

# Boycott Watch

...So you can decide for yourself what the truth is.  
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August 11, 2004

## **By Overnight Courier with Receipt confirmation**

President Richard H. Brodhead  
Office of the President  
Duke University  
207 Allen Building  
Box 90001  
Durham, NC 27708

Dear President Brodhead,

My name is Fred Taub and I am the President of Boycott Watch, an organization that monitors and reports about boycotts. I am writing in regards the Fourth Annual Conference of the Palestine Solidarity Movement scheduled at your campus October 15-17, 2004.

I attended the conference at the Ohio State University, one of the two such conferences held last year. Although the conference claimed to primarily exist to promote a divest-from-Israel campaign, I quickly discovered that the conference had an ulterior theme, a general hate festival not only against Israel, but for Jews in general, as evidenced by the some of the speakers.

I went to the OSU conference to monitor the divest-from-Israel campaign. While there, I discovered that the conference organizers not only promoted a boycott against Israel, but the participants also discussed methods to intimidate US companies from doing any business with or within Israel.

Boycott Watch is currently investigating the efforts by the conference organizers and their supporters to prevent companies from conducting business with and within Israel. These boycott efforts are being carried out in support of and in sympathy with the Arab boycott of Israel. The promoters have direct ties to the Palestinian Authority, which is a party to the Arab boycott of Israel. - Boycott Watch is investigating these actions for possible violations of a federal forbidding unsanctioned foreign boycott of a nation friendly to the United States.

Boycott Watch has spent a considerable amount of time over the past two years investigating the legality of divest-from-Israel campaigns within the framework of the Export Administration Amendments of 1977, which created the Office of Antiboycott

Compliance within the Department of Commerce. Boycott Watch believes that these conferences violate the law, and we have sent detailed letters to the Office of Antiboycott Compliance establishing the links between these conferences and illegal foreign boycotts.

Boycott Watch urges you not to host the conference both because the conferences are breeding grounds for hate, and because hosting the conference may make your university a party to promoting an illegal unsanctioned foreign boycott of a nation friendly to the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Fred Taub,  
President,  
Boycott Watch