

Hunter College Senate

15 November 2023

**RESOLUTION: DEFENSE OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

WHEREAS academic freedom is essential to CUNY's mission and the cancelling of an event for its content is illegitimate,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hunter College Senate supports the following statement adopted by the Executive Committee of the Hunter College Chapter of the PSC CUNY:

The Executive Committee of the Hunter College Chapter of the PSC CUNY strongly objects to the last-minute cancellation of a screening of the film *Israelism* and the discussion with filmmaker Eric Axelman that was to follow. This event was being held by the Department of Film and Media Studies and cosponsored by the Arabic Program at Hunter College. This is an egregious and illegitimate violation of the academic freedom necessary for departments to pursue their academic missions and institutions of higher education to operate with integrity. This action taken by Acting President Ann Kirschner of Hunter College is unacceptable.

We call on the Administration to provide space for the film to be shown in November 2023.