

**For Immediate Release
November 6, 2024**

**IU Changes Its Mind (Again) on 11 PM Curfew:
Vigil Planners May Also**

In a completely unsurprising turn of events, Indiana University administration is walking back its change in enforcement of the expressive activity policy, and will apparently return to sanctioning and threatening to terminate faculty, students and staff for protesting peacefully by candlelight. In response, vigil organizers have announced that vigils, in some form, are likely to continue.

Struggling to respond to media coverage of its uneven enforcement of UA 10 during ESPN Game Day celebrations, IU ceased monitoring and enforcing the 11 pm - 6 am campus curfew on expressive activity at the weekly candlelight vigil and extended permission for non-amplified sound and candles after 11 pm. Pressed to justify the change, spokespersons for the university backpedaled, first saying the policy itself had not changed (which was never in doubt), then inaccurately claiming that the administrator announcing the change had not known that the vigil application pertained to expressive activity.

Ignoring questions about whether this constituted a change or whether Event Management was mistaken, the University simply told the applicant that the policy remains in effect and all expressive activity on campus must cease at 11 pm—contradicting its earlier statement that the applicant would be given an opportunity to re-submit her application.

November 10th had been slated as the final candlelight vigil, in order to celebrate the University's announced change in enforcement. With this new development, however, organizers have announced that a night-time vigil might well continue into the foreseeable future.

Said Professor Emeritus Russ Skiba, "Everyone is allowed to change their mind. IU has. We might too."

This week's vigil will include speakers recapping the various attacks from this administration on free speech, civil rights, and a peaceful and civil campus. Said Professor Ben Robinson, "The administration doesn't want to hear talk about Palestine, SEA 202, or their draconian cuts to effective programs. But that's not a choice they get to make." To model democracy for IU administration, the proceedings will include a vote by participants on whether they wish to continue or end the candlelight vigil.

This Sunday's candlelight vigil will once again begin at 10:30 pm and continue until after 11 pm at Sample Gates.
