



September 2005

Mr. Robert L. Shibley
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
691 Walnut Street, Suite 300
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Mr. Shibley,

I am writing in response to your letter dated August 18, 2005 to me and Professor Charles Tobey, Chairman of the Brooklyn College Faculty Council. The correspondence that you and Professor David Johnson expressed in that letter is based on an incorrect premise regarding Professor Johnson and is therefore unfounded. The Brooklyn College Faculty Council has never undertaken an investigation of Professor Johnson. Nor has any body of Brooklyn College taken any action or commented on any investigation of Professor Johnson. In sum, Professor Johnson's constitutionally protected expression of his opinions of the relative review or investigation of his work has not been subject to any administrative review or investigation, and thus there is no basis for your suggestion that a possible violation of his rights has occurred. As I stated in my letter to you, such a debate is exactly what academic freedom, as well as freedom of speech and of the press, is intended to protect.

Truly yours,

Christoph M. Kimmich
President

Office of the President