



# The University of North Carolina

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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January 5, 2006

Mr. Robert Shibley, Program Manager  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education  
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Mr. Shibley,

President Erskine Bowles has forwarded your letter of December 5, 2005 to me for response. First I would like to say that throughout the University of North Carolina, free speech and open dialogue are time honored core values. As you are aware, free flowing debate of ideas is central to the mission of the University. UNC-G as an institution has also consistently valued and protected the rights to free speech and open dialogue.

I have discussed the specific policy issue you raised with appropriate administrators at UNC-G. It is my understanding that the Chancellor has established a committee to re-examine the UNC-G outdoor assembly policy in light of recent case law. You have been invited to have input into the revisions of the policy. I hope that you will avail yourself of this opportunity.

Because of the federally protected right to privacy of individual students, I cannot discuss with you the particulars of the student discipline charge that you raised in your letter.

Thank you for your interest in preserving free speech within our University.

Sincerely,

Leslie J. Winner  
Vice President and General Counsel

cc: President Erskine Bowles  
Chancellor Patricia Sullivan  
University Counsel Lucien Capone

LJW/cp