OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1405

February 26, 2007

Tara E. Sweeney
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Ms. Sweeney:

I am writing in response to your letter of February 19 in which you expressed concern about the postponement of an event sponsored by a student group — Liberty, Objectivism, Greed, Individualism and Capitalism (L.O.G.I.C.).

Please be assured that UCLA is deeply committed to protecting free speech. The postponement of the L.O.G.I.C. event in no way was intended to chill free speech or otherwise discourage the event. Rather, we have an equally important obligation to the entire campus community to ensure that free speech and other activities take place under safe and appropriate conditions. It was solely our concern for the safety of the event participants and others that the event was postponed. Efforts were made and are on-going to reschedule the event for a time and location that will afford L.O.G.I.C. an adequate opportunity to engage in its activity under conditions that assure reasonable and appropriate security.

The university understands its obligation to bear the reasonable security costs relating to demonstrations that might result in response to controversial speech. It was not appropriate for campus representatives to suggest that the student group would be obligated to pay for additional security needed because of a protest that was anticipated. The students will not, in fact, be charged for additional security associated with anticipated demonstrators when the event is rescheduled and occurs.

We are reviewing our policies and procedures to ensure that UCLA's position about additional security costs associated with speech activities is adequately addressed.

Sincerely,

Norman Abrams
Acting Chancellor

cc: Vice Chancellor Janina Montero
Assistant Vice Chancellor Robert Naples
Campus Counsel Amy Blum