**From:** "Quillen, Carol" <caquillen@davidson.edu>
**Date:** May 29, 2021 at 9:39:56 AM EDT
**To:** John Craig <jecraig66@gmail.com>
**Cc:** "Mauze, Alison - Trustee" <alisonmauze@gmail.com>
**Subject: Re: Davidsonians for Freedom of Thought and Discourse**

_Dear Mr. Craig,

I appreciate your reaching out and I hope you're well.

Of course I had shared your letter, along with my response, with the board in 2018 and again more recently. I regret that you found my response "high-handed and dismissive," as that is not my reading of my letter to you nor is it my recollection of our conversation when we met in person.

Change, even at a college grounded in a tradition "reformed and always reforming," is hard. Disagreement within a community as close-knit as Davidson is difficult. These passionate disagreements on important issues can make some folks reluctant to see common ground. And yet, the common ground is there.

I too lament the tone of much social media. In this, our young people are echoing some elected officials and other leaders, whose cynicism, mean-spiritedness and occasional outright cruelty infects our public sphere. My hope is that Davidson's Deliberative Citizenship Initiative (and other such programs at colleges around the country) will equip our young people to build a more honest, just and humane world.

Take good care,

Carol