

September 15th, 2025

Dear Emily Tunteri and Darnell Hunt,

It is my understanding that you have recently placed Johnathan Perkins on leave in regards to the spate of bad faith commentary you have been receiving from a collection of Charlie Kirk online acolytes. I also understand the responsibility you have, as a matter of principle, to ensure any matter such as this is properly investigated to the best of UCLA's institutional ability.

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Perkins, unsolicited and completely of my own volition. No one should have to face threats to their life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness for merely telling the truth. The disingenuous effort being collectively taken against Mr. Perkins has exactly that goal in mind. Mr. Perkins is an unabashed, voracious voice for the oppressed, someone who has taught me myriad lessons on the responsibility every white person faces in calling out, and standing up to the institutional racism that pervades this world we live in.

It is in that spirit that I write to you today. I cannot stay silent while Mr. Perkins faces death threats and undeserved interruptions to his very livelihood. Mr. Perkins has put himself on the line, often at his own expense, to ensure legal restitution for the victims of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, who have been steadfast in taking advantage of unjust laws and edicts from a fascist regime to unconstitutionally disappear people, regardless of citizenship status.

Mr. Perkins is a shining example of the best of humanity, one that a vaunted institution, such as UCLA, should be proud to have representing them.

I greatly appreciate the time you have taken today to read my letter. I would be remiss if I stood idly by without giving my perspective on someone I hold in high esteem. Please feel free to contact me through the provided email, should you have any questions regarding my statements today.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Nelson