

Whereas Rutgers University is home to approximately 6,400 Jewish undergraduates – the second-highest number in the U.S., and is obligated under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 not to discriminate against its Jewish students

Whereas President Jonathan Holloway has said, “In these difficult times, I would ask that we all embrace the spirit of a beloved community and be sensitive to one another in recognition of the challenges we are all facing.” https://www.rutgers.edu/president/responding-to-the-violence-in-israel-and-gaza?utm_source=Coffee+with+the+Chancellor%3A+All+Fac%2FStaff+%26+Students&utm_campaign=65585a382e-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_20_04_51_COPY_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9f34217c3d-65585a382e-1392642773

Whereas Chancellor Francine Conway said on May 3, 2024, “Last month I called upon our community to condemn acts of antisemitism, following a disturbing increase of such reports on our campus. Antisemitism will not be tolerated at Rutgers–New Brunswick.” <https://newbrunswick.rutgers.edu/chancellor/communications/update-antisemitism-harassment>

Whereas President Holloway said on May 6, 2024 in a statement to the Board of Governors, “What was clear before the encampment and what has become clearer since, is that we have work to do at Rutgers. The healing will take time, but I am committed to it. Part of this work will require addressing gaps in our Jewish student, faculty, and staff experience. For that, we will lean on the wisdom and insights of the Advisory Council for Jewish Life.” <https://www.rutgers.edu/president/statement-to-Board-of-Governors-on-Student-Protests>

Be it resolved that the Rutgers University Senate

urges President Holloway in these fraught times to take positive measures suggested to more fully serve the needs of Jewish students and protect their safety and well being. <https://rutgershillel.org/faculty-staff/>

asks President Holloway to take measures that are comparable to the steps the administration has recently taken to protect other groups on campus and to enhance their sense of belonging and inclusion..

urges President Holloway and the Rutgers administration to consider implementing specific measures of the sort that the Jewish Faculty, Administration, and Staff organization (JFAS) has suggested, including:

1. securing space and help fund Jewish organizations on campus which currently must secure their own spaces and their own funding.
2. penalizing individuals who disrupt authorized events at the University, including events hosted by Jewish groups.
3. implementing antisemitism training throughout the university.
4. At Rutgers-New Brunswick, assuring that the new Chancellor’s work group on the creation of a Department of Middle East Studies and hiring new faculty should include tenured-faculty positions for Jewish, Israeli, Arab, Muslim, and Palestinian faculty, and recognizing that these groups are equally important in shaping a new Department of Middle East Studies.

5. Forming a task force comprised of relevant committed faculty who will serve to lead and collaborate with the Office of the Chancellor as an Advisory Council on Jewish and Israeli life (along the same lines as the new Advisory Council for Arab, Muslim, and Palestinian Life) to lead ongoing conversations on academic matters in collaboration with the Office of the Chancellor.