not been demonstrated that the university has meaningfully responded to address and mitigate this problem. For example:

- Since 2021, the mandatory first year seminar "Structural Racism and Health Equity" has allegedly featured antisemitic tropes including descriptions of Jews as "white" and therefore "oppressors" and images of "capitalists" with long hooked noses.<sup>1</sup> According to students and faculty, this has not been meaningfully addressed by UCLA Med administrators.<sup>2</sup>
- In fall of 2022, when students petitioned the UCLA Medical Students Council (MSC) to establish a club called "Medical Students Against Antisemitism," MSC leaders allegedly described the effort as unnecessary and doubted the existence of antisemitism at UCLA Med.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Testimony on file with the committee.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

- After the October 7th terrorist attacks, the Jewish Medical Students Association circulated a statement requesting solidarity from the UCLA administration and its peers amid rising antisemitism. A group of medical students responded via email, stating the claim that “[h]undreds of Jewish women and girls have been raped” had been “debunked” and describing as a “false statement” the claim that “[m]ore than 150 Jewish children, women, and elderly (including Holocaust survivors) have been brutally kidnapped and taken into Gaza.”<sup>4</sup>
- In the UCLA Class of 2025 group chat on October 7th, a student compared the actions of Hamas to a “slave rebellion” and said that Israeli families were “overseers” and therefore didn’t deserve to be mourned.<sup>5</sup>
- On October 26, 2023, Students for Justice in Palestine planned a walkout “to fight genocide and free Palestine” that was scheduled to occur during a mandatory UCLA Med first-year seminar.<sup>6</sup> Those who walked out but did not join the ensuing protest were allegedly confronted by a first-year medical student who said that their names would be put on a list of those who chose not to participate.<sup>7</sup>
- Jewish students have expressed fear over expressing their Jewish identity on campus. For example, in an October 2022 letter to the UCLA Med dean, a UCLA Med student said she did not feel comfortable wearing her Star of David necklace out in public.<sup>8</sup> At a December 2023 menorah lighting ceremony, many students refused to be photographed for fear of being doxed by their peers as a practicing Jew.<sup>9</sup>
- In February 2024, the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Collaborative at UCLA Med organized a required panel for first year medical students called “Compassion, Empathy, and Our Hippocratic Oath: A Conversation About Difficult Dialogues.” A UCLA Med professor alleged that at this event, “a Jewish panelist was told that his perspective was not relevant while another panelist espoused anti-Israel rhetoric, denied the School’s antisemitism issues, and claimed that faculty with power and privilege suppressed criticism of Israel.”<sup>10</sup>
- In March 2024, activist Lisa “Tiny” Gray-Garcia taught UCLA Med’s mandatory “Structural Racism and Health Equity” class.<sup>11</sup> During the event Gray-Garcia allegedly demanded the students scream “Free, Free Palestine” alongside her.<sup>12</sup>
- On April 2, 2024, the Department of Psychiatry’s diversity office hosted a lecture on “Depathologizing Resistance” that allegedly glorified self-immolation as justifiable

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<sup>4</sup> Email from “Coalition of Jewish, Arab, and other concerned medical students,” to DGSOM Jewish Med. Student Assoc. (Wed. 10/16/2023 8:09 AM) (on file with the committee).

<sup>5</sup> Letter from Nir Hoftman, Professor of Anesthesiology, to Steven Dubinett, Dean of David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA (October 19, 2023 at 11:51 AM) (on file with the committee).

<sup>6</sup> Image posted by SJP AT UCLA (@sjpatucla), INSTAGRAM (October 24) (on file with the committee), <https://www.instagram.com/p/CyyjQ8UpabC/>.

<sup>7</sup> Testimony on file with the Committee.

<sup>8</sup> Letter from Jewish Med. Student Assoc. to Steven Dubinett, Dean of David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA (October 20, 2022) (on file with the committee).

<sup>9</sup> Testimony on file with the Committee.

<sup>10</sup> See <https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/minutes/2024/board4.10.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> Aaron Sibarum, *UCLA Med School Requires Students to Attend Lecture Where Speaker Demands Prayer for ‘Mama Earth,’ Leads Chants of ‘Free Palestine’*, Wash. Free Beacon (April 2, 2024), <https://freebeacon.com/campus/ucla-med-school-requires-students-to-attend-lecture-where-speaker-demands-prayer-for-mama-earth-leads-chants-of-free-palestine/>.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

resistance against Israel and referred to Israel as “Occupied Palestine for 75 years.”<sup>13</sup> A UCLA administrator attended the event.<sup>14</sup> Jewish faculty who raised concern over the lecture were publicly accused by others of being “anti-black racists.”<sup>15</sup>

- Dr. Kira Stein, a professor at UCLA Med, emailed UCLA administrators with concern ahead of the “Depathologizing Resistance” lecture.<sup>16</sup> Soon after, she received an email from the Psychiatry Department telling her that she was suspended from her teaching responsibilities due to a purported investigation into an allegation that she had “doxed” her colleagues and inappropriately recorded the event.<sup>17</sup> In September 2024, the chair of the Psychiatry Department allegedly acknowledged in a meeting with Dr. Stein that the event was antisemitic but refused to publicly condemn the event or reinstate her for fear of “inflaming tensions.”<sup>18</sup>
- In April 2025, the university promoted the Vice Dean of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Department of Psychiatry, Eraka Bath—whose diversity office cosponsored the April 2 event—to Assistant Dean for Faculty Initiatives in the Office of Inclusive Excellence.<sup>19</sup>
- On January 31, 2025, UCLA’s “Anti-Palestinian, Anti-Arab, and Anti-Muslim Racism” Taskforce released a report that described Jewish faculty who expressed concern about the event, known as the Jewish Faculty Resilience Group, as a “vigilante group.”<sup>20</sup>

As you know, postsecondary institutions that receive federal funds must maintain a safe learning environment and fulfill all obligations under Title VI and its accompanying regulations. This includes the obligation to promptly address discrimination, including harassment that creates a hostile environment, wherever such circumstances may be found to exist. Jewish students and faculty may experience the statements described above, including those that delegitimize Israel, as antisemitism.<sup>21</sup> Under Title VI, even speech that is protected by the First Amendment may contribute to an unlawful hostile environment. Thus, Title VI requires colleges to promptly address incidents creating a hostile environment. This can be done through a variety of methods, including investigating the incidents and imposing appropriate discipline; condemning the statements made; implementing policy changes such as time, place, and manner restrictions;

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<sup>13</sup> Testimony on file with the committee.

<sup>14</sup> Testimony on file with the Committee.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

<sup>16</sup> Letter from Jewish Fac. Resilience Grp., to Chancellor Block, Dean Dubinett, Vice Dean MacIntosh, and Dr. Hansen (Tue 4/2/204 5:52 PM) (on file with the committee).

<sup>17</sup> Testimony on file with the Committee.

<sup>18</sup> Testimony on file with the Committee.

<sup>19</sup> Testimony on file with the Committee.

<sup>20</sup> See *Palestinian Human Rights and the Struggle for Racial Justice in the Medical School, UCLA*, UCLA Task Force on Anti-Palestinian, Anti-Arab and Anti-Muslim Racism (January 31, 2025), <https://uclaracismtaskforce.com/palestinian-human-rights-and-the-struggle-for-racial-justice-in-the-medical-school/>; The UCLA Task Force on Anti-Palestinian, Anti-Arab, and Anti-Muslim Racism was formed in December of 2023 by the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost in response to faculty concerns about “the genocide taking place in Gaza and the attacks on students, faculty, and staff at UCLA—and throughout the UC system—for speaking out against the war.” *About*, UCLA Task Force on Anti-Palestinian, Anti-Arab and Anti-Muslim Racism (last visited July 18, 2024), <https://uclaracismtaskforce.com/about/>.

<sup>21</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).

providing training to combat antisemitism; and other measures. The Committee is seeking to understand whether, as reports suggest, there was or is a hostile environment against Jewish students on UCLA Med's campus and whether the university responded to incidents such as those described in this letter.

To assess whether a hostile environment existed or exists on UCLA Med's campus, and to understand whether and how UCLA Med has responded to any incidents of harassment, the Committee requests the production of the following documents and communications by September 8, 2025:<sup>22</sup>

1. All documents and communications related to reports or complaints of antisemitic acts or incidents received by UCLA Med, including the offices of the Dean, Interim Vice Dean for Education, Vice Dean for Faculty, Vice Dean for Inclusive Excellence, Director of Inclusive Excellence, the Faculty Lead for Restorative Practices in Academic Medicine, the Assistant Dean for Inclusive Excellence, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion programs, including in the Department of Psychiatry, Psychiatry Residency Program Director, and the Investigator and Strategic Partner handling harassment cases or any hotlines, inboxes, or other mechanisms that collect reports of bias, discrimination, and harassment, from September 1, 2021, through the date of your response.
  - a. For each report or complaint, include any communications among administrators or staff regarding the complaint, such as discussion about whether to investigate the complaint.
  - b. For each report or complaint, include documentation showing the university's response to the report or complaint, if any, including documents and communications related to whether the report or complaint was investigated and whether a disciplinary or conduct case was opened.
  - c. If a disciplinary or conduct case was opened, provide documents sufficient to show the entity or entities responsible for reviewing the case, the disciplinary process being used to review the case, case status, actions taken by UCLA Med to date (including any modification of proposed or imposed discipline), and the standing of the alleged perpetrator. Please also provide documents sufficient to show all instances in which alleged perpetrators were involved in previous disciplinary incidents.
  - d. Please provide a summary chart showing individual complaints filed by year, the source of the complaint, the date the complaint was filed, the reviewing entity, whether UCLA Med opened an investigation, and the current status of the complaint.
2. All documents and communications from October 7, 2023, through the date of your response, from, to, or in the possession of, the offices of the Executive Dean, the Interim Vice Dean for Education, Vice Dean for Faculty, Vice Dean for Inclusive Excellence, Director of Inclusive Excellence, the Faculty Lead for Restorative Practices in Academic Medicine, the Assistant Dean for Inclusive Excellence, the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion programs, including in the Department of Psychiatry, and the Psychiatry Residency Program Director, referring or relating to antisemitism or the terms Jewish,

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<sup>22</sup> Please note that we are requesting only those documents that have not been previously provided to the Committee.

Israel, Israeli, Palestine, or Palestinian.<sup>23</sup> This includes responsive documents or communications that refer or relate to:

- a. The mandatory “Structural Racism and Health Equity” course from September 2021 to present,
  - b. The “Depathologizing Resistance” event, and,
  - c. Investigations of any Jewish faculty involved in the Jewish Faculty Resilience Group at UCLA.
3. All documents, including syllabi and slides, for the mandatory “Structural Racism and Health Equity” course from the 2021-2022 through the 2025-2026 school years.
  4. All documents and communications since October 7, 2023, in the possession of the office of the Executive Vice Chancellor referring or relating to the January 31, 2025, report prepared by the UCLA Task Force on Anti-Palestinian, Anti-Arab and Anti-Muslim Racism.
  5. All documents sufficient to show UCLA Med’s guidelines for investigating complaints of antisemitism since January 1, 2023, including any changes to these guidelines.
  6. All documents sufficient to show any definition of antisemitism used by UCLA Med since January 1, 2023, including in investigations of antisemitism.
  7. All documents sufficient to show any anti-bias or anti-discrimination trainings offered to staff, students, faculty, officers, administrators, or any other groups at UCLA Med since January 1, 2023.
  8. All documents that govern or inform investigations of alleged faculty misconduct at UCLA Med.

When producing documents, 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’s oversight powers are derived from the U.S. Constitution and have been repeatedly affirmed by the United States Supreme Court. Under House Rule X, the Committee’s legislative and oversight jurisdiction is broad, extending to “education . . . 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>24</sup> This includes enforcement of Title VI and other anti-discrimination laws by the Department of Education.

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<sup>23</sup> In this letter, “antisemitism” is defined in accordance with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition and contemporary examples. Examples of antisemitism under the IHRA definition may include references to “Zionism” or “Israel.” See *Working Definition of Antisemitism*, *supra* note 14. Antisemitism is considered 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>24</sup> RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 119th Cong. at 7, 10 (Jan. 16, 2025), <https://rules.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/rules.house.gov/files/documents/houserules119thupdated.pdf>.

Further, as set forth in House Rule X, the Committee “shall review and study on a continuing basis the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of laws and programs addressing subjects within its jurisdiction.”<sup>25</sup> The information gathered will also aid the Committee in considering whether potential legislative changes, including legislation to specifically address antisemitic discrimination, are needed.

Should you have any questions please contact Jenna Berger at [jenna.berger@mail.house.gov](mailto:jenna.berger@mail.house.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tim Walberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "T" and "W".

Tim Walberg  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Workforce

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<sup>25</sup> RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 119th Cong., Rule X cl. 1(e)(6); cl. 2(b)(1)(A) (Jan. 16, 2025).