In Concern-A Statement of Affirmation
Signed by all current OC Religious Life Affiliates
Thursday, March 3

As Multifaith Chaplain and Religious Life Affiliates appointed by Oberlin College, we are committed to fostering a spirit of understanding and authenticity in our community. Among roles, we strive to create spaces that are sacred, safe and courageous. These roles, assigned by the complex and diverse nature of our world, are challenged by current events on campus, events that require our attention.

Across religious and philosophical differences, we:

--place priority on student voice as expressed directly by students, while attentive always to the larger community, members of faculty and staff;
--value the importance of academic rigor, including inter-faith and intra-faith dialogue and critique, and the use of precise language,
--establish trust that allows for the sharing of multiple perspectives where assumptions can be tested,
--uphold the dignity of each person and all people, practicing kindness, justice and generosity;
--foster coercion-free, non-manipulative, and transparent approaches toward conflict resolution; and we
--approach differences and deep divides, not with the goal to agree, but to listen, to draw meaning, one from another.

Among our inherent roles, we are duty bound to lift these values, always, even during the most difficult of times and remain available to our community.

Signed
(alpha-order by affiliation)

Baha’i
Amanda Schmidt

Buddhist
Jacques Rutzky

Christian Cooperative (Protestant)
A.G. and Brenda Grier-Miller
Mary and Steve Hammond
David Hill
Laurence Nevels
Brian Wilbert

Christian (Orthodox)
Basil Stroyka

Jewish (Chabad)
Shlomo and Devorah Elkan

Jewish (Hillel)
Gregg Levine

Muslim
Maysan Haydar

Unitarian Universalists
Mary Grigolia

Multifaith Chaplain to the College & Conservatory
David Dorsey