

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

October 14, 2014

David Prochaska
Independent Media Center
[REDACTED]

Re: FOIA 14-652

Dear Mr. Prochaska:

I am responding to your request dated September 30, under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act in which you request:

“Please consider such documentation to and from these previously named organizations to and from Chancellor Wise, President Easter, and Chairman Kennedy pertaining to Professor Steven Salaita as my first request under FOIA guidelines.

Second, I request all records, in whatever format, including but not limited to, written correspondence, emails, and telephone logs between Chancellor Wise, President Easter, and Chairman Kennedy, on the one hand, and the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation (CUJF) (affiliated with JFNA), the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, Israel Action Network (connected to JFNA and JCPA), and Israel Education Center (affiliated with Jewish United Fund/ Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago [JUF/JFMC]), on the other hand, between July 20 and September 30, 2014, pertaining to Professor Steven Salaita.

Third, and finally, a two-part request. (a) I request any and all emails and any other documentation, either as email attachments or stand alone communications, between July 24 and July 26, 2014, sent or delivered to or from Chancellor Wise, or referred to by Chancellor Wise, on the one hand, and to and from Dan C. Peterson and/or Leanne Barnhart and/or Travis M. Smith, on the other hand, pertaining to Professor Steven Salaita. (b) I request all records, in whatever format, including but not limited to, written correspondence, emails, and telephone logs, and any other documentation, either as email attachments or stand alone communications sent or delivered July 24, 2014 to or from Chancellor Wise, pertaining to Professor Steven Salaita..”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 48 pages. Please be advised, the letter you specified in point one of your request was located and is included in this packet.

Portions of these documents have been redacted and other documents have been withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- 140/7(1)(a) that exempts from disclosure “Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law.” Under this exemption, information discussed with an attorney that is required to remain confidential under state law, including, without limitation, the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct were withheld from the responsive documents.

Office for University Relations

Urbana • 506 South Wright Street, MC 370 • Urbana, IL 61801 • (217) 333-6400 • Fax (217) 333-5733
Chicago • 1737 West Polk Street, MC 971 • Chicago, IL 60612 • (312) 996-3772 • Fax (312) 996-1836

- 140/7(1)(b) that exempts from disclosure “Private information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order.” This includes cell phone numbers and personal email addresses.
- 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure “Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.” This includes the personal information and identity of private citizens who contacted University staff to express opinions as well as other personal information.
- 140/7(1)(f) exempts “preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.” The responsive documents contain preliminary discussions and expressions of opinion regarding possible policies and actions of the University.
- 140/7(1)(m) exempts “communications between a public body and an attorney or auditor representing the public body that would not be subject to discovery in litigation, and materials prepared or compiled by or for a public body in anticipation of a criminal, civil or administrative proceeding upon the request of an attorney advising the public body, and materials prepared or compiled with respect to internal audits of public bodies.” A portion of your request includes communication between a public body and an attorney representing the public body for the purpose of obtaining legal advice and would not be subject to discovery in litigation.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to [publicaccess\[at\]g.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess[at]g.state.il.us), or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy
Executive Director
and Chief Records Officer