

This morning we were made aware of many concerns of antisemitism, within our community at the Inter-Club Council (ICC) meeting, that happened last night Oct. 19 at Santa Monica College's Humanities and Social Sciences Auditorium (HSS 165) on the main campus starting at 4:08 PM. The SMC Office of Student Life takes these concerns seriously as a public institution who values and upholds an individual's rights to freedom of speech. The following concerns were raised and after careful review of last night's recording, the Office of Student Life wishes to provide the responses noted below to each specific concern:

- 1. Share the recording of the meeting with the public: Transparency is essential to address the concerns raised by Students Supporting Israel (SSI) and ensure accountability within the ICC.**
 - *A recording and transcript can be requested via email by contacting the Associate Dean for Student Life, Thomas Bui at bui_thomas@smc.edu*
- 2. Immediately recognize SSI as an official group: Given the group's long-standing status as an official university organization, reinstating their recognition would be a step toward rectifying this situation.**
 - *Based on legal advice received from Campus Counsel, there is no lawful basis to deny recognition to SSI as a student club. SSI will be given recognized status and full club support at 66% funding determined by the Inter-Club Council Constitution until the club can be officially recognized at the next Inter-Club Council meeting.*
- 3. Replace the ICC chair: It is evident that the current chair failed to provide an equal opportunity and safe environment for Jewish students. Appointing a new chair who can uphold the values of fairness and inclusivity is paramount.**
 - *The chair was not found to be in any violation of his duties or responsibilities facilitating the Inter-Club Council meeting on October 19. Based upon my review of the recording the chair did not take a position and was attempting to navigate a very contentious meeting.*
- 4. Conduct an immediate review of club registration procedures: This review is necessary to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future. Ensuring that all clubs and students are treated fairly and respectfully should be a top priority.**
 - *The Associate Dean for Student Life, Thomas Bui will be reviewing Inter-Club Council procedures and policies at the next meeting to ensure students understand fully their duties as representatives and delegates.*
- 5. Provide resources for SSI: Ensuring that SSI has the necessary resources to function as an equal club on campus is crucial. This includes support for their events, activities, and initiatives, similar to other recognized student organizations.**
 - *SSI will receive the same resources available as any other club on campus which include support reserving meeting space on campus, funding as a charter club at 66% as determined by the ICC Constitution, and faculty/staff support both through the Office of Student Life and their official Club advisor.*

Santa Monica College stands against all forms of hate. As the academic administrator for Student Life, I affirm our commitment to creating a safe learning environment for all students and personnel. In the coming days, I will work with our student leaders to ensure that we fulfill this commitment.

Sincerely,

Santa Monica College Office of Student Life