



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

February 6, 2012

Adam Kissel, Vice President of Programs  
Foundation for Individualistic Education  
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

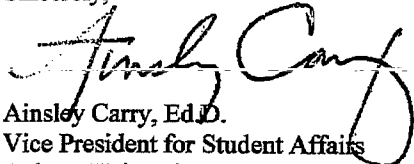
Dear Mr. Kissel,

Auburn University, just like any other institution of higher learning, has a set of community standards that guide our residential experience. For obvious safety reasons, we have a standard governing materials hung outside and inside residence hall windows. The community standard was modified in the fall of 2011 and uniformly implemented soon thereafter. Since the community standard was modified, a number of students have been asked to remove a variety of poster materials from windows and all of them complied. One of these students was asked to do so because he had happened to promote a political candidate. This request to comply with our community standard was not a violation of any First Amendment rights.

Almost 4,000 students live in Auburn University residence halls, more than 65 percent of them are first-year students. Our FIRST responsibility to our residential community is their safety, health, and wellbeing. Every community standard is reviewed annually and evaluated based on the criteria: "Will this community standard help to keep students safe?" All materials, regardless of content, are prohibited from being posted in residence hall windows. Students are permitted to post materials inside walls of their residence hall room, but posters on windows are not permitted.

Auburn University respects the First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and expression of all students, faculty, and staff members. We live in an academic community where open discussion is welcomed and encouraged. We value differing opinions and freedom of expression. We also highly value the security of our students. We will pursue any reasonable measure to ensure their safety and security.

Sincerely,

  
Ainsley Carry, Ed.D.  
Vice President for Student Affairs  
Auburn University