



བོད་ལུ་འོན་པོད་རིགས་སྤྱི་མཐུན་ཚོགས་པ།
TIBETAN ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON

May 29, 2020

President Anthony Monaco
Office of The President
Tufts University
Ballou Hall, 2nd Floor
Medford, MA. 02155

Greetings Dr. Monaco,

The Tibetan Association of Boston hereby calls upon the leadership of Tufts University to immediately close and desist the operation of its Confucius Institute.

The active endorsement and operation of this institute by Tufts University despite its knowledge that this organization is a program of the authoritarian Chinese Communist Party is deeply troubling on many levels. It is common knowledge that the CCP is one of the most oppressive regimes on the planet and has been responsible for the greatest genocide in the entire history of mankind of its own people. The acclaimed historians Jung Chang and Jon Halliday note that this murderous regime is fully responsible for the deaths of over 70-million of its own Chinese people in peacetime. This regime is responsible for the death of well over a million Tibetans and the destruction of over 6,000 irreplaceable Buddhist monasteries inside Tibet. This regime has been found to be responsible for forced harvesting of organs from the persecuted Chinese religious group called Falun Gong. This regime also imprisons Uyghurs and by many estimates has millions of these Muslim peoples held in concentration camps. Following World War II after all that was learned about the Holocaust the world resoundingly said "never again!" and yet here we are again with vast crimes being persecuted against humanity on a massive scale by the CCP regime. Why is Tufts choosing to collaborate and work with this brutal authoritarian regime and look the other way? Where is your moral conscience? One has only to wonder based on your current blindness if your school would have worked with the Nazis if they had offered similar opportunities to access German language and Nazi inspired Kulture?

Please do not misinterpret anything written here to be in any way anti-Chinese or xenophobic! In fact the very reason we take such a strong stand here is out of love and great concern for the Chinese people themselves who have suffered so many decades under this brutal regime. Having this institute in any way connected to Tufts robs any would be visiting Chinese student or scholar from being in an environment that is truly free and one that they can honestly feel safe in and trust in a meaningful way. The existence of a university connected Confucius Institute is a

PO Box 381256 • Cambridge, MA 02138 USA
www.bostontibet.org

N° 0119



བོད་ལུ་ཁོ་རྩོམ་བོད་རིགས་སྤྱི་མཐུན་ཚོགས་པ།

TIBETAN ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON

very clever way to make the point clear to any would be Chinese that the reach and watching eye of the CCP state is also there. Make the connections...

Notwithstanding all of the above self-evident moral humanitarian and academic concerns, we are aware of the fact that Tufts has been in receipt of numerous communications from various concerned local human rights advocates and several United States members of Congress and the Senate calling on Tufts to reconsider and do the right thing by closing down this nefarious institute. Many even caution that these Confucius Institutes operating in any form whatsoever represent a serious national security threat. These words of caution do not come from some fringe group with a conspiracy-theory motivated agenda. These words come from the very top of our nation's counter espionage crime fighting organization, the FBI.

In a February 2018 Senate Intelligence Committee hearing, Christopher Wray, the current FBI Director was very specific in citing the Confucius Institutes as being a credible and potent threat to our nation's security by providing a base of operations for information gathering and other CCP state sponsored illegal activities on United States soil.

Herein below is a brief excerpt from a November, 2019 article from "The National Law Review" titled, "The US Government Investigates US Universities Participating in The Confucius Institutes Program":

"The possibility of undue foreign influence on U.S. campuses has long troubled the FBI. In a recent speech before the Council on Foreign Relations, FBI Director Wray placed the Confucius institutes in the context of a broader Chinese threat, saying that "China has pioneered a societal approach to stealing innovation in any way it can," targeting private industry and university technologies, using the Chinese intelligence services, state-owned enterprises, private companies, graduate students, and researchers. He stated that the FBI conducts "economic espionage investigations that almost invariably lead back to China in nearly all of our fifty-six field offices, and they span just about every industry or sector." As we have reported here, U.S. international trade issues on University campuses often cross over among economic espionage, export controls, sponsored research, sanctions, and national security issues."

One final note must not be overlooked in all of this. We thank you for making the contract between Tufts and the Chinese authorities that governs the Confucius Institute at Tufts available in the spirit of transparency. In a related spirit, we would like to draw your attention to page four, article four of the English section of your contract which specifically states the following:

"CIT is established as a unit of Tufts and is not a separate legal entity..." with continuing language describing Tuft's apparent control.

How could Tufts possibly control the operations of a foreign state should it choose to do illegal activities on US soil with this institute? Not seeing this is at best naïve and at worst complicit

PO Box 381256 • Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

www.bostontibet.org

N° 0118



། ལྷོ་སུ་ལོན་བོད་རིགས་སྤྱི་མཐུན་ཚོགས་པ།

TIBETAN ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON

The bottom line is that Tufts University by having this signed contract with the Confucius Institutes Headquarters has agreed to become totally responsible for whatever activities may originate and occur within the Tuft's Confucius Institutes operation. As it "is not a separate legal entity" should there ever be any damage, controversy or liability of any kind caused by the Tuft's Confucius Institutes, Tufts as a whole would become fully responsible legally. The contract is clear.

We call upon Tufts to make the right decision to close this operation now.

You know about the grave moral and humanitarian concerns by having this institute connected with Tufts. You know about the credible national security risks connected with the operation of these institutes within Tufts. You know about the messaging that this organization's presence within the university sends to Chinese students and scholars and others at Tufts.

Perhaps what you did not know before is your direct irrefutable legal liability should any illegal activity and/or harm manifest because you have chosen to allow this Confucius Institute to exist within Tufts.

This letter is also being shared with all Massachusetts members of The United States Congress and the Senate.

Please end this Confucius Institute now.

Thank you,

Olo Samphel Bayul, Tibetan Association of Boston President



Howard G. Fass, Tibetan Association of Boston Advocacy Chair

PO Box 381256 • Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

www.bostontibet.org

N° 0117