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IU Faculty and Staff for Israel Ask IU Trustees, Administration for Stronger Response to Antisemitism

Bloomington, Indiana –IU Faculty and Staff for Israel, a group with over 60 members on the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses, sent a letter on February 21 to the Indiana University Board of Trustees, President Pamela Whitten, Provost Rahul Shrivastav, and Chancellor Latha Ramchand asking the university to take further steps to address the upsurge in antisemitic speech and incidents on both campuses. The letter specifically requests:

- 1) That the Provost’s Antisemitism Advisory Board meet more frequently during this period of heightened tensions
- 2) That a similar advisory board be created for the Indianapolis campus
- 3) That the university enforce IU’s Code of Conduct, with particular attention to documented antisemitic incidents
- 4) That the university implement IU’s own, long-standing policies on faculty and student rights and responsibilities, including those on antisemitism

“It is important to note that antisemitic speech is not protected speech under IU policy, and that antisemitic incidents comprise conduct, not speech at all. Therefore, claims that proscription of such speech and conduct violate free speech or academic freedom are not merely misleading, but simply incorrect,” said Alvin Rosenfeld, Director, Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism at Indiana University.

IU Faculty and Staff for Israel was founded in response to the violent invasion of Israel by Hamas terrorists on October 7. Its members seek to educate and raise awareness about the conflict, counter misinformation and propaganda, and affirm the right of Israel to exist as a sovereign and independent state. For more information, see the group's [website](#).

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