



May 22, 2023

Haley Gluhanich  
Campus Rights Advocacy  
Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression  
510 Walnut St.  
Suite 1250  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Ms. Gluhanich,

I am writing in response to your letter dated May 8, 2023, and received by the Chancellor's Office on the same date via email. In your letter, you expressed concern regarding, "reports of students erasing Students for Life's pro-life chalk messages on UNC Greensboro's sidewalks."

As you noted, UNC Greensboro (UNCG) is honored to be designated by your organization as a "green light" institution for our First Amendment related policies. UNCG is governed by and complies with North Carolina General Statutes Article 36, "Campus Free Speech" (N.C. Gen Stat. § 116-300 *et seq*) and the UNC Board of Governors "**Policy on Free Speech and Free Expression Within the University of North Carolina System**" which requires training for faculty and staff.

From first-year orientation to annual awareness efforts, UNCG regularly addresses the right to free speech and free expression with our students throughout their college career. We maintain and uphold various policies supporting free expression and prohibit interference with it. For example, our chalking policy specifically outlines our support under:

3.4 a. "Individual students engaged in free expression may chalk approved University sidewalks."

3.4 b. "Individual faculty and staff engaged in free expression may chalk approved University sidewalks."

3.4 g. "Defacement, change, or removal of existing allowed messages is prohibited, unless approved by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs."

You can read our full chalking policy here: [https://policy.uncg.edu/university\\_policies/chalking-policy/](https://policy.uncg.edu/university_policies/chalking-policy/)

All UNCG students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that fulfills our values. As outlined in the University's student code of conduct, UNCG upholds these five values: honesty, trust,

fairness, respect, and responsibility. Our collective goal is to maintain a welcoming campus environment for all students to live and learn. To support this, UNCG has defined reporting and investigation processes to address student concerns including instances where free expression is hindered by another on our campus. We work diligently to investigate such claims, and when the individuals who hindered another's right to free expression are known, action is taken to address the offense.

In your letter, you offered FIRE's "Free Speech at Freshman Orientation" materials. We would appreciate receiving such in order to review your recommendations for possible inclusion in our existing processes. We look forward to receiving the materials.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Akens", written over a thin horizontal line.

Cathy Akens, Ed.D.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

UNC Greensboro

Cc: UNCG Chancellor's Office  
UNCG Dean of Students Office