

Allan Rock

From: David Naylor [david.naylor@utoronto.ca]
Sent: Wednesday March 17, 2010 7:24 PM
To: Allan Rock
Subject: RE: Ann Coulter on uOttawa Campus

Allan, it was indeed 2-3 years ago -- an open letter on Israel Apartheid Week, published in the National Post in response to another open letter published with funding by the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and signed by a group of U of T faculty members calling for the cancellation of the Week's events. I'll dig up the text ASAP and some of the other statements on free speech that may help.

This is a tough one because Coulter is certainly an extremist who expresses her views recklessly. Happy to discuss at your convenience tonight [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To help kickstart conversation some quick thoughts on actions/options --

1. Clarify the sponsorship/nature of the visit. This is critical. If as the student president says, this is not an event sponsored by any recognized campus group, you do have more distance.
2. Decide the level of security risk, and insist that, if it's a rental, the sponsors pay for extensive security/police presence.
3. Consider the pros and cons of a public statement. Could be helpful, but has to be crafted very carefully because it could backfire (e.g. President Rock denounces this speaker's views, but won't denounce the radical speakers at IAW who incite anti-Semitism; or, President Rock denounces the speaker but won't give up the rental revenue).

Not easy. Happy to discuss.

Best wishes

David

David Naylor
President
The University of Toronto
Suite 206, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
Toronto, ON M5S 1A1
Canada