

Princeton has concluded its investigation into the disruptive conduct that occurred before, during, and after a campus talk by former Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett on April 7, 2025.

## **Findings**

The University investigation found that unidentified individuals engaged in conduct that violated the University's [Policy on Discrimination and/or Harassment](#). The finding was based primarily on the fact that individuals directed antisemitic epithets to members of the University community as they exited the building where Mr. Bennett's talk occurred that night, and during an ensuing counterprotest. The investigators also found that someone disrupted the campus talk by pulling a fire alarm; the University's Department of Public Safety is investigating but, to date, has been unable to identify the person(s) responsible. Several witnesses expressed their view that the individuals who made antisemitic remarks outside the venue were likely unaffiliated with the University.

Because the antisemitic remarks were made outside, in the dark, and those who engaged in the conduct concealed their identities, no student or University official who witnessed the events or reviewed available photos and video could identify those responsible. One non-University individual who engaged in a loud, two-minute exchange with Mr. Bennett during his talk, and who was identified, was escorted from the venue by campus police and subsequently barred from the campus. Investigators were also able to identify some members of a group who got up and walked out of Mr. Bennett's talk while chanting (an interruption that video reflects lasted 38 seconds), but did not find a violation of the Policy on Discrimination and/or Harassment in connection with that disruption.

The University investigation, conducted jointly by the University's Investigations Unit and an external investigator, took place over several weeks and involved interviews with witnesses, reviews of video recordings, and reviews of other relevant records.

## **University Response**

Princeton's policies and practices, as well as applicable non-discrimination laws, require the University to take action to address instances of discrimination (including anti-semitic conduct) and to prevent them from happening again. The University has taken multiple significant steps in the wake of the conduct surrounding the April 7 Bennett event. Among them:

- The day after the Bennett event, the University president issued a public statement denouncing the “reprehensible” and “intolerable” antisemitic language used by protestors outside the venue. President Eisgruber also apologized to Mr. Bennett.
- On April 21, the University issued a public notice to the University community that it was strengthening its enforcement protocols related to free expression. In that notice, the University advised the community that “attendees at University events should expect a single warning not to disrupt an event or prevent an invited guest from speaking. Disruptive behavior may result in immediate removal from the event and disciplinary action or other consequences.”
- The April 21 message was reiterated by the Dean of the Faculty in a message to all faculty, directing them to a newly published web page, [Event Resources and Guidelines for Faculty](#), which contains information and advice related to programming that may become contentious.
- The University updated its [Protests and Free Expression](#) web page to reflect the strengthened enforcement protocols.
- In the coming months, University administrators have scheduled and will participate in educational programs on antisemitism and religious pluralism.

An April 22 event on campus featuring the Israeli ambassador to the United States, which also drew significant protests, went on [without disruption](#), a sign that the strengthened enforcement policies are working.

## **Ongoing Commitments**

Princeton University deplores any expression of hatred directed at any individual or group. Princeton remains committed to ongoing transparent actions to eliminate antisemitism and all other forms of hate and prejudice from its campus.

The University also plans to continue to publicly release [internal survey data and analysis](#) about the climate on campus for Jewish undergraduates and other groups, as it did in January. These data allow members of the Princeton community, as well as members of the media and government, to develop a complete and accurate picture of the Princeton campus climate.

As President Eisgruber noted in his January [State of the University](#) letter, the data “paint a complex picture of matters that are too often oversimplified.” For example, Jewish students at Princeton reported in 2024 the highest sense of belonging and best educational experience across faith groups, despite also reporting an increase in unwelcome behavior.

Princeton encourages all interested parties to [review the data](#) and to be on the lookout for updated data later this year.