

Hoai An Pham  
Michigan Student Power Network  
Winter 2019 Graduate from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Hello, and thank you for allowing me to speak today in opposition to House Bill 4436. My name is Hoai An Pham, and I'm a recent graduate from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Currently, I am working with the Michigan Student Power Network, which connects, trains, and organizes students on campuses across the state.

I am proud to have graduated from the University of Michigan. But I also cannot deny that much of my college career was spent dealing with the ramifications of white supremacist speakers being allowed on my campus.

In my sophomore year, white supremacist flyers were placed around town. They called on people to embrace their "white pride," and listed reasons why women shouldn't date Black men. Aside from being posted outside of buildings, even more graphic flyers were faxed into staff rooms. I have attached a timeline of just hate crime graffiti incidents (and not other incidents that occurred) from March 2016 to October 2017. There are 20.

In each of these incidents, there were campus protests - not just to push the University to do something to catch the people who were engaging in these hate crimes, but to protect the students and address the white supremacy that was already on campus. To be clear: much of what this University prides itself on is a direct result of student activism. Our Afro and African American studies department. Our sexual assault and prevention awareness center.

The University of Michigan is known for being the leaders and best, but we are also known for the incredulous amount of hate crimes that occur on our campus - this has been widely reported. This is a direct correlation to the fact that our University continues to host individuals who are typically known by the larger society as being white supremacists. Each time these people are invited to campus, the number of hate crimes spike, and our community is unsafe.

What does it mean to uphold "free speech" when the speakers that come incite violence? What does it mean for us to label people who oppose free speech as needing a bill like HB 4436, when they are taking a stand against white supremacy? And we need to absolutely question our

interpretation of the word “free speech,” when upholding this constitutional value is leading to an unsafe environment for not only our Universities, but the communities they are in.

Thank you.

Michigan Daily: Timeline of vandalism found around campus, Ann Arbor

<https://www.michigandaily.com/section/community-affairs/complied-list-vandalism-university-and-ann-arbor>

The Michigan Daily compiled a list of reports of vandalism on campus and in Ann Arbor from 2016 to the present. See the fullview interactive map charting these incidents [here](#).

**Oct. 3, 2017 - North University Avenue - Racist poster [stating](#) "Anti-Racist is code for Anti-White" on posting column.**

**Oct. 3, 2017 - Stockwell Residence Hall - Racist flyers [urging](#) students to "Make America White Again".** The new round of flyers displayed the difference in Black student enrollment between the University and Michigan State University, pointing to alleged disparities in IQ levels between Black and white students, stating, “Do the math, Nature is racist, Not ‘the System.’”

**Sept. 27, 2017 - The Diag - Man [defiles](#) BLM chalking.** The video was posted on Snapchat's Michigan campus-area.

**Sept. 17, 2017- Central Campus posting column - A poster [reading](#) “Free Dylann Roof”, the white mass shooter who entered a historically Black church and killed nine people, was posted on the cylindrical vents on campus.**

**Sept. 17, 2017 - Ann Arbor Mural - The mural was defaced with [graffiti](#) supporting Dylann Roof.** The graffiti also had anti-Black slurs.

**Sept. 17, 2017 - West Quad - Three Black students had racial slurs [written](#) on their dorm room doors.**

**Sept. 2, 2017 - The Rock - Anti-Latino and Pro-Trump graffiti were [found](#) on the Rock before classes started.**

**Aug. 18, 2017 - Ann Arbor Skatepark, near Veterans Memorial Park - Racist, Anti-Semitic graffiti were found in the Ann Arbor [Skatepark](#).** Phrases such as “Free USA” and “Jews Die” were spray-painted along with swastikas in 12 to 20 different places in the park.

**Aug. 2017 - University Biological Station - Racist graffiti appeared in the bathroom of University Biological Station near Pellston.** University President Mark Schlissel reported this in an email to students.

**Aug. 8, 2017 - Concordia University, Ann Arbor - Anti-Black graffiti were [found](#) on the [tracks](#) of the football stadium.**

**April 25, 2017 - West Hall Arch and CC Little - White supremacist group [posts](#) anti-Semitic stickers on Black Lives Matter posts.** BLM posters were also torn down, although it is unknown if they are related.

**April 25, 2017 - Black Law Student Association board** - Graduate Employee Organization posted on that Facebook page there were far-right chalkings on the campus and on the Black Law Student Association board.

**Feb. 7, 2017 - North Campus, Engineering School** - Professor and University student have their email identification used in emails sent to computer science and engineering students. The first two emails read: "Hi n\*\*\*\*s, I just wanted to say that I plan to kill all of you. White power! The KKK has returned!!! Heil Trump!!!!"

**Feb. 6, 2017 - Shaprio Undergraduate Library** - Someone urinates on an Islamic prayer rug in religious room.

**Nov. 14, 2016 - Across the Michigan Union** - Posters encouraged students to report undocumented individuals and displayed white voting statistics of the 2016 election along with phrases such as "He's (Donald Trump) Our President."

**Nov. 9, 2016 - The Rock** - Violent messages were written on the Rock after Trump's win, including "fuck America" and "kill em all." The messages were covering pro-Clinton decorations.

**Oct. 3, 2016 - A University of Michigan posting column on the corner of South State Street and North University Avenue** - White supremacist posters cited websites arguing race determines intelligence and anti-Muslim sentiments. Several others portrayed a Muslim man killing a white woman or characterized the LGBTQ community as a target of violence by members of the Muslim community.

**Oct. 2, 2016 - LSA** - Online faculty petitions condemning the racist posters are erased by an unknown individual. They were replaced with the phrase, "All of the Communists Will Hang on the Day of the Rope." The quote comes from "The Turner Diaries," a political fiction novel that features a race war.

**Sept. 26, 2017 - Mason and Haven Hall** - Anti-Black, white supremacist posters were found around campus. One of the posters listed "reasons why women shouldn't date Black men." The other called for what it described as "Euro-Americans" to stop "denying your heritage ... be white," according to pictures tweeted by the Black Student Union. The third poster included an explanation of "race differences in intelligence" and evidence of a "genetic gap."

**March 30, 2016 - The Diag** - Anti-Islam chalkings were found on the Diag, with phrases such as "Stop Islam," "Trump 2016" and "Build the Wall." The University faced criticism for not washing the chalk away.

DATE: September 14, 2018

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: Rebecca Nelson, Director and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer  
Michigan State University FOIA Office *Rebecca Nelson*

SUBJECT: FOIA Response

This is written in response to the FOIA request that you hand-delivered to this Office September 7, 2018.

This Office has been advised by the Michigan State University Police Department (MSUPD) that the following information is responsive to your request for the amount of money spent on security when Richard Spencer held a rally at MSU:

Signs: \$1,039.68  
Fencing: \$12,462.58  
Food: \$4,052.70  
Beverages: \$1,550 (Estimate)  
Vehicle Rentals: \$580.78

All of the money came from the MSUPD Special Events Budget. No fee will be assessed for this processing of your request.

Pursuant to Section 4(4) of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (MIFOIA), the University's procedures and guidelines for processing MIFOIA requests can be found at <http://foia.msu.edu>.

MSUF088418



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