

May 10, 2024*

To the President, Provost, Deans, and other leadership of UT Dallas:

We write as Comet faculty proudly committed to the University's stated mission of "graduating well-rounded citizens whose education has prepared them for rewarding lives and productive careers in a constantly changing world." The students, alumni, and community members who recently formed the "Gaza Liberation" encampment on our campus were exercising the responsibilities of political voice and conscience that demonstrate their readiness to be valuable citizens in our tumultuous world. We the undersigned members of the UT Dallas faculty interpret the use of police force to break up the encampment, and the arrests of students, community members, and faculty who were attempting to protect our students and their exercise of free expression, as a violation of the University's mission and core values.

The Gaza Liberation encampment was a heartening example of peaceful political demonstration, while simultaneously developing into a site of communal gathering, mutual education, and creative as well as critical expression. Although we are deeply troubled by the university's turn to police force on May 1st, we hope that our university leadership reorients its response to the encampment to be peaceful and productive.

Specifically, we call for the university leadership to:

- Drop or refrain from pressing legal charges against all individuals
- Allow student activists to complete their semesters' coursework, without suspension, expulsion, or other punishment this semester, and without restricting their future options to enroll in classes or live in university housing
- Affirm that faculty who were detained will face no professional repercussions.

Conversely, we would strenuously object to the suspension, expulsion, or other punishment of students participating in the encampment. We would likewise oppose any further use of force, should students attempt to reestablish an encampment or similar demonstration.

UT Dallas has the opportunity during this historic moment in higher education to be an exemplar. We hope it embraces this chance with the institution's characteristic courage, innovativeness, and conscience.

Sincerely,

Erin Greer, Assistant Professor of Literature

Ravi Prakash, Professor of Computer Science

Annie Gray Fischer, Assistant Professor of History

Dr. Whitney Stewart, Assistant Professor of History

Nomi Stone, Assistant Professor of Poetry

Jonathan Tsou, Professor of Philosophy and Distinguished Professor of Humanities in Medicine and Science

Ashley Barnes, Associate Professor of Literature

Ann Wu, Assistant Professor

Kate Davies, Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Audra Heaslip, Assistant Professor of Instruction in Critical Media Studies

Rose Skelton, Writer and Instructor of Creative Writing, BAHT

Maurine Ogonnaya Ogbaa, Assistant Professor of Literature & Creative Writing

Charles Hatfield, Associate Professor of Literature

Kaaz Naqvi, Associate Professor of Instruction, Interdisciplinary Studies

Christine Veras

Daniel Wickberg, Associate Professor of History

Dr. Florence E. Castillo, Postdoctoral Research Associate

Salena Brody

Torrie Cropps, Research Scientist

David A. Wright, Lecturer, Interdisciplinary Studies

Tonja Wissinger, Interim Dean and Professor of Instruction, Interdisciplinary Studies

Liz Trosper, Assistant Professor of Instruction, BAHT

Susan Waring, M. Ed., University Field Supervisor, Teacher Development Center

Larissa Werhnyak, Program Head, American Studies

Mark Rosen, Associate Professor of Art History

Kimberly Hill, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History

Mai Wang, Assistant Professor of Literature

Dorothee Honhon, Professor of Operations Management in JSOM

Monica Rankin, Associate Professor, BAHT

Dr Gretchen VanWormer, Assistant Professor of Literature

Zafar A. Anjum, Assoc. Professor of Instruction, BAHT

Jessi DeFusco, Assistant Professor, EPPS

Jacquelyn Delin McDonald, Lecturer, BAHT

Jonathan Pinckney, Assistant Professor of Political Science

Horace Robb, Professor, JSOM

xtine, Professor, BAHT

Wafa Jaffal, Adjunct lecturer, School of Engineering and Computer Science

Gasam Elkhodari, Associate Professor of instruction

Josef Nguyen, Associate Professor, School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology

Dora R. Valkanova, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor, ATEC / BAHT

Humberto González-Núñez, Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Charles Bambach, Professor, BAHT

Neeraj Mittal, Professor, Department of Computer Science, Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science

May Alkhudari, Adjunct Professor, JSOM

J Michael Farmer, Associate Professor of Chinese Studies and History

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McClain Watson, Clinical Professor, JSOM

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Amena Khan, Associate Professor of Instruction, Department of Physics

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L Kjhan, School of Engineering

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Baris Coskunuzer, Professor

Mandy Maguire, Associate Professor

G. Andrés Cisneros, Department Head and Professor of Physics; Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Huseyin Cavusoglu, Professor, JSOM

Meghna Sabharwal, Professor, EPPS

S. Diane Durant, Associate Prof of Instruction, BAHT

Rabah Mezenner, Associate Professor of Instruction

Eric Farrar, Associate Professor, BAHT

Roger Malina, Prof of Physics

Matthew J Brown, Research Associate, Center for Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology and Emeritus faculty

Charissa N. Terranova, Margaret M. McDermott Distinguished Chair in Art and Aesthetic Studies and Professor of Art and Architectural History

Naofal Aldhahir, Professor, ECE

Eva Sadat, Assistant Professor of Instruction

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Sean Cotter, Professor

Alexander Edsel, Professor of Practice

Dr. Shashank Sirsi, Associate Professor

John Geissman, Professor Emeritus, Geosciences, Ex-Dept Head, Research Scientist, U. Texas at Dallas

Ming Gu, Professor, BAHT

Shilyh Warren, Associate Professor

Peter Park, Assoc. Prof. Emer.

Heidi Rae Cooley, Associate Professor/Program Head [ATEC/BAHT]

Kimberley Orsten Hooge, Lecturer II, Department of Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Nelson Lim, Associate Professor of Practice, Animation and Games, BAHT

Allison Russell, Assistant Professor, EPPS

Barbara L. Baker, Assistant Professor of Instruction

Eric Schlereth, Associate Professor of History

Catherine Parsonneault, PhD, Assistant Dean, Clinical Professor, BAHT

Danielle Avram, Assistant Professor of Instruction, Contemporary Galleries and Exhibitions Studies

Professor John Pomara, Professor of Visual Arts

Amy Grieshaber, Assistant Professor of Instruction, Animation and Games

Adrienne L. McLean, Professor, Bass School

Marilyn Waligore, Professor of Photography

Natalie Ring, Associate Professor

Lorraine Tady, Associate Professor of Instruction

Brynn Higgins-Stirrup, Assistant Professor of Instruction, Drawing

Deborah A. Scally, Assistant Professor of Instruction in Communication AHT

Wieslaw Z. Krawcewicz, Professor of Mathematics, Department of Mathematical Sciences

Pia K Jakobsson, Clinical Asst. Professor, Bass School

Pamela Gossin, Professor, History of Science and Literature, Bass School of Arts, Humanities and Technology

Catherine Boynton, Advisor and Instructor, PSY

Kemelli Estacio-Hiroms, Assistant Professor of Instruction, NSM

Gail Breen, Associate Professor Emeritus

Mark McKinney, Associate Professor of Instruction, BAHT

Kevin Sweet, Assistant Professor, BAHT

Michael L. Wilson, Arts, Humanities, & Technology

Juveria Baig, Adjunct Professor - JSOM

Anne Balsamo, Ph.D., Distinguished University Professor Arts and Humanities, Bass School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology

Ruhung Wang, Research Associate Professor, Biological Science, NSM

Douglas C. Dow, Clinical Professor of Political Science

Waseem Abbas, Assistant Professor, EECS

Fatemeh Izaditame, Research Scientist, SESS

To have your name added, please go to the form here: <https://forms.gle/bwRPhKsbEtuziALy8>

Please note that we add names to the above letter manually, so there is likely to be a time delay before you'll see your name appear. Also, we are currently adding only the signatures of instructors at UT Dallas, so if you have submitted your name via the form but are otherwise affiliated, please know that we appreciate your support, but will not list you among the faculty signatories.

* Signatures have been added since May 3rd and will continue to be added after this date.