



Hillel Foundation of Orange County

Task Force on Anti-Semitism and Racism on Campus

Bendat Hillel Center
1 Federation Way, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92603

Executive Director
Jeffrey Rips

Task Force Members

Rabbi Stuart Altshuler

Ted Bleiweis

Rabbi Yonah Bookstein

Jan Mark Dudman

Rabbi David Eliezrie

Rabbi Dov Fischer

Amihai Glazer

Rose Keller

Marty Migdall

Sara Nussbaum

Jeffrey T. Rips

Jesse H. Rosenblum, Ph. D

Blossom Siegel

Rabbi Richard Steinberg

Robert L. Winer, M.D.

Contact Information:

Jeffrey Rips, Hillel Foundation of Orange County, Executive Director, office - 949-435-3777 ext. 276
cell - 714-403-2325 Jeffrey@ochillel.org
Ted Bleiweis, committee member, 714-292-7958 tbleiweis@socal.rr.com

Task Force formed to Investigate Alleged Racism and Anti-Semitism on Campus at UC – Irvine

**Hillel Foundation of Orange County
to organize Academic, Professional, and Religious leaders
to Formulate Recommendations**

Irvine, CA, February 13, 2007 – The Hillel Foundation of Orange County today announced the formation of Task Force to study and investigate alleged incidents of racism and anti-Semitism at the University of California – Irvine (UCI).

This comes as the result of the growing number of reported anti-Semitic incidents occurring on campus in recent years. The most recent incident occurred on Wednesday evening, January 31st, when about 50 individuals, the majority of whom were reportedly members of UCI's Muslim Student Union (MSU) abruptly stood up and disrupted a Hillel-sponsored presentation by Daniel Pipes, Ph.D. Dr. Pipes, a noted scholar on Israel and the Middle East and director of the Middle East Forum, is also a distinguished visiting professor at Pepperdine University, and prize-winning columnist for such newspapers as the New York Sun, Jerusalem Post, and L'Opinione.

The goal of this select Task Force is to issue a thorough and objective report, with findings and recommendations made to the community and UCI administration by year's end. The Task Force will be comprised of various academic, professional, and religious leaders. Interviews will be conducted with students, alumni, faculty members and administration, as well as individual Jewish and non-Jewish organizations and community members regarding their campus experiences.

The Hillel Foundation of Orange County is a local chapter of the international organization Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life (www.Hillel.org) providing religious, cultural, educational, social programs, job placement, career & academic counseling, and referral services to Jewish students on OC college campuses.

Anyone in the community with knowledge of, or who has witnessed acts of racism or anti-Semitism at UCI, is encouraged to contact the Task Force through Hillel's Executive Director Jeffrey Rips at 949-435-3444 ext. 276 or Jeffrey@OCHillel.org or Ted Bleiweis, committee member, 714-292-7958 tbleiweis@socal.rr.com.

--- more ---

Phone: (949) 435-3444

Fax: (949) 435-3445

www.ochillel.org

A partner agency of the Jewish Federation of Orange County

Internet Video of Disruption Available

*There is video documentation that was posted on Google Video of the disruption of the January 31, 2007 Hillel event at UCI, with guest speaker Dr. Daniel Pipes.

1) Short Version – Begins immediately with demonstrators disrupting presentation and marching out while chanting anti-Israel slogans.

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-4939925831604188462&hl=en>

2) Long Version – Interruption begins at 15:10 of the video with an individual shouting out Dr. Pipes' name to get his attention.

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=7799137429880565337>

30