

To whom it may concern:

Here is my witness statement in the case "Stanford College Republicans vs UGS." I can make myself available in person if needed.

My name is Richard Beleson. I graduated from Stanford University in 1976. I am a members of the Stanford Founders Circle. I have four endowed scholarships at Stanford. I have an endowed library fund at Stanford. I donate to both academics and sports on an annual basis. I have personally hosted fundraisers at my home for both Stanford University and the athletic department. My son David Beleson graduated from Stanford in 2015. I share these facts as background information on my relationship with and my commitment to Stanford University - now spanning forty-six years.

I have volunteered to donate 100% of the required funds for the Dinesh D'Souza event to occur. I have been informed that there is a Stanford University policy requiring 50% of the funds to be sourced on campus. I have argued that as an alumnus my funding should be considered sourced on campus, but my funds do not qualify. It is the first time in my life that Stanford has refused my donation.

I had a conversation with Susie Brubaker-Cole on Friday, December 14th at 11 am. Our conversation occurred just after the 6-5 ASSU vote denying SCR's funding request. I cannot recall the exact wording of our conversation, but the gist of it was as follows. Susie Brubaker-Cole assured me that Stanford University was committed to free speech on campus; that she wanted SCR to have the opportunity for Dinesh D'Souza to speak on campus; and that if SCR took the appropriate steps, there was a process by which the impasse with the ASSU Senate would be resolved in its favor. She explained to me that the ASSU Constitution has clauses on free speech protections similar to the US Constitution. Consequently, both the treatment of SCR's funding request and the vote denying funding for the Dinesh D'Souza event were in violation of the ASSU Constitution. She informed me that if the SCR went to the appropriate persons on campus the vote to deny funding would be declared unconstitutional. The inference was that a subsequent vote would lead to funding from the ASSU.

As part of my commitment to freedom of speech and my desire to see Stanford as a venue for the expression of diverse points of view, I will go one step further with this letter. I am prepared to reimburse the ASSU for the funds requested by the SCR so that at ASSU's discretion, it can provide similar funding for a speaker with a different point of view. The issue of allowing speakers on campus, irrespective of their viewpoint, should be a fundamental freedom of speech issue on which there should be unanimous agreement and support.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Beleson