This letter is to confirm the results of the investigation conducted by the Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct and to share in writing the resolution that was reached in your case. CASE REVIEW On June 08, 2017, the Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct was notified of Integrity and Student Conduct was notified of your organization's allegations: Allegations: It is alleged that members of the Israel Defense Force were invited by the campus organization, Students Supporting Israel, for an event on May 10, 2017. It is also alleged that on May 08, 2017, May 09, 2017 and May 11, 2017, members of the Israel Defense Force verbally threatened, sexually harassed, and followed members from the campus organization Students for Justice in Palestine. On June 27, 2017, I sent you a Notification Letter notifying you that your organization allegedly violated the following University of California Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations, and Students: Student Conduct Policies/102.09 Harassment - "Harassment, defined as conduct that is so severe and/or pervasive, and objectively offensive, and that so substantially impairs a person's access to University programs or activities that the person is effectively denied equal access to the University's resources and opportunities. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, conduct that is motivated on the basis of a person's race, color, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identify, pregnancy, marital status, ancestry, service in the uniformed services, physical or mental disability, medical condition, or perceived membership in any of these classifications. Pursuant to section 104.90, sanctions may be enhanced for conduct motivated on the basis of the above classifications. For cases of harassment on the basis of sex, see also Policy on Sexual Harassment (pdf) and the Procedures for Responding to Sexual Harassment (pdf)". INVESTIGATION Introduction The organization Students Supporting Israel (SSI) is alleged to have invited the members of the Israeli Defense Force to an event on May 10, 2017. It is also alleged to have aided or abetted the members of the Israeli Defense Force in verbally threatening, sexually harassing, and following members from the campus organization Students for Justice in Palestine on May 08, 2017, May 09, 2017 and May 11, 2017. The Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct would like to make a clarification. Upon further investigation, identifying the non-affiliates in the allegations of the Notice Letter affiliates in the allegations of the Notice Letter as the Israeli Defense Force was incorrect. They have been since identified as the Reservists on Duty, former members of the Israeli Defense Force. The Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct initiated this case upon receiving written witness statements from students who attended a May 10, 2017, event hosted by Students Supporting Israel. These statements included experiences from the week of May 08, 2017 on Ring Road near the Langson Library, such as, “they would typically insult us, yell at us, sexually harass my friends, saying things like, ‘I’m gonna [ sic ] give it to you.’” One account also stated that members of the student group Students for Justice in Palestine had been followed to an event at California State University Long Beach by members of the Reservists on Duty. The Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct reached out to the Authorized Signers of the student group Students Supporting Israel, as well as each of the students who submitted a written witness statement (please see appendix A). Interview with Mr. Kevin Brum Student Conduct Officer Christopher Coronel met with Kevin Brum on July 7, 2017. Mr. Brum shared that he was the only authorized signer of the organization who was still active. During the meeting, Mr. Brum shared that the Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct should have received letters from his organization sent on July 06, 2017 (exhibit D). The Student Conduct Officer shared that he had not received those letters and Mr. Brum provided him copies of each. The Student Conduct Officer also shared an amended notice letter which included the °aiding or abetting" language from University of California Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students section 102 and shared that the same letter would also be emailed. Mr. Brum shared that his advisors were unable to attend the meeting. The Student Conduct Officer notified Mr. Brum that if he wanted to postpone the meeting at any time the option was available to him. Mr. Brum decided to continue with the meeting. The Student Conduct Officer explained the Student Conduct adjudication process, Mr. Brum's rights as a student and for his organization, possible sanctions, and the appeal process. The Student Conduct Officer explained the policies Mr. Brum's organization was alleged to have violated and allowed Mr. Brum the opportunity to ask questions regarding the policies. The Student Conduct Officer also explained the preponderance of evidence standard and how it is used it to make decisions. The Student Conduct Officer shared that the scope of the meeting was to determine if Mr. Brum's organization had aided or abetted the behaviors of the group Reservists on Duty. The Student Conduct Officer shared excerpted statements and specific complaints with Mr. Brum. Mr. Brum shared that the Reservists on Duty did not follow anyone off campus. Mr. Brum shared that members of Students for Justice in Palestine were the ones “getting in faces” and not the other way around. Mr. Brum shared that it was unlikely that Miri (Reservist on Duty) was recording the group Students for Justice in Palestine on Ring Road between May 8, 2017 and May 11, 2017. Mr. Brum also added that “recording in public places” is not a violation. Mr. Brum shared that it was “ironic” that members of Students for Justice in Palestine would call the Reservists on Duty “uncivil.” Mr. Brum believes the members of Students for Justice in Palestine are uncivil. Mr. Brum shared that “Mohammed (Reservist on Duty) never used racial epithets and never used sexually charged language.” When a female approached Mohammed and solicited him, he said, “do you want that? I don't.” Mohammed thought the conversation with the female was an attempt to trap him into saying something rather than his being disrespectful. Mr. Brum added that “he would never say the slurs he was accused of.” The Reservists on Duty “approached, debated and filmed.” Mr. Brum “never saw any physical contact” and shared that his organization has had a history of civility even when approached with threats and disrespect. The Student Conduct Officer asked if Mr. Brum invited the Reservists on Duty to campus on May 10, 2017. Mr. Brum shared that the Reservists on Duty asked to be hosted and given a forum. Mr. Brum agreed to partner with them, accepted their requests, and sponsored them. The Student Conduct Officer asked Mr. Brum how the dates for their on campus event were decided. Mr. Brum shared that they were originally planning to come on Thursday night, May 11, 2017, which was switched to Tuesday, May 09, 2017, and then finally Wednesday night, May 10, 2017. Mr. Brum shared that the purpose was to “counter Students for Justice in Palestine intellectually and provide alternative information.” Mr. Brum planned to use “primary sources” to share information. The Student Conduct Officer asked if Mr. Brum invited the Reservists on Duty to come earlier in the week and stay later than the planned event. Mr. Brum clarified that the people invited were not members of the Israeli Defense Force. He clarified that all Israeli citizens are conscripted and that these reservists have served their time. Mr. Brum answered, “yes.” The goal was to have them there “all week.” Students Supporting Israel and the Reservists on Duty were boothing on Ring Road Monday, May 08, 2017 through Thursday, May 11, 2017. The Student Conduct Officer asked if there were any other events that week. Mr. Brum shared that it was just the booth and the panel. Mr. Brum shared that he was at the booth when he was not in class. Mr. Brum shared that Student Center and Event Services told him that a member of Students Supporting Israel had to cohost and be present at the booth whenever either Students Supporting Israel or Reservists on Duty were actively engaging with the community. When the Students Supporting Israel member left, the table had to be taken down. Mr. Brum shared that the Reservists on Duty stayed until about 3pm each day. The Student Conduct Officer asked if Mr. Brum shared any expectations for the Reservists on Duty while there were in UC Irvine. Mr. Brum made it expressly clear to the Reservists on Duty, and the Reservists on Duty agreed, to be “civil and nonviolent.” They wanted to “get involved in educational conversations.” Mr. Brum made it expressly clear that the Reservists on Duty should be “civil, not yell and no physical violence.” Mr. Brum also wanted to demonstrate the pros of the Israeli Defense Force. The Student Conduct Officer asked Mr. Brum how he boothed with the Reservists on Duty. Mr. Brum shared that everyone started together in the booth at the start of the day. There were three Reservists on Duty at the wall and two at the booth. He shared that all 5 of the Reservists on Duty went to the booth everyday and that he boothed alone as well. The Student Conduct Officer asked when the Reservist on Duty were on campus. Mr. Brum shared that the Reservists on Duty were on campus between 11:00am to 3:00pm or 4:00pm. Mr. Brum shared that he was approached by school administration and asked to remove his guests; Mr. Brum said no. He added that they also have a constitutional right to be present. The Student Conduct Officer asked if Mr. Brum had any additional comments. Mr. Brum shared that the Students for Justice in Palestine group know that the Students Supporting Israel group has the group Students for Justice in Palestine actions on video, and they are retaliating. Mr. Brum is skeptical about Students for Justice in Palestine's motives in choosing to report so late and after the media article. Mr. Brum shared that Students Supporting Israel has worked collaboratively with other organizations and the Students for Justice in Palestine group has been untruthful. Mr. Brum shared that the group Students for Justice in Palestine is attempting to drag the group Students Supporting Israel down. The other authorized signers, Nick Gallo and Shayna Harris-Cheske, have shared that they are “no longer acting as an authorized signer,” are no longer affiliated with the organization and “have no other information about the event in question.” Witness Interviews 10 Witnesses provided written complaints to the Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct. The Student Conduct Officer read all of the complaints and attempted to interview each person who submitted a complaint (see appendix A). He was able to schedule meetings with Witness 5 and Witness 6. No other witnesses agreed to schedule other witnesses agreed to schedule an interview. Witness 5 and Witness 6 were each present on Ring Road near the Langson Library. Witness 5 was present on Ring Road on May 8, 9 and 11, 2017. The Student Conduct Officer asked Witness 5, “Do you know if SSI provided specific instructions to the non-affiliate Reservists on Duty on how to act o The Student Conduct Officer also asked Witness 5, “What makes you think that SSI specifically invited the non-affiliate Reservists on Duty to verbally threaten, sexually harass and/or follow members from SJP on May 8, 9 and 11th?” Witness 5 said that “SSI hosted them on Wednesday for a panel.” Witness 6 was present on Ring Road on May 11, 2017. The Student Conduct Officer asked Witness 6, “Do you know if SSI provided specific instructions to the non-affiliate Reservists on Duty on how to act or what to do?” Witness 6 shared that she, “doesn't know too much about their relationship.” SSI had invited the Reservists on Duty on campus, and she saw them speaking with Assistant Vice Chancellor, Chief of Staff Edgar Dormitorio. The Student Conduct Officer also asked The Student Conduct Officer also asked Witness 6, “What makes you think that SSI specifically invited the non-affiliate Reservists on Duty to verbally threaten, sexually harass and/or follow members from SJP on May 08, 09 and 11th?” Witness 6 said that she did not know. She added that the panel was billed by 551 and that they promoted the event on May 10, 2017. VIDEOS AND DOCUMENTS The Student Conduct Officer also reviewed two videos submitted to the Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct by Mr. Brum. They show various interactions on Ring Road between members of Reservists on Duty and members of the Student for Justice in Palestine. Transcripts of both videos are included in this report as Appendix B (Video 1) and Appendix C (Video 2). The Student Conduct Officer reviewed the July 2, 2017 letter from the group Students Supporting Israel and Reservists on Duty to Chancellor Gillman. The Student Conduct Officer also reviewed a July 6, 2017 letter from Kevin Brum to Dean Rameen Talesh (see appendix D). The statements and video submitted detail the behaviors exhibited by the non-affiliate Reservists on Duty, between May 8, 2017 and May 11, 2017 but do not include any actions committed by Students Supporting Israel that can be described as aiding or abetting. FACTUAL FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS The University of California Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students section 102.00 provides, “Chancellors may impose discipline for the commission or attempted commission (including aiding or abetting in the commission or attempted commission) of the following types of violations.” [emphasis added] This investigation focuses on whether the Campus Organization Students Supporting Israel aided and abetted the non-affiliate Reservists on Duty in the commission or attempted commission of a University policy violation. Mr. Brum described Students Supporting Israel’s intentions with the boothing and panel event as an attempt to -counter Students for Justice in Palestine intellectually and provide alternative information.” He also acknowledged that his organization hosted the panel event on May 10, 2017. Mr. Brum stated that he had made it “expressly clear” to the Reservists on Duty that they should be “civil and nonviolent” on campus and that the Reservists on Duty had agreed to do so. Mr. Brum added that Students Supporting Israel wanted to “get involved in educational conversations.” I find Mr. Brum took specific action to explain to the Reservists on Duty before they came to campus his expectations that the Reservists on Duty were to be “civil and nonviolent.” Witnesses 5 and 6 were unaware of any specific instructions or expectations that SSI shared with the Reservists on Duty, nor had either witnessed any specific behaviors displayed by Students Supporting Israel that would indicate that SSI had aided or abetted the Reservists on Duty. Although I made attempts to interview the witnesses who submitted written statements, none of them agreed to speak with me, and I was unable to verify any of the allegations in their written complaints. Similarly, the videos and documents that I reviewed do not indicate in any way that SSI aided or abetted the Reservists on Duty in violating University Policy. Based upon the preponderance of evidence standard, I find Students Supporting Israel NOT RESPONSIBLE for “aiding or abetting in the commission or attempted commission” of a University policy violation. FINDINGS I have reviewed all the information related to the allegations. Based on the totality of the information provided and the preponderance of the evidence, I find your organization is NOT RESPONSIBLE for violating, or for aiding or abetting any other party in violating, the following policies: Student Conduct Policies/102.09 Harassment – “Harassment, defined as conduct that is so sever and/or pervasive, and objectively offensive, and that so substantially impairs a person’s access to University programs or activities that the person is effectively denied equal access to the University’s resources and opportunities. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, conduct that is motivated on the basis of a person’s race, color, nation or ethnic origin, citizenship, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identify, pregnancy, marital status, ancestry, service in the uniformed services, physical or mental disability, medical condition, or perceived membership in any of these classifications. Pursuant to section 104.90, sanctions may be enhanced for conduct motivated on the basis of the above classifications. For cases of harassment on the basis of sex, see also Policy on Sexual Harassment (pdf) and the Procedures for Responding to Sexual Harassment (pdf)”. Please note, if new information is brought forward that was not available at the time of the investigation, this case may be re-opened. Should you have nay questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at 949- 824-4635. Please note, if new information is brought forward, this case may be re-opened. You may access information regarding the student conduct process at the UC Irvine Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct Website. If you have any questions, or need clarification of any part of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 949-824-4635. Sincerely, Christopher Coronel Student Conduct Officer Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct