



Marywood

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OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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Consequent to an impromptu meeting of Dr. Fagal with Dean Torell on the morning of April 9, 2008, and at the request of Dr. Fagal, Dean Torell agreed to provide Dr. Fagal a copy of the original summary report of April 8, 2008 with the insertion of the italicized statements below. 

April 8, 2008

Dr. Frederick F. Fagal
17 East Lake Street
Skaneateles, NY 13152

Dear Dr. Fagal:

According to Marywood University's Civil Rights Complaint Procedures, the administrator to whom a formal complaint is submitted "must present a summary of the complaint and the proceedings to date to both the complainant and the alleged offender within 10 working days." Please consider the following to serve as such a summary.

On March 25, 2008, a face-to-face meeting occurred between Dr. Kurt Torell, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Erkan Acar, a matriculating student at Marywood University. During that meeting, Mr. Acar communicated his perception of certain materials that were posted on Dr. Fred Fagal's door, and also that he wished to file a formal complaint against Dr. Fagal, which was subsequently delivered in writing to the Dean's Office later that day. As required by Marywood University's Civil Rights Complaint Procedures, Mr. Acar was also informed by Dean Torell that the complainant must not "discuss the allegations with the offender(s) or any witnesses while the investigation is pending."

The written formal complaint includes, but is not limited to, the following statements: "I, Erkan Acar, would like to make a formal complaint and express my thoughts about a grievous insult that has been made to Islam at Marywood University. I have been faced with cartoons that insult an Abrahamic religion (Islam)...Dr. F. Fagal...put these cartoons on his office door. The first cartoon illustrates women in religious garb waiting for Muslims as they enter paradise. Each 'nun' is armed with a huge gun. I felt this is not only gravely offensive but also a threat and harassment to all Muslims on campus, an assault on their dignity and an implied menace to their safety. Besides this cartoon, another one also offensively illustrated the prophet Muhammed (pbuh). In addition to