



Faculty Committee on NYU's Global Network

Thursday, May 16, 2019, 8:30am-10:00am EST

PCR (Bobst Library, 1218)

ATTENDANCE

Eliot Borenstein, Co-Chair, FAS (Russian and Slavic Studies)

Martin Klimke, Co-Chair, NYU Abu Dhabi

Ana Abraido-Lanza, College of Global Public Health

Awam Amkpa, Tisch School of the Arts

Sylvain Cappell, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences (Mathematics)/

Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Senators Council

Hallie Franks, Gallatin School of Individualized Study

Alexander Geppert, NYU Shanghai

Christian Haefke, NYU Abu Dhabi

Wen-Jui Han, Silver School of Social Work

Benjamin Hary, Global Sites

Deborah Kapchan, Tisch School of the Arts

Matthew Kleban, FAS (Physics)

Kristie Koenig, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development (Occupational Therapy)

Marilyn Moffat, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

Alexander Nagel, Institute of Fine Arts

Marianne Petit, Tisch School of the Arts

Jon Ritter, Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (FAS Art History)

Deepak Saxena, College of Dentistry

Paul Smoke, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Allison Squires, Rory Meyers College of Nursing

Carol Sternhell, FAS (Journalism)

Deepak Unnikrishnan, Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (NYU Abu Dhabi)

Peter Voltz, Tandon School of Engineering

Paul Wachtel, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (Stern)

Jiawei Zhang, Leonard N. Stern School of Business

Andrew Ross, FAS (Social and Cultural Analysis)

Dean Saranillio, FAS (Social and Cultural Analysis)

Benjamin Zinevich, Graduating Senior (Social and Cultural Analysis), JVP, SJP

Josh Taylor, Associate Vice Chancellor, Global Programs and Mobility Services

MEETING MINUTES

Eliot Borenstein welcomed the meeting's guests and thanked them for joining to discuss the resolution of non-cooperation with NYU Tel Aviv by the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis (SCA); learn more regarding the ideas behind the resolution; and address any misconceptions around it.

The guests provided a brief history of the process behind the ratification of the resolution, noting that the student-led initiative emerged from the Israeli government's written policy of denying entry to visitors on account of their heritage, and their political opinions, and that it had been discussed in several meetings with faculty prior to ratification. SCA members reported being denied entry to Israel, and several faculty are currently at risk of being denied, although this has not been reported to the University, or otherwise made public. Professors Ross and Saranillio said the resolution does not prohibit SCA students or faculty from going to NYUTA, but rather is focused on limiting departmental resources from being used to engage with NYUTA.

Committee members noted that it can be challenging to facilitate an open discussion when anonymous mobility issues are cited and also expressed surprise that an academic unit of NYU would be singled out for non-cooperation, especially when the grievances are against the policies of the host country. Members noted that, when the U.S. government prohibited entry of individuals from several majority-Muslim countries, SCA's response was to provide educational opportunities by sponsoring a panel to discuss native peoples and settler colonialism. NYUTA, which is not affiliated with the government, has made it a priority to develop a welcoming program and community for all identities and political leanings and encourage open discussion of the political situation in Israel -- a response that seems to be in line with how SCA responded to a similar situation. Furthermore, committee members also wondered why no one from SCA reached out to NYUTA for their perspective or participation in the discussion, emphasizing that it would be desirable for faculty to engage with colleagues around the world, especially those with direct experience, prior to making judgements on matters regarding the global network.

The guests expressed support for NYUTA's efforts to educate its students on the political climate in Israel, and reiterated that the resolution was issued in compliance with NYU's own policies against discrimination and is not directed at the operations of NYUTA itself. Several committee members cautioned against coupling academic freedom with visa denials and international mobility restrictions. In the future, committee members expressed that they would like to have input into the establishment of new sites. The committee agreed to issue a statement in response to the resolution, which is typical and appropriate given the committee's role and charge.