

**JOINT STATEMENT Regarding the anti-Semitic, anti-Black, anti-Arab and anti-Muslim
Posters on UIC's Campus
March 20, 2017**

On March 16, a series of flyers were posted on UIC's campus that exploit social justice issues to spread anti-Semitic views. First and foremost, as units on campus that work at the forefront of UIC's commitment to diversity and social justice, we condemn all forms of racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, anti-Blackness or any forms of hatred, phobia, or dehumanization.

Secondly, the damaging and hurtful nature of these posters is that they seek to malign and divide some of the very groups that are fighting injustice and xenophobia in the first place. They erroneously depict the groups "Black Lives Matter" and "We are Muslims" as authors of the anti-Semitic hateful flyers. No specific group takes credit but hashtags are added to suggest authorship of the incendiary flyers by Black and Muslim/Arab organizations. If real groups authored these flyers, why not take credit? If they did not want to be associated, why incriminate their movements? It makes no sense. Moreover, the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag is not even the # most commonly used by either the national or Chicago chapter, neither of which know anything about the origin of these flyers.

Many of us either work with or have students involved with Chicago's Black Lives Matter, Palestine solidarity and Muslim organizations on campus and in the city. We believe these groups would never circulate anti-Semitic or hateful literature like this. It is antithetical to their mission and work. These fake posters are consistent with a long history whereby hate groups have cited marginalized communities as authors of hate speech to smear them and incite mistrust between them. They serve the goals of both provoking anti-Semitic hatred and justifying the targeting of Palestine solidarity and Black Lives Matter movements, wrongly indicting them as purveyors of hate.

We stand united against hatred and discrimination against all communities.

We condemn these anti-Semitic assaults as well as the divisive suggestion that Black and Muslim students are the source of this racism.

We disavow any attempt to use the painful realities of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict or the Holocaust as fodder for anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and anti-Blackness.

We will not allow this or any incident to pit one of our communities against the other.

LAST ADJUSTED SUNDAY 4/9 5:46 pm.

We the undersigned stand together

African-American Cultural Center

African American Studies

Anthropology Department

Arab American Cultural Center

Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) Initiative

Asian American Resource and Cultural Center

Career Services

Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Asian Americans

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Blacks

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Latinos

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of LGBTQ People and Allies

Collaborative for Equity and Justice in Education, College of Education

Communications Department

Counseling Center

Disability Resource Center

English Department

Gender and Sexuality Center

Gender and Women's Studies Program

Germanic Studies Department

Global Asian Studies Program

Great Cities Institute

Hispanic and Italian Studies Department

History Department

Honors College

Institute for the Humanities

Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement

Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy

International Studies Program

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

Jewish Studies Program

Latin American and Latino Studies Program

Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES) Program

Middle East and Muslim Societies Cluster

Moving Image Arts Minor

Museum and Exhibition Studies Program
Native American Support Program
Office of the Dean of Students
Office for Research on Student Success
Office of Sustainability
Office of Undergraduate Research
Philosophy Department
Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino Cultural Center
Religious Studies Program
School of Art & Art History
School of Literatures, Cultural Studies & Linguistics
School of Theatre and Music
Social Foundations of Education Program
Social Justice Initiative
Sociology Department
UIC United Faculty
Women's Leadership and Resource Center
Writing Center