

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Ian Barland [ibarland@myacc.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 11:02 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Re:Kevin Barrett

How sly of you sir to refer to Kevin Barrette's teaching of our government committing 9/11 on ourselves as protected under the principle of academic freedom.

Utter nonsense. He is spewing his personal diluted theory and obviously has contempt for this country.

What's next at the university; classes by the klan on how to make a noose?

How about classes by the neo-nazis on how to clean up the area neighborhoods?

All those degrees you have are a waste if this is the best you could do for your students.

Please chose a new career path.

Regards

Ian Barland

US Army (ret.)

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Thomas Herfel [therfel@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 10:59 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Islam: Religion and Culture

Dear Provost Farrell:

The following appeared in a recent Daily Cardinal that I received on line ...

A UW-Madison professor who raised the ire of state legislators by suggesting the U.S. government orchestrated the September 11 attacks has been cleared to teach a class on Islam by UW provost Patrick Ferrell [sic].

*During a June 29 radio interview in Milwaukee, Kevin Barrett aired his views and drew immediate calls for his dismissal from state Rep. Steve Nass, R-Whitewater. The criticism spanned both sides of the aisle. Democratic Gov. **Jim Doyle** also expressed doubts about Barrett's ability to teach the class after Barrett send Doyle a sarcastic letter.*

Outrage emanating from the Capitol prompted action in Bascom Hall. Ferrell [sic] undertook a review of Barrett's syllabus and decided to allow him to teach "Islam: Religion and Culture" in the fall.

Nass criticized the decision and said it would make it easier for legislators to cut money from the UW System in the future.

As a lifelong Wisconsin resident, a UW-Madison graduate, the parent of a UW-Madison graduate, and the grandparent of two potential UW students, I am disturbed by what I read. Diversity and liberalism, two longstanding trademarks of the UW which many of us value much less than you apparently believe we do, have obviously reached new heights in Madison. Your decision to allow an outspoken Islamic extremist free access to impressionable young minds at a time when our (yours and mine) way of life is being directly threatened by people of like mind is wrong and inexcusable. In my opinion, and I'm sure that of many other Wisconsin taxpayers, Mr. Barrett and yourself should both be replaced.

Regards,

Thomas Herfel
S 15570 County Road BB
Mondovi, WI 54755

715-926-5205

8/10/2006

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: verne barnhardt [vernebarnhardt@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 10:12 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Kevin Barrett will be paid to spread anti American propoganda?

Mr Farrell

I am currently serving in our Army, that would be the United States Army. As a Wisconsin resident I can not believe that our University, the same one you work for, would allow someone like Mr Barrett to speak, let alone get paid to do so, to the students on campus.

As a Soldier I find it a hard pill to swallow when people like yourself make decisions like the one that you made by allowing this man to stand in front of a crowd and spew out his nonsense, lies and propaganda. I am all for free speech, hence the reason I have served this great nation for over twenty years, but this Sir is just plain wrong, a slap in the face for Soldiers like myself.

Sleep well in the comfort and security that Soldiers, Sailors, Airman and Marines provide for you and Mr BARRETT.

Verne Barnhardt

Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Ebdabbs@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 8:41 PM
To: chancellor@news.wisc.edu
Cc: rep.nass@legis.state.wi.us; sen.plale@legis.state.wi.us; rep.sinicki@legis.state.wi.us; pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu; DWalsh@foley.com
Subject: Kevin Barrett

Dr. John D. Wiley, Chancellor
University of Wisconsin
161 Bascom Hall
500 Lincoln Drive
Madison, WI 53706

Dear Dr. Wiley:

It is sad to see those who oversee the education of our children bury their heads in the sand by deciding not to cancel the hiring this man to teach a religious subject at UW-Madison. His insane theory of 9/11 aside, the basic complaint is his teaching religion (Islam) in a state school and being paid with tax dollars, no matter what the amount.

To me, this is atrocious. Many firms and individuals contribute tax and personal funds for higher education. UW-Madison has been a hotbed of political strife in the past, fomented by some people of Mr. Barrett's ilk. Are we expected to sit idly by and watch this so-called "exercise of academic freedom" and remain silent?

I am ashamed of the University of Wisconsin.

Mr. E. B. Dabbs
5743 South Robert Ave.
Cudahy, WI 53110

8/10/2006

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: BSVoelker@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 7:15 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Kevin Barrett

Mr. Farrell,

I have read the articles and viewed the CNN clip on Kevin Barrett. As a parent of a UW Madison student and former Wisconsin resident, I am frustrated and embarrassed by your decision to allow him to teach this class. You have underestimated the ridicule that this decision will bring to the university and in my opinion lost touch with reality. Barretts 9/11 opinion has no place at a prestigious university like Madison or any other school. No sane person would even consider debating such a ridiculous claim. His opinion does not belong in the classroom because it is outrageous at best and unsupportable.

I support free speech and the need to debate subjects in an open and constructive manner. The University needs to step in when a class agenda intentionally crosses the line of common sense and decency. I hope that you will reconsider your decision based on the outcry that I know you will hear from strong supporters of the University.

Sincerely
Brian Voelker

8/10/2006

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: RJinCAL2@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 7:15 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: RJ Johnson - My response

Pat Farrell

I think everyone at the University of Wisconsin should be asked about Kevin Barrett. I'm glad I got your attention. I hope many more people contact as many as possible at your school.

**RJ Johnson
Documentary Producer
PBS, Bravo, Showtime, etc.**

PS Your words: "I could just ignore this or I could send him a pres release if you provide one. No idea why he wrote to me!!!"

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Graham Wilson [gwilson@polisci.wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 6:47 PM
To: Patrick V. Farrell
Subject: RE: From: RJ Johnson

Thanks. As you've seen I replied to him saying it was none of my business! I thought at first he had written to me thinking it was Political Science course.

-----Original Message-----

From: Patrick V. Farrell [mailto:pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 7:27 AM
To: 'Graham Wilson'
Subject: RE: From: RJ Johnson

Graham-

Attached is a copy of the release. Forward it if you like, or just ignore the note. I've been getting quite a few of them.

Pat Farrell

-----Original Message-----

From: Graham Wilson [mailto:gwilson@polisci.wisc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2006 6:29 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: FW: From: RJ Johnson

I could just ignore this or I could send him a pres release if you provide one. No idea why he wrote to me!!!

-----Original Message-----

From: RJinCAL2@aol.com [mailto:RJinCAL2@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2006 5:16 PM
To: gwilson@polisci.wisc.edu
Subject: From: RJ Johnson

Oh great, now al-Jazeera is happy your school is teaching a course that rewrites the history of the attack on September 11. The University of Wisconsin looks more pathetic than ever. Didn't any of you see the planes hit the buildings? No one heard the tape where bin Laden takes credit for the attack?

**RJ Johnson
Documentary Producer
PBS, Bravo, Showtime, etc.**

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Tony Olivas [olivast@wwdb.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 6:38 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Kevin Barrett

Hello Mr. Farrell,

Your universtiy can do better than Kevin Barrett. You don't let math professors teach $2+2=5$ becasue it is not true. Barrett's 9/11 "inside job" theory is just out right crazy and not true. He makes a mockery of your great institution!! Get rid of him!

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Doug Stevens [dougstevens@AwesomeGod.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 6:28 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: I can't believe it..

Mr. Farrell,

As a parent, my wife and I are already worried about college for our daughter. It is comments like those by Mr. Barrett that make me want to steer completely clear of any state university (Especially UW). I think the citizens of Wisconsin should demand a refund for any monies paid to that "professor". Additionally, for you to state that he is entitled to his opinion is equally incredulous. Did we rent kamikaze pilots to fly Japanese Zeros and attack Pearl Harbor? Did I imagine seeing video of airliners flying into towers in New York? Did we imagine telephone calls from loved ones who were about to die? Or cockpit voice recordings right before the plane crashed in Pennsylvania? What facts could he possibly have over a 2 ½ year research study?

Has the state university systems of this country sank so far since I received my 2nd bachelors? I guess maybe it has. I never thought I would say it but I'm glad I live in North Carolina. We certainly have our issues but none like Mr. Barrett (that I'm aware of at least).

Regards,
Doug Stevens
Charlotte, NC

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose." - Jim Elliot (1927 – 1956)

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: JOHN G GRIPENTROG [jggripentrog@wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 6:21 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Thank you

Dear Provost Farrell,

I want to thank you for effectively de-valuing my recent Ph.D. at UW- Madison with the recent hire of conspiracy clown Kevin Barrett. For some time now, he has used the University of Wisconsin reputation to gain personal advantage. Now his notoriety has begun to tarnish that reputation. Even Al-Jazeera has jumped on to your wonderful hire: <http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/500325CD-FDBE-4C76-8ABB-0410229523DA.htm>

A clown? Yes, sometimes it really IS that simple.
(It grieves me to inform you, however, that critical thinking is NEVER that simple).

See you at the circus, er, university.

Sincerely,

John Gripentrog

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Scott De Laruelle [SDeLaruelle@capitalnewspapers.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 6:10 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: prof controversy

Well done on what I am sure was a difficult decision with all the pressure and emotion flying at you from all angles.

I feel very proud to be a UW alumni.

Scott De Laruelle

HOW LOW ARE THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AT UW-MADISON? AUG 1 01 2

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Dr. Jack L. Edwards [jle2@sympatico.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 8:25 AM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Cc: jdwwiley@bascom.wisc.edu
Subject: How Low Are the Academic Standards at UW-Madison?

Dear Provost Farrell,

It has come to my attention that you have made a decision I believe reflects poorly on the academic standards of the University of Wisconsin—Madison. I am referring to your decision to allow the instructor, Dr. Kevin Barrett, to teach at your University this Fall.

"Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject." (American Association of University Professors' 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure). That document, considered the standard by most academics, also states that faculty "should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances" and that they "should at all times be accurate [emphasis mine], should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution."

Given those admonitions, one seems inextricably led to the opposite decision to which you have been led with respect to Dr. Barrett. As a further insult to those standards, it is my understanding that he plans to insinuate his patently absurd view that the 9/11 attacks were planned by the United States government into the course he will be teaching on Islamic "religion and culture."

A recent article describes Dr. Barrett's views as "unscholarly, unstudied, and unsubstantiated" and has described their inclusion in his academic course at the University of Wisconsin – Madison as "an outrage and embarrassment" for the university." I concur with those sentiments.

Given that Dr. Barrett's conduct is an embarrassment to your university and will serve to lower the public's perception of the standards the University maintains, I urge you to reconsider your decision and summarily block this irresponsible behaviour from the University of Wisconsin campus. It would be shameful to do otherwise.

I will continue to follow this issue with the hope that the university will review and strengthen its policies regarding academic standards for faculty and I will use every opportunity to encourage alumni to withhold their contributions until Dr. Barrett is no longer affiliated with the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Edwards

8/10/2006

—
Dr. Jack L. Edwards
206 Keewatin Ave.
Toronto, ON
Canada M4P 1Z8
Phone: (416) 488-6068
Email: jle2@sympatico.ca

8/10/2006

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Don Nelson [dwnelson@bascom.wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 9:16 AM
To: Kristi V. Thorson; Amy Toburen
Cc: Casey Nagy; Debra Lauder, PATRICK V FARRELL; Brian Mattmiller; Dennis Chaptman; Eden Inoway-Ronnie; John Lucas
Subject: Re: Green/Nass reaction releases

I have to agree with what Kristi points out here. I will add that the most consistent message I heard yesterday at the capitol (from both Republicans and Democrats), and one I expect to hear today when the Nass resolution is debated, (or his letter if he pulls the resolution back) is very close to what Speaker John Gard had to say in the paper yesterday.

Assembly Speaker John Gard (R-Peshtigo) said this decision would fuel that argument and hurt UW's efforts to get more state support.

"People are going to be hurt and offended by this decision," Gard said. "The university will lose friends. When they come back and ask for something else, people will say 'You've shown your true colors, we've got other people who need help,' and they'll look away."

This is the reality of the decision. Just want to make sure y'all hear what we are hearing.

Don

>>> Kristi V. Thorson 8:52 AM Wednesday, July 12, 2006 >>>
Sorry to be weighing in late, but I was in Superior with other system colleagues. Anyway - yes, Amy, I agree that people who are unhappy are the ones to call/write. However, by that argument I would expect people unhappy with our review and the legislature's response to our decision to write but that isn't happening. (And it has on other issues.) Which tells me we don't have much support on this issue. I know we have received a significant # of supportive e-mails, but I have a feeling those are from the same small group of people.

All that to say - it will be interesting to see how today's discussion and vote go in the Assembly. And - we can expect to be reminded of this decision for a long time. For a significant # of people around the state, our decision truly reinforces the notion that the UW is out of touch with the people of WI. (Don't shoot the messenger - remember my job is to be a liaison. I have to deliver messages both ways.)

- Kristi

Kristi V. Thorson
Assistant Director, State Relations
University of Wisconsin-Madison
608/262-4809
kthorson@bascom.wisc.edu
www.staterelations.wisc.edu

>>> Amy Toburen <atoburen@wisc.edu> 7/10/2006 4:30 PM >>>
I think the calls were that way because most folks don't write, call or anything unless they are unhappy. Folks knew early on how the Capitol felt.

On Jul 10, 2006, at 4:13 PM, Don Nelson wrote:

> The reaction from the capitol was as expected with the exception of

> Sen. Risser. I was surprised to hear that most of the calls and
> letters they got were critical of Barrett.

>
> Other than that, I don't expect to hear much more (in the near
> term) than what we are seeing from Nass and Green.

>
> Don

>
>
>
> >>> John Lucas <jplucas@wisc.edu> 3:55 PM Monday, July 10, 2006 >>>

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: babsie314@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 5:25 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: kevin barrett

Mr. Farrell,

I am an elementary school teacher and I am thoroughly disgusted that you are allowing Mr. Barrett to teach a class that professes that the US orchestrated the events of 9/11. What makes this person an expert on islam when his phd is in african literature and folklore? I suppose that as long as someone has attained a phd in any subject they are allowed to spew the obvious hatred they have for this country in a classroom on your campus. Could he also teach a class on Germany and the nazi culture and blame the holocaust on the US as well. It's just as rediculous! You should be ashamed of yourself to allow such a person to spew such hatred based on obvious lies and have such negative influence on young minds. How can you possibly say that his personal views will not be imposed on his students? Other than family, teachers have the greatest influence on the minds of young children and adults. Try thinking about all of the thousands of vicims of 9/11 and their loved ones and all the bra ve men and women fighting for freedom and democracy overseas. SHAME ON YOU! I would never allow any of my children to attend your university when someone in your position could form an opinion that this class is "academically appropriate and of high quality". I have a son putting his life on the line every minute of everyday in Bagdad. I will be passing on this extremely upsetting news to as many peoplw as I can. In my opinion you should resign or be fired. Barbara Paul

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Jan A. Buck [jbuck@princetongroupintl.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 4:54 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: ?

Over the years I have urged my kids not to apply to your University because I was unsure of whether it knew the difference between "controversial" and moronic. Well, it seems that that case is closed. How do you guys have the ability to come into your overly equipped offices every day. Doesn't judgment ever factor into your day's calculus.

JAB

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Will Steele [wilsteele@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 4:27 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Mindless

Farrell,

So you think the Twin towers could have been an inside job. Lord, give me strength. Do you have no pride? Such imbecility is beyond all of us that saw what happened. But let someone teach creationism, and the ears are all suddenly closed, "don't want to hear that kind of blasphemy". The irresponsibility now so prevalent at UW-Madison is your fault. The mediocrity of what is passing for an education at UW-Madison is your fault. And now this lunacy. If we had a candidate for employment from UW-Madison, their engineering credentials would be highly suspect, considering the principles not understood at UW-Madison.

Yours sincerely,

Will Steele

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: MizSunshine [apriorinfo@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 4:07 PM

To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu; gsandefur@ls.admin.wisc.edu; emraffer@facstaff.wisc.edu

Subject: Mr. Barrett

Thank you.

I know nothing of Mr. Barrett, or your university, other than what has come up in the mainstream press concerning Mr. Barrett. Last night I watched a disgusting call from Mr. Bill O'Reilly of Fox news for the extortion of certain individuals at your university, including Chancellor John D. Wiley, by withholding funds. During his rantings he insinuated that the more appropriate handling of Mr. Barrett would be to have him floating down a river (this is my paraphrasing of Mr. O'Reilly's statement where he was saying the chancellor of his alma mater would have done such a thing). I find this abhorrent and am thankful that you have placed your faith in your students whom you described in the following way:

"Our students are not blank slates. They are capable of exercising good judgment, critical analysis and speaking their minds," Farrell says. "Instructors do not hand over knowledge wrapped up in neat packages. Knowledge grows from challenging ideas in a setting that encourages dialogue and disagreement. That's what builds the kind of sophisticated, critical thinking we expect from our graduates."

I applaud your actions and hope you will continue to use your funding in ways that will grant the opportunity to your students to broach subjects that will allow them to build their critical thinking abilities - as we need individuals such as these to bring balance back to our nation, and world.

Again, thank you.
Mary Yeager

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Neal Castagnoli [neal.castagnoli@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 4:01 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: I hope you will consider my offer

Dear Patrick,

I was heartened by your decision to have Kevin Barrett teach his controversial course. Opening up critical thinking is really important, but I have to ask, why stop with Kevin Barrett's benign statement that the Vice President of the United States probably engineered blowing up the twin towers? It's too obviously in the US's self interest.

To help achieve the goal of broadening students minds, I was hoping you would consider representing other maligned groups by including courses at your college. For example, Nazis, klansmen, anti-gay groups, etc. I've heard many Nazis and muslims believe the holocaust never happened. Isn't it time to teach this perspective? While offensive to some, this would be an enlightening point of view. I'm sure a few Klansmen have some rather damning evidence about the high crime rate and low scholastic achievement of blacks, so I'm sure they could bring in a supportable platform to enlighten students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

You could have a course promote Japanese imperialism in Korea. There are so many examples of the good guys getting a bad rap. You could have a class on the righteousness of dhimmitude and taqiyya, that is supposing Kevin didn't do a great job.

Of course, we don't want the flat-earthers or intelligent design folks to be left out either. On the other hand, their theories might carry too much weight and not be controversial enough. After all, their theories are orders of magnitude more likely than Kevin Barrett's.

-Neal

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Jonathan Turkel [jonathan@dhblair.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 3:52 PM

To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu

Subject: Mr. Barrett

Mr. Farrell

I watched the interviews of Mr. Barrett and you which were podcasted on cnn.com. While I recognize Mr. Barrett's right to his opinions, no matter how odious or moronic, I am very disturbed by your defense of his right to teach on your campus.

I am an attorney who for several years in the late 1980s and early 1990s worked on the 105th floor of 2 World Trade Center. I witnessed the bombing of the WTC in 1993 and my office is currently located approximately ¼ mile from Ground Zero. My blood boils when I hear people like Barrett blame President Bush or members of his administration for the events of Sept. 11,2001.

It is one thing to acknowledge (which I do) Barrett's right to his opinions, but for you and your university to legitimize his views by providing him with a paid forum to spout his lies is truly reprehensible.

Somehow I seriously doubt that you would allow someone like David Duke to teach at your university yet you have no problem with Barrett and his views.

As an attorney who strongly values the First Amendment, I simply say shame on you and your university. You have managed to turn the concept of academic freedom on its head.

Jonathan Turkel
44 Wall Street 2nd Floor
NY NY 10005
212 495 8271

8/10/2006

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: WALKER, KENNETH [KWALKE1@entergy.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 3:51 PM
To: emraffer@facstaff.wisc.edu; pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu; gsandefur@ls.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Ashamed you should be

Sirs and Madam:

Most of America finds the remarks of instructor Barrett repulsive, infuriating, and academically ridiculous. That you and the University would allow this buffoon to continue to spout his unsupported views in a supposed teaching situation is beyond absurd and only solidifies your institution's reputation as a nest of radical nuts. By the way, are there any correspondence courses available on the Bush administration being responsible for solar flares, or maybe changes in whale migration patterns?

Ken Walker
Cinton MS

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Michael D. Ivey [mivey1@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 3:47 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Kevin Barrett

July 12, 2006

Dear Mr. Farrell,

I am writing to thank you for your having taken a level-headed position regarding the recent "flap" over your lecturer, Kevin Barrett.

As a professional investigator and former Director of a Civil Rights Enforcement agency I've spent 21 years evaluating the evidence of literally thousands of fact-situations in the civil rights field. I believe that I'm as skilled and objective an evaluator of such bodies of evidence as anyone.

Like Mr. Barrett, I spent 2+ years studying the evidence associated with the events of 9/11 and came to the position that the evidence conclusively supports the 9/11 "attacks" as having been a psychological operation by our intelligence agencies to appear like a terrorist attack.

From my perspective Mr. Barrett is an extremely courageous person to speak the truth in a time of rampant deception and suppression of truth by our government and media.

Thank you for supporting the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech in such a time.

Sincerely,
Michael D. Ivey
Prague, Oklahoma

—
No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.394 / Virus Database: 268.9.10/386 - Release Date: 7/12/2006

8/10/2006

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Shawn McCarthy [smccarthy@idc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 3:33 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: The issue with Kevin Barrett is sloppy research, not political freedom. YOU are failing to challenge sloppy research!

Dear Provost.

By not raising stronger objections to statements made by your instructor, Kevin Barrett, you are sending a very strong message that the University of Wisconsin, Madison, does not have a problem with sloppy research. Your office also does not seem to have a problem with instructors making broad condemning statements based on the supposed findings of that sloppy research

You made the statement that Barrett has a right to hold divergent political opinions. You are correct about that, but you are quite incorrect to portray this issue as strictly political. Statements about who is responsible for 9/11 must be supported by FACT. If he believes that the U.S. is responsible for these attacks, he needs to present some very solid facts, and the facts need to be peer reviewed and judged for accuracy. Only then should he make sweeping statements based on the findings.

Instead, Barrett is making totally unsupported statements. Then he followed his statements by saying things like "the majority of Muslims believe this." Okay... was a poll taken? Is his statement true and to the majority really believe this? If he has some kind of supporting documentation, then I have no problem with him making such a statement. But I did not see him offer any documentation or poll numbers.

Barrett is recklessly escalating tensions by stating things as fact when he has no legitimate proof to back them up. You, as provost, have a responsibility to challenge such sloppy work that is being done in the name of sensationalism. You, as provost, my not want to challenge academic freedom, but you certainly have an obligation to challenge research quality and biased conclusions. Do you not? We all want the truth. Effort must be made to make sure that research is accurate.

By allowing Barrett to continue, you are sending a very negative message about the quality of your university's research!

--Shawn McCarthy

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Springer,Mark A [MSpringer@mwdh2o.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 3:29 PM

To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu

Subject: Theory of 9/11

I am more than a little astonished that you would allow this class to be taught at a school the stature of University of Wisconsin. There is not one scintilla of evidence to support this theory. What qualification other the African Language does this individual have to support his position, let alone teach such a unbelievable class as this.

You are allowing this outrage to damage memory of 3,000 Americans, just because the "majority of Muslims around the world don't believe it really happened". You are not only damaging the reputations of fine Americans and the political leadership you are allowing the credibility of the University of Wisconsin to be damaged as well.

Mark Springer
213-217-6588

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Curt Reuschel [curtis_reuschel@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 2:41 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Kevin Barrett

Importance: High

My family and I had intended to vacation in Wisconsin in September and visit some friends. I called the airline this morning and was credited our purchases to use for another trip.

I refuse to visit the state of Wisconsin and spend one single tax dollar in response to the employment by your institution of Kevin Barrett.

The University of Wisconsin disgusts me more than Kevin Barrett does. How can you possibly sleep at night knowing you willfully employ this utter disgrace of a human being.

Sincerely

Curt Reuschel

Don't just search. Find. Check out the new MSN Search!
<http://search.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200636ave/direct/01/>

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Richard Smith [grsmith03@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 2:15 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Too bad

It's too bad that the University of Wisconsin, once thought of as a fine institution, will be tainted by the idiot you have hired to teach Islam. This choice reflects either an inability to find someone of quality to instruct in this course, or a laziness in searching for a candidate. The choice portrays your administration as slack, uncaring, and negligent. Perhaps this is not an accurate image, but it is the image you are creating.

Richard Smith
Damascus, Virginia

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Maes Carl F Maj USAFA/DFP [Carl.Maes@usafa.af.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:41 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Thanks for your support of academic freedom

Dear Provost Farrell,

I sincerely thank you for your leadership and support of academic freedom regarding Mr. Kevin Barrett's course that you discussed during a recent interview on CNN.

Best Regards,

Carl Maes
Assistant Professor of Physics
USAF Academy

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Sha Liel [shallel@ntelos.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 1:33 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Thank-you for standing behind Kevin!

... and allowing your University to be a place where education comes before politics.

We owe the next generation the ability to think freely without censorship.

Blessings,
Shallel

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Stephen Blakely [blakely@illinoisalumni.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:40 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Professor Barrett

Dear Dr. Farrell,

Having professor Barrett teach the U of W course about Islam in that he promotes "critical thinking" (for example, that "controlled explosions" brought down the WTC buildings) – this is beyond comprehension. His teachings will promote inflammatory "thinking."

It's easy to justify such courses in today's world. You could get as much intellectual depth, critical thinking, and controversy by bringing in local winos to teach – cheaper too.

Lastly, why do I think this is as much about "controversy" and related publicity as anything.

Stephen Blakely
University of Illinois, BS Mechanical Engineering, 1969

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: bslm [bslm@xmission.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:50 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Comments regarding class curriculum

I also believe that people should look at problem solving from different angles to get the full story, but there is a fine line between logic and lunacy.

I am unable to locate any contact information for Kevin Barrett, but I have one question for him- How were the pilots able to accurately, in both instances, strike the buildings DIRECTLY above the area where explosive charges were set? Without having the buildings CLEARLY marked, it would be impossible for the pilots to know and accurately strike the buildings on the pre-determined floors just above the explosive charges.

Furthermore, if somehow they were able to pull off this impossible feat (two times no less), the area near the explosives is the last place someone, with such a plan, would want to strike the buildings. If explosive charges were set inside the building, one WOULD NOT want to strike this area too closely with large jets, as it would disrupt the detonation cords. Basically the concussion of the strike so close would render the detonation cords useless and the charges would not go off. One would want to strike the buildings on floors that are a very safe distance away from the explosive charges.

And all this is ignoring the logistics involved with transporting and placing the the HUGE amount of explosives needed to pull this off undetected. But that's entirely something else... "Hey, what's all this wire doing hanging on the walls? ...Oh, well, where's my coffee?"

I would find it interesting to hear Mr. Barrett's remarks to this inquiry.

Thank you,

Benjamin Moulding

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Marjorie Lundquist [marlundquist@usa.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2006 4:46 PM
To: Debra Lauder
Subject: Re: Mailing address request for UW instructor Kevin Barrett

Thank you very much, Debra.

Now could you provide me an e-mail address for UW Provost Patrick Farrell?
I'm satisfied he made a correct decision with respect to Kevin Barrett, after reviewing the facts, but conservative radio talk show host Mark Belling was a substitute host for Rush Limbaugh this afternoon and expressed his disgust with the UW decision to allow Kevin Barrett to teach the course, including his out-of-the-mainstream views about the events of September 11, 2001, to a NATIONWIDE AUDIENCE. Then, on his own radio program in the late afternoon today, he aired the same Rush Limbaugh program he had hosted all over again!

Belling may have somewhat misrepresented what Kevin Barrett will be teaching; but what he said is sure to outrage most of the audience that heard it, so I want to warn Patrick Farrell so he can be prepared for the "fall-out".

Or you could just forward this message to Mr. Farrell, if you prefer.

Thanks again. - Marjorie Lundquist

P.S. I'm beginning to wish that I could attend the last two weeks of Kevin Barrett's controversial course, so I could see and hear for myself what he teaches regarding the 9-11 events, and also how the students react to it. I wonder whether the University of Wisconsin should consider tape-recording the class discussion on those critical days. Not only would it give the University some ammunition to use against its critics (especially those in the state legislature), but there might be enough of a market for these tapes that they would produce a source of revenue for the University.

----- Original Message -----

Received: Tue, 11 Jul 2006 11:15:25 AM EDT
From: "Debra Lauder" <ddl@bascom.wisc.edu>
To: "Marjorie Lundquist" <marlundquist@usa.net>
Subject: Re: Mailing address request for UW instructor Kevin Barrett

Ms. Lundquist,

Mr. Barrett is not yet on staff here, but you may send a letter to his attention in care of the Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1240 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706.

Debbie Lauder
Assistant to the Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Madison
161 Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive
Madison, WI 53706
608-265-9508 (direct)
608-262-8333 (fax)
DDL@bascom.wisc.edu

>>> "Marjorie Lundquist" <marlundquist@usa.net> 7/10/2006 1:10 PM >>>
Debra, could you please tell me what address I should use to mail a letter (snail mail, not e-mail) to Kevin Barrett, about whose course on Islam a major public controversy has recently arisen? I don't know which university Department contracted for his teaching services.

Thank you. - Marjorie Lundquist

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:21 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Kevin Barrett

Dear Dr. Farrell:

I have just read the press release regarding the Kevin Barrett controversy, and your comments bring a few questions to my mind. You state that "we will take our cue from the bronze plaque in front of Bascom Hall that calls for the 'continual and fearless sifting and winnowing' of ideas." I would like to know when and under what conditions we will do the winnowing. To winnow is to separate the chaff from the wheat so that the chaff may be discarded. My understanding from your message is that we the university will discard nothing. We will allow instructors to include every inane idea that comes into their heads on a course syllabus whether or not it is strictly relevant to the topic advertised in the course catalog and whether or not it meets any established standard of truth. It appears that you expect the students, myself included, to do the sifting which the instructors and administrators refuse to do. I wonder, though, how we are to learn to accept this responsibility if the academic staff and administration model for us only a refusal to sort ideas into a category of valid, supportable theories and another category of groundless fantasies. By your comment "We cannot allow political pressure from critics of unpopular ideas to inhibit the free exchange of ideas," I understand that you deny any significant difference between demonstrable truth (or untruth) and political opinion. You classify all of the above together as "unpopular ideas". I fear that in doing so, you are undermining the university's mission, as found on the plaque you cite, to seek the truth. Furthermore, I fear that this obfuscation is a greater threat to the educational mission of the university than the "onerous and sweeping restrictions" you imaging will follow should you dare stop one instructor from teaching falsehood in his classroom. If I am mistaken, and Mr. Barrett's ideas are indeed accepted as plausible by qualified professionals in the engineering, architectural, or aviation communities, government, or any other community which I fail to mention, then I apologize for questioning your decision and regret that you could not make a better defense for Mr. Barrett in your press release. However, if I am not mistaken, and Mr. Barrett does espouse nonsense which he plans to inflict upon his unfairly burdened students who must then evaluate its merits against his prejudices, I must ask why you expect us to decide what constitutes knowledge and what constitutes worthless brain rubbish when you seem to believe that the result of the decision does not matter, for it would put undesirable closure to the free exchange of ideas. Finally, what principles do we uphold when, like a garbage collector taking the trash, we accept all ideas as equal without so much as a glance at their substance and take them all in so they may endlessly intermingle at the intellectual landfill?

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Spanish and Portuguese



Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Maureen Valdes Marsh [maureen@vintagegrace.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:22 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Thank you; re: Kevin Barrett

Dear Provost Farrell,

I commend you for supporting Kevin Barrett's right to stand up for his beliefs and teach the controversial issues surrounding 9/11. In this day and age of 'sweeping truth under the rug', it takes courage to take a stand for anything – let alone freedom of speech and beliefs.

You are indeed an honorable man.

Sincerely yours,

Maureen Valdes Marsh

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<http://www.siteground.com/index.htm?referrerid=22765>

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Robin Coventry [coventrybird@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:19 PM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Thank you

It has been a gut feeling that the trade center did not drop from a plane and that it was imploded by something beneath it. Also, films of the Pentagon- No one saw remains of a big plane. Thank you for supporting Kevin Barrett as a University Teacher allowing people to look at the other options. We as citizens have the right to vocalize our opinions and to be heard.

Robin Coventry
Student in Delaware

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: Spcoolbaugh@cs.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 12:17 PM
To: jdwiley@bascom.wisc.edu; pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu; dbazzell@vc.wisc.edu;
msnewby@vc.wisc.edu; gsandefur@ls.admin.wisc.edu; emraffer@facstaff.wisc.edu
Subject: Re: Kevin Barrett

To Whom It May Concern:

I have reviewed recent media reports about the activities and teaching of Mr. Kevin Barrett at your institution. I am appalled and embarrassed to see that the University of Wisconsin-Madison continues to employ an individual such as Mr. Barrett with his completely ludicrous beliefs. It is one thing to encourage students to think "outside the box," but quite another to encourage him to espouse treasonous conspiracy theories without any logical justification.

Please consider firing Mr. Barrett at once. Otherwise, I will encourage my children and those of each and every person in my social and business circles to boycott your institution.

Regards,
Stephen P. Coolbaugh, Esq.

Eden Inoway-Ronnie

From: hugh.w.henry@us.army.mil
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2006 11:38 AM
To: pfarrell@provost.wisc.edu
Subject: Your Decision

Dear Mr. Provost,

In May, I returned from a one-year tour in Iraq with the 1st Battalion, 108th Armor, 48th Brigade, Georgia Army National Guard. During our first five difficult months there, we patrolled three towns south of Baghdad, Mahmudiyah, Lutayfiyah and Yusufiyah, and lost six men while sending over 200 terrorist suspects to prison. My company in Lutayfiyah took mortar fire over a dozen times, which sent one of my men to Walter Reed, and experienced the menace of over eighty IEDs. We killed six insurgents who were in the act of firing on American troops or Iraqi civilians.

Those men were insurgents because they believed lies propagated by clerics or because they accepted the offer of money for their participation in attacks against us. Even in our seven months in the more peaceful area of Scania, we heard the lie spread among the people that we American soldiers were all Jewish and in league with the Israelis. Other lies that our enemies who tried to kill me and my fellow soldiers included the story that Americans were colonizers determined to take over Iraq and that the attacks of 9/11 were perpetrated by the Israelis and the Americans had no right to attack Arabs. Indeed, the Arab world has been propagated their view so effectively that over half of them do not today believe that Arab hijackers perpetrated the 9/11 attacks.

By paying Kevin Barrett over \$8,000 to teach that the 9/11 attacks were an inside job by the Bush Administration, your university is about to engage in the propagation of our enemy's rhetoric. You must not allow this man to poison the minds of your students with his assertions that are untrue and ridiculous. This is not an issue of academic freedom, but one of truth. Professors like Barrett teach that the United States was the villain in the Vietnam War, and that claim constitutes an opinion that scholars can debate using facts and evidence. Barrett's views are not political opinions which scholars debate. His views on the 9/11 attacks should lead you to conclude that either his sanity or his honesty is lacking significantly. The allegation that everyone in the country did not really see an airplane fly into one of the towers of the World Trade Center is preposterous. This is not a matter of opinion, but of propagation.

The stance which you have taken, that Barrett can teach anything as long as he teaches other views, is inadequate. Muslim clerics currently teach that the original inhabitants of North America were Muslims and therefore Muslims have the duty to take over this land. This claim is not true by any historical means, but it is their opinion. By your logic, a teacher could preach this rhetoric as long as he ends his lecture with, "this is our ancestral land, or maybe it is not. You should kill the infidels, or maybe you should not." Your professors have the freedom to be wrong on matters of opinion, but there is a deep chasm between a professor exercising freedom and your allowing him to turn your classroom into a bully pulpit for Al Qaeda. Respectfully, Hugh Henry 1LT, AR, GAARNG Executive Officer