



The Harry and Jeanette
Weinberg Foundation



May 1, 2024

Peter M. Barris, Chair
Northwestern University Board of Trustees
633 Clark St.
Evanston, IL 60208

VIA EMAIL

Dear Chairman Barris:

We, the undersigned, are Northwestern University alumni whose professional careers have placed us in positions with responsibility for the safety and security of the Jewish community, and in constant contact with constituencies with whom we work daily in the fight against antisemitism. We write to add our voices to the chorus of dismay and disgust at the failure of our alma mater to effectively combat antisemitism in its midst, instead condoning and normalizing antisemitic behavior through its agreement with student protestors who have violated campus policies with impunity.

We also wish to wholeheartedly support the decision of Trustee Paula Pretlow, Hillel Executive Director Michael Simon, and the other members to resign from the Presidents' Advisory Committee on Preventing Antisemitism and Hate. The failure of the University to consult this distinguished body during this episode of unprecedented antisemitism and hate on the Evanston campus is inexplicable and inexcusable. We agree with the Jewish United Fund of Chicago that "the overwhelming majority of your Jewish students, faculty, staff and alumni feel betrayed," and with ADL's Midwest Office that the protestors to whom President Schill conceded "openly mocked and violated Northwestern's Codes of Conduct and . . . fanned the flames of antisemitism."

The handling of this situation leaves us with no confidence in President Schill to correct it. We reiterate the call for an immediate leadership change at the University. Such change should include cancelling the so-called "Agreement on Deering Meadow" and refraining from further negotiations until all policies of the University are enforced, and until those seeking the attention of University leadership on any political matter do so fully and completely within Northwestern's Code of Conduct.

We respectfully request your reply at the earliest possible time.

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Eric D. Fingerhut,

Northwestern University, Speech 1981

President and CEO, Jewish Federations of North America

Formerly President and CEO, Hillel International; Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents;

and Member of Congress 1993-1994

Jonathon Greenblatt

Kellogg Business School, Class of 1999

President and CEO, ADL

Rachel Garbow Monroe

Northwestern University, Class of 1991, and Kellogg Business School, Class of 1998

President and CEO, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation