

Allan Rock

From: Diane Davidson
Sent: Wednesday March 24, 2010 1:10 PM
To: Andrée Dumulon; Louis De Melo; Francois Houle; Mona Nemer; Victor Simon; Allan Rock
Subject: Re: MESSAGE IMPORTANT — University Statement on Ann Coulter Affair

I have nothing substantive to add.
Thank you.
Diane

De : Andrée Dumulon
À : Louis De Melo; Francois Houle; Diane Davidson; Mona Nemer; Victor Simon; Allan Rock
Cc : Andrée Dumulon
Envoyé : Wed Mar 24 12:55:58 2010
Objet : MESSAGE IMPORTANT --- University Statement on Ann Coulter Affair

Bonjour,

Ci-joint l'ébauche de l'énoncé qui sera envoyé aux médias mais également à tous nos auditoires cibles.

Tous les mots de cette déclaration ont été pesés, Je vous demanderais donc de me faire parvenir que des commentaires qui à votre avis auraient un impact fondamental sur le direction du texte.

Nous devons nous assurer de faire parvenir cet énoncé le plus rapidement possible.

Merci bien,

Andrée

DRAFT

On Tuesday, March 23, an appearance by Ann Coulter was scheduled on our campus, organized by the International Free Press Society Canada and the Claire Boothe Luce Policy Institute.

The University of Ottawa has always promoted and defended the freedom of expression. For that reason, we did not at any time oppose Ann Coulter's appearance. Whether it is Ann Coulter or any other speaker, diverse views have always been and continue to be welcome on our campus.

Last night, the organizers themselves decided at 7:50 pm to cancel the event and so informed the University's Protection Service officers on site. At that time, a crowd of about one thousand people had peacefully gathered at Marion Hall.

"Freedom of expression is a core value that the University of Ottawa has always promoted", said Allan Rock, President of the University. "We have a long history of hosting contentious and controversial speakers on our campus. Last night was no exception, as people gathered here to listen to and debate Ann Coulter's opinions. I encourage our students, faculty and other members of our community to maintain our University as an open forum for diverse opinions. Ours is a safe and democratic environment for the expression of views, and we will keep it that way."