

Dr. Keller, Ms. With, Mr. Simmons, and Mr. Buzbee:

By this time, you all are very aware of the videos posted to social media last week by a young woman who attends the university regarding what transpired in her class after the news that Charlie Kirk had been shot was released.

I am reaching out to you as an extremely concerned citizen who is desperately hoping that the response and actions you all take in this matter moving forward represent that degree well, instead of putting those of us affiliated with the university in a position to be ashamed and disgusted that we are.

What you may be unaware of is that the student in the videos, identified as [REDACTED], has since posted a response video to TikTok. In this video, which has since been removed from TikTok, you will find the following:

- [REDACTED] fully admitted and confessed to her actions on the grounds of, and within the classroom, of a publicly funded university. *"I'm the girl showing the Charlie Kirk video." "So if you saw that video, it was me!"*
- [REDACTED] continues to consciously, actively, and with purposeful intent spread hate speech and rhetoric by stating, *"Charlie Kirk is a neo-Nazi who targeted transgender people, who targeted women, who targeted people of color, and did nothing but spread hatred and bigotry."*
- [REDACTED] further doubled down on her full support of murder and violence by stating, *"So yes, I was celebrating the fact that he was shot."*
- [REDACTED] verbally attacked the student who brought this forth, again, as it had already happened to her in the classroom, by stating, *"I don't give a fuck about your fake morality."*

If you have not seen this video, I have attached a screen recording that was obtained before the video was taken down from TikTok and her profile blocked.

To date, the complete lack of action, dismissiveness, and disregard for the seriousness of this incident by the faculty and staff of the university is appalling. How dare you all look the other way on this.

1. **Dr. Kiet Huynh (he/him per his university email):** the professor who approached the student speaking up and asked HER to take it outside (NOT the student actively cheering for the death of another human and passing around the video of his murder while also stating that she hopes the current president is next). Therefore, is the university's stance that hate speech and

rhetoric in support for the violence and murder of another human is acceptable now?

2. **Dean of Students - Dr. Laura Smith (she/her/hers per university website bio):** whose suggestion to the reporting student was to have HER enter another class section, NOT the student promoting hate speech, violence and murder. Class movement was suggested to the reporting student as a way to *"limit YOUR interaction with THEM"*. Dr. Smith further goes on to state to the student, *"While I think that that... how what they said feels unsafe to YOU and YOU do not think that they should have been celebrating, that was not meant to be a direct threat towards you."* At which point, the reporting student also shared with her that a follow up video had been made by [REDACTED] and she would send it to her to view as [REDACTED] had affirmed her support of violence and murder once again, while also verbally attacking the reporting student. **To date - NO RESPONSE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY DR. SMITH AFTER HAVING SENT THE FOLLOW UP VIDEO.** Further, after the reporting student told Dr. Smith that no, she did not feel that she should have to move classes as she was not the one in the wrong, Dr. Smith responded with *"I have a few other thoughts, but wondering what might make you feel better?"*
 - a. *Why is the university seeking to make the reporting student move classes? She stood up against the support of violence and murder and she is the one who should have to move classes??*
 - b. *I hope that Dr. Smith is willing to provide further context for her statement above, because I believe I can say with a reasonable degree of certainty that [REDACTED] statement would be widely considered as unsafe to ALL and that the VAST MAJORITY believes there should be NO ONE celebrating violence towards or the murder of another human being.*
 - c. *The fact that Dr. Smith asked, "What might make you feel better?" is something I can't make logical sense of. The reporting student should have NEVER been asked that question because Dr. Smith should have been taking **swift and immediate action to remove the professor and student from campus** while assuring the reporting student that it would be handled immediately, that she was grateful and proud that she stood up, did the right thing and reported it... and further, that she was extremely apologetic that she experienced it to begin with.*
3. **The Assistant to the Psychology Department Chair:** who, upon seeing the reporting student enter the office after she had been sent there by the Dean of Students' office, was extremely rude to her. The reporting student explained to her that she had been sent and needed to talk to the chair about an incident in class to which she stated "She would see what she could do."

The student went to his office and returned to tell her, *"He has 7 minutes so you might want to hurry up."*

- a. *This is good for the public to be aware of as well should any current or prospective students need to visit leadership for urgent and concerning matters, that they will need to hurry up because it's not worth anyone's time to care or listen.*
4. **Psychology Department Chair - Dr. Donald Dougherty:** whose response to the reporting student was *"What do you want out of this?"*
- a. *This is the same point already made underneath Dr. Smith (c) above.*

Since these original steps were taken, ZERO action has been taken by the university. ***The student has repeatedly stated to the Dean of Students, UNT PD, and anyone else who will listen that she does not feel safe returning to that classroom or that environment*** based off the statements that were made in class, along with the follow up video posted by [REDACTED], reaffirming that she is in full support of violence against and the murder of another human.

Let me be clear... anyone cheering for and/or openly admitting to celebrating the death of another human is a DIRECT THREAT TO EVERYONE. If the university looks the other way and allows a student(s) to actively promote hate speech, violence and murder... not only is UNT demonstrating full support of those statements, behaviors and actions, but is also now garnering the FULL responsibility for any possible negative consequence or effect that occurs as a result. Someone who is willing to stand firm in their support for violence and murder is a threat to any and every citizen within this city, county, state and country. Period. Right now, not only is UNT allowing it... you are championing it.

The Supreme Court has defined Hate Speech to mean *"expressions that incite or promote hatred, violence, or discrimination against individuals or groups based on attributes such as race, religion, or sexual orientation"*. Furthermore, the Supreme Court has cited three "reasons why threats of violence are outside the First Amendment":

1. *Protecting individuals from the fear of violence*
2. *Protecting individuals from the disruption that fear engenders and*
3. *Protecting individuals from the possibility that the threatened violence will occur*

The UNT Student Code of Conduct also explicitly states that violations occur if:

1. There is **Harassment** - "Harassment means the **unwelcome verbal** or physical **conduct because of race**, color, national origin, **religion**, sex,

sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status **when such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment and is: (a) sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent that it interferes with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from educational programs or activities**, or (b) sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent that it unreasonably interferes with an employee's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment." *Can someone explain to me how [REDACTED] shouting at the reporting student, "He's still like a jackass. You guys don't care when other ____ die!" isn't a verbal attack and harassment directly targeted at the reporting student's race and religion?? "You guys" - is that because the reporting student is white or conservative or both? For clarity, the university is taking the stance that it is okay for [REDACTED] to publicly make and attack the reporting student with derogatory statements targeting her race and religion, while also willingly allowing it to continue, therefore not only fostering, but again, championing a hostile and offensive environment that is beyond sufficiently severe and persistent, and is 100% interfering with the reporting student's ability to participate in and benefit from educational programs and activities??*

2. **Section F, Number 1:** Conduct affecting health, safety, or welfare, including but not limited to - engaging in physical or verbal abuse, fighting, threats, intimidation, coercion, or any other conduct that threatens or endangers the health, safety or welfare of any person. Speech protected by the constitutions of the United States and Texas is not a violation of this provision, **but fighting words and statements which reasonably threaten or endanger the health and safety of any person are not protected speech.**

In the spirit of full transparency, something else UNT has intentionally avoided, it appears as though UNT will not take the appropriate actions to rectify this situation immediately, as should have been done within the first 24-48 hours, therefore this has now been escalated to Representative Andy Hopper, and to the rest of our government officials at the capital such as Senator Ted Cruz, and Governor Greg Abbot, that need to be fully aware of this situation and how the university is choosing to respond... as well as to every media source necessary to bring the needed attention to this incident both locally and nationwide. It is truly disappointing that it has to resort to this in order for the university to take the right and necessary actions.

In light of recent events, I thought you all might like to be apprised of what Governor Abbott's stance was on the same issue that occurred at Texas Tech University and Texas State University, both fully funded public

universities in the state of Texas. So let's take a look at the response to this incident:

***TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY:** The student, or former student, was in a video that also went viral in which she was dancing and singing "Yo homie dead".

-A spokesperson from Texas Tech University confirmed that the student was no longer enrolled at the university as of today, and further went on to publicly state *"Any behavior that denigrates victims of violence is reprehensible, has no place on our campus, and is not aligned with our values."*

-Governor Abbott shared on X *"This is what happened to the person who was mocking Charlie Kirk's assassination at Texas Tech. FAFO."* along with *"Definitely picked the wrong school to taunt the death of Charlie Kirk. Thanks Texas Tech."* (For those of you who may be unaware of what "FAFO" stands for, it very bluntly means Fuck Around and Find Out.)

-Senator Ted Cruz further commented on the matter by saying *"I saw an image on Twitter of this one soulless young woman dancing and singing that Charlie Kirk had been shot in the neck. It made me physically sick at the joy of his murder."*

-Texas Tech Board of Regents Chairman Cody Campbell reposted the Governor's statement and stated *"we are proud of our values and are not afraid to stand up for them."*

***TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY:** The former student reenacted and mocked the assassination of Charlie Kirk during an on-campus memorial event Monday (9/15).

-Texas State President Kelly Dampousse confirmed that the student was no longer a student as of Tuesday 9/16 (*less than 24 hours later*) and publicly stated *"Behavior that trivializes or promotes violence is reprehensible and violates the values of TXST. It will not be tolerated. Let me be clear: expressions that glorify violence or murder have no place on our campuses."* And in a separate statement: *"I will not tolerate behavior that mocks, trivializes, or promotes violence on our campuses. It is antithetical to our TXST values. The individual is no longer a student at TXST."*

-Governor Abbott called for Student's Expulsion on X *"Hey Texas State. This conduct is not accepted at our schools. Expel this student immediately. Mocking assassination must have consequences."*

Conclusion: Both universities took swift and immediate action by expelling the students, both made very strong public statements condemning the

behavior or any behavior like it while also making it very clear that it would not be tolerated and did not align with the values of the university, which was FULLY SUPPORTED not only by Senator Ted Cruz, but publicly supported in multiple posts with VERY CLEAR messages from the Governor of Texas that we have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for ANY behaviors promoting violence and murder. PERIOD.

All of which begs the questions that UNT refuses to answer...

**What could you possibly be waiting for to take the appropriate action?*

**What further excuses or justifications could you possibly make in support of [REDACTED] statements and actions, and the faculty members involved in this situation with their deplorable responses, that will allow them to remain on your campus?*

**Are the values that UNT wants to continue to support publicly and stand by (as is what is currently being displayed by your lack of action on this matter) values of support for the spread and promotion of violence and hate?*

**Is UNT going to continue to willfully and knowingly allow and accept this type of reprehensible behavior to continue with no accountability?*

**Is UNT, now widely considered a "liberal school", unwilling to stand up and vehemently denounce this kind of behavior and rhetoric because it was called out by a Christian, conservative student? What would your response have been if the student speaking out had been a liberal? An educated guess tells me that it would have been VERY different...*

Without hesitation, I can assure you that what [REDACTED] said and did within the classroom on UNT's campus, and by posting the follow-up video to TikTok where she reaffirmed she was celebrating that he was shot, all while spewing more hate speech and rhetoric... at minimum, absolutely violates your Student Code of Conduct in multiple ways.

I implore you to think long and hard about the seriousness and gravity of this issue and how what actions you take or don't take in response, will have a very lasting impact on what you are cultivating in the culture at UNT, which according to the nonprofit organization Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression's annual survey that evaluated college's policies on free speech, recent controversies, social climate and comfort level of expressing views on campus... is horrendous, as UNT received an F, placing it at 200 out of 257 colleges surveyed. This clearly indicates that this issue runs far, wide and rampant at UNT. Direct comments from social media further support that result with statements like "UNT is toxic if you aren't liberal.", "UNT is extremely liberal and hateful and not welcoming.", "It is a toxic cesspool university.", "Alumna are ashamed and unfortunately not surprised.", and "UNT is full of so much hatred I had to leave." **LET THAT SINK IN.** That is how

current, former and alumna all feel about what has been and is currently taking place and being allowed to continue at the University of North Texas.

In an update, there are now MANY threats of violence and hate speech being directed at the reporting student on social media, with a heavy presence on YikYak, with some even being done under UNTs name. DIRECT THREATS OF VIOLENCE ABOUT THE REPORTING STUDENT - which now solidifies that what ██████████ said both in the classroom and on her follow-up TikTok video, is 100% NOT PROTECTED by the First Amendment as her hate speech, rhetoric and support for violence and murder has now incited "true threats" of violence.

The reporting student emailed the police department at the university to share this information with them and scheduled a meeting. Below, you will find the link to the recorded conversation with Sgt. Cody Howell at UNT PD. This was her second visit to the UNT PD to discuss the matter. How she was treated by a law enforcement officer during this meeting is something that the university should be ashamed of. While the recording is long, every single second should be heard. His tone and demeanor were very dismissive, rude and disrespectful at best, from the very beginning. Almost an hour into the meeting, the on-staff clinician was brought he because he had upset the reporting student so badly as a result of his treatment towards her. At one point, Sgt. Howell remarks ***"I'm going to have to deal with you the rest of my career. I guarantee it."*** to which the reporting student responds ***"What does that mean?"*** and Sgt. Howell said ***"It means that, I guarantee, you're gonna call me for something else. Whether that means to give me an update on things or whatever. It happens every time. It's experience talking. You may not now, because I'm calling it out, but..."*** The clinician is then heard saying ***"That's rough wording but he means well. I hear you and I heard it. I know what you meant but the wording was rough."*** All of which led to the reporting student sobbing and completely distraught. That is just one example of what you will hear on the recording. He gaslights and manipulates her, repeatedly attempts to set her up to say something he could use against her in support of the university and the shames her for viewing YikYak after someone called to let her know what was being posted there so she could gather the evident to report it by saying ***"Well, did getting on YikYak hurt or help your mental state?"***. He even closes out the conversation towards the end by stating that he doesn't have empathy or sympathy. **THERE ARE NO WORDS FOR THIS.**

Please, please, please tell me that this is NOT behavior tolerated or supported by UNT PD or the University from a police officer charged with taking victim statements?!

It is my greatest hope that it does not take the full weight of media pressure, and our state representatives, senators, and governor publicly humiliating the university or threatening to pull your funding in calling for the action that you should have already taken, in order for you to rectify this situation and do what is right.

Attached for your review:



2. Links to the original TikTok postings by the reporting student
Explanation (Initial Post): <https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZP8S6SEeR/>
Video of Classroom Incident (Second Post): <https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZP8S6YucG/>
3. Recorded conversation with the UNT Dean of Students, Dr. Laura Smith
(**attached to email**)
4. Screenshots of posts to YikYak App:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IlnAFy81Pn8syHKg8u9k5BUFGiQBvdMk?usp=sharing>
5. A copy of UNT's Student Code of Conduct with every violated provision highlighted along with pointing out a policy on Investigation (of which the University says they are performing) that hasn't been followed (**attached to email**) and
6. Recorded conversation of second visit to UNT PD after reporting student informed them of YikYak content:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1upd5J4xMda7Dw6BzF_J1ldJmZ8ZXnPcZ/view?usp=drive_link

You must do better UNT. You have an inherent responsibility to do so.

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