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Richard L. Lukanoff  
PRESIDENT

May 3, 2011

Justin Davis, President

East Carolina University Student Government Association  
202 S. 26th Avenue  
Ste. 100  
E. Lansing, MI 48824

Alan Charles Kors  
CO-FOUNDER AND  
CHAIRMAN, EMERITUS

Dear President Smith:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harvey A. Silverstein  
CO-FOUNDER AND  
CHAIRMAN

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) wrote to East Carolina University Student Government Association Treasurer Justin Davis on April 11, 2011, expressing concern about SGA's viewpoint discrimination in funding for student organizations. SGA discriminated against Young Americans for Liberty (YAL) by partially denying funds for YAL's "Hemp Fest" event on the ground that "the nature of the event is combustible" and that "[a]ppropriations will not risk tarnishing SGA." FIRE received no reply. A copy of our letter is enclosed.

Marlene Mieske

Although we understand that YAL was able to fund its event with money from other sources, FIRE remains concerned that SGA will discriminate against other student organizations in the future. We remind you and your

Lloyd B. Richman  
T. Kenneth Cribb, Jr.  
Candace de Russy  
William J. Evans

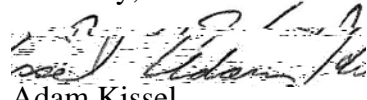
order to uphold students' First Amendment rights.

Woody Kaplan

No student government at a public university may reduce or deny student activity fee funding to a student group because of its viewpoint or because its expression might trouble, offend, or embarrass the student government. Please clarify to us that SGA will never discriminate against a student organization because of its viewpoint but instead will employ only constitutionally permissible, viewpoint-neutral guidelines.

We ask for a response from you or your successor by May 24, 2011.

Sincerely,



Adam Kissel

Vice President of Programs

Encl.

cc:

Steve Ballard, Chancellor, East Carolina University

Virginia Hardy, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, East Carolina University

Lynn Roeder, Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students, East Carolina University

William McCartney, Associate Vice Chancellor of Campus Living and Dining, East Carolina University

M. Justin Davis, Treasurer, Student Government Association, East Carolina University

Joshua Martinkovic, President-Elect, Student Government Association, East Carolina University

Daniel Thornton, Vice President-Elect, Student Government Association, East Carolina University