

Susan L. Thomas, Ph.D.  
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December 19, 2019

Mr. Adam Steinbaugh, Director  
Ms. Lindsie Rank, Program Officer  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education  
510 Walnut Street, Suite 1250  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

*Sent via U.S. Mail and Electronic Mail ([lindsie.rank@the.fire.org](mailto:lindsie.rank@the.fire.org))*

Greetings:

Thank you for your letter of December 10, 2019 in which you advise of your concerns regarding Ms. Mathew's efforts to gain official recognition for her student organization. Although Ms. Mathews has direct knowledge of my personal support for her free speech rights, I did not learn of her situation until I received your letter.

We have initiated a comprehensive review of her case, the cases of other denied requests and our policy and procedures for approving new student organizations. As I am sure you can understand, a comprehensive review of all these matters cannot be completed in the short time since we received your letter.

I can commit to a thorough review of the situation by January 17, 2020. On or before that date, we will reevaluate Ms. Mathew's request for recognition of her organization, inform her of the results of that review and undertake the evaluation of the current policies and procedures in light of the issues you raised and the information you supplied in your letter and advise you of our actions regarding the policy review. In the meantime, no additional applications for new organizations will be processed under the current policy.

I look forward to resolving these matters in a way that is beneficial to all as we share the goal of supporting free speech rights.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan L. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan L. Thomas  
President