

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

TIM WALBERG, MICHIGAN, *Chairman*

JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
VIRGINIA FOXX, NORTH CAROLINA
GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA
GLENN GROTHMAN, WISCONSIN
ELISE M. STEFANIK, NEW YORK
RICK W. ALLEN, GEORGIA
JAMES COMER, KENTUCKY
BURGESS OWENS, UTAH
LISA C. MCCLAIN, MICHIGAN
MARY E. MILLER, ILLINOIS
JULIA LETLOW, LOUISIANA
KEVIN KILEY, CALIFORNIA
MICHAEL RULLI, OHIO
JAMES C. MOYLAN, GUAM
ROBERT F. ONDER, JR., MISSOURI
RYAN MACKENZIE, PENNSYLVANIA
MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER, WASHINGTON
MARK HARRIS, NORTH CAROLINA
MARK B. MESSMER, INDIANA
RANDY FINE, FLORIDA



COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2176 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA,
Ranking Member

JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT
FREDERICA S. WILSON, FLORIDA
SUZANNE BONAMICI, OREGON
MARK TAKANO, CALIFORNIA
ALMA S. ADAMS, NORTH CAROLINA
MARK DESAULNIER, CALIFORNIA
DONALD NORCROSS, NEW JERSEY
LUCY MCBATH, GEORGIA
JAHANA HAYES, CONNECTICUT
ILHAN OMAR, MINNESOTA
HALEY STEVENS, MICHIGAN
GREG CASAR, TEXAS
SUMMER L. LEE, PENNSYLVANIA
JOHN MANNION, NEW YORK
YASSAMIN ANSARI, ARIZONA

July 30, 2025

Dr. Félix V. Matos Rodríguez
Chancellor, City University of New York
205 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

Dear Dr. Matos Rodríguez,

Thank you again for testifying at the July 15, 2025, Committee on Education and Workforce hearing titled "Antisemitism in Higher Education: Examining the Role of Faculty, Funding, and Ideology." Enclosed are additional questions submitted by Committee members following the hearing. Please provide a written response no later than August 20, 2025, for inclusion in the hearing record. Responses should be sent to Anders Vendt (anders.vendt@mail.house.gov) of the Committee staff; he can also be contacted at (202) 860-4040.

We appreciate your contribution to the work of the Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Walberg".

Tim Walberg
Chairman

Representative Elise Stefanik (R-NY)

1. In September 2024, masked SJP protestors surrounded and taunted Jewish Baruch College freshmen who were attending an event at a local kosher restaurant organized by Hillel. Protesters used antisemitic tropes, threatened violence, and taunted the students about the murder of six hostages, including Hersh Goldberg-Polin, a 23-year old American-Israeli who was executed by Hamas. Several of CUNY's student groups have engaged in campaigns to ban Hillel from campus, effectively trying to dismantle the sole center for Jewish student life on campus. At one particularly shocking demonstration at Baruch in June 2024 held by Students for Justice in Palestine and the Muslim Student Association entitled "Rally Against Hillel," students held signs saying "Hillel Go To Hell," with an upside down red triangle, the symbol that Hamas uses in its propaganda videos to identify Israelis to kill. Just two months later, protestors displayed the same sign with the Hamas terrorist symbol.
 - a) Did Baruch College condemn the use of this terror symbol in protests targeting its students?
 - b) What have Baruch and other CUNY schools done to prevent the use of terrorist symbols, like the Hamas upside-down red triangle, on and around their campuses?
 - c) How has your administration responded to the horrendous campaign of lies propagated by CUNY SJP chapters and other student groups and their campaign to threaten Jews trying to gather peacefully in community on campus?
2. CUNY operates over two dozen campuses across New York. Does the system maintain a centralized Clery compliance policy, or are individual campuses responsible for interpreting and reporting crimes independently?
3. Do all CUNY campuses report their Clery Daily Crime Logs and Annual Security Reports in a standardized, uniform format and manner? If not, how does the public, or regulators, ensure consistency and accountability system-wide?
4. Does CUNY maintain a separate bias reporting or incident tracking system that is distinct from its Clery Act crime reporting process?
5. If an antisemitic incident is reported through CUNY's internal bias reporting channels, who is responsible for determining whether that incident qualifies as a Clery-reportable hate crime?
6. Under New York State Education Law § 6436, all New York colleges are required to report bias-related crimes and include that information in their annual reports. Does CUNY handle this state-level reporting separately from its Clery Act obligations?

7. Has CUNY conducted a post-October 7, 2023 review or audit of bias incidents across its campuses to verify that qualifying incidents were properly logged and reported under Clery?
8. Chancellor Rodriguez, under your leadership, CUNY introduced the “University-Wide Discrimination and Retaliation Reporting Portal,” a public platform to report alleged discrimination on campus. Your platform relies on a definition of antisemitism developed in the widely criticized, CAIR-endorsed Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism (JDA) over the generally accepted definition from the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). Please explain why your administration chose a definition of “antisemitism,” that centers around “all forms of racism” rather than adhering to the traditionally accepted IHRA definition?
9. Chancellor Rodriguez, you previously testified that CUNY’s complaint portal was an effective step forward. Yet an independent report called it a black box that creates confusion and discourages reporting. How do you explain the two year delay in fixing a broken system meant to protect vulnerable students? Why wasn’t it fixed until the day you testified in front of New York City Council?
10. Chancellor Rodriguez, you also previously claimed that \$550,000 of Anti-Hate Initiative funding provided by the NY City Council, specifically earmarked for combating antisemitism after Oct 7 was used by your administration to fight antisemitism. Please explain why you decided to instead use this funding to host the antisemitic 'Race and the Question of Palestine' program, featuring speakers with long histories of inflammatory rhetoric about Jews and Israel? Do you believe this program should be funded by City Council Anti-Hate Initiative funding and NYS taxpayer dollars?