Jonathan Greenblatt

CEO and National Director



October 30, 2024

Dear President Jameson,

On behalf of ADL (Anti-Defamation League), I am writing to commend the University of Pennsylvania for your recent efforts and policies to address campus antisemitism. Having reviewed the updates you shared in September, we commend you for the proactive steps your institution has taken to foster a safer and more inclusive environment for Jewish students and all students, particularly in light of the antisemitism crisis faced by campuses nationwide.

In particular, we welcome the thorough work of Penn's Task Force on Antisemitism and the Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community, whose reports have laid a strong foundation for positive change for Jewish students and all students. The creation of a project manager position to oversee the implementation of these recommendations demonstrates your dedication to ensuring that these crucial initiatives are designed and implemented effectively.

We are also impressed by the University's comprehensive approach to campus security, including the updated protocols for major events, the ongoing efforts to enhance security at religious life centers and the adoption of the new Temporary Standards and Procedures for Campus Events and Demonstrations, with the latter being a crucial step in managing disruptive conduct while safeguarding the freedom of speech rights of all campus community members.

The establishment of the Office of Religious and Ethnic Inclusion in September 2024 is a particularly significant development that underscores your commitment to overseeing compliance with Title VI and fostering an inclusive environment.

These initiatives align with ADL's recommendations for combating antisemitism on college campuses and we believe that such comprehensive approaches are crucial in fostering an environment where all students can thrive.

To recognize these efforts, we have published a blog that outlines the new actions and policies, which is available to the public here.

We also want to inform you that these positive changes will be factored into Penn's Campus Antisemitism Report Card re-assessment in Spring 2025, as will any other changes your administration might communicate to us prior to the re-assessment. Your current efforts reflect a commitment to improvement, which is encouraging and critical given the challenges faced last academic year.

ADL remains committed to working closely with universities to support the implementation of these efforts and create a safer, more inclusive environment for Jewish students and all campus community members. We would be pleased to collaborate further with Penn on additional initiatives or provide resources to strengthen your existing efforts.

We encourage you to continue to prioritize combating campus antisemitism. If there are any ways in which ADL can assist or provide further guidance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Shira Goodman, ADL's Campus Advocacy lead, at campus@adl.org.

Thank you for your recent efforts to create a campus environment that respects and protects all students.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Greenblatt

CEO and National Director

Jote Shutte