

From:

To:

63G-2-305(11)

Subject: On Preserving UVU's Values and Commitment to Students - Thank You

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 2025 14:45:46 -0600

Importance: Normal

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63G-2-305(11)

I am writing out of deep respect for your leadership and concern for the integrity of our university community. Today, like the rain you once spoke of in your childhood, there are forces that darken the sky. But when the skies clear, we see the values we must elevate and the examples we set for our students.

Charlie Kirk appealed to the worst of us. He spoke his prejudices openly, not to test free speech, but to shape minds. He targeted impressionable youth, feeding on their fears and anxieties. Here at UVU, we strive to educate and support young people who will grow into leaders for a more just society—one where the skies are clear and the future is bright.

The hidden message in his rants was clear: hate is natural, and to resist it is to deny who you are. Hate masquerading as justice is nothing of the sort. True justice seeks fairness, accountability, and protection for all, while hate targets, divides, and destroys. This is the opposite of the lessons of moral responsibility that guided your journey, shaped by the Catholic nuns who taught you that true courage lies in standing for what is right, even when it is difficult.

That is why we must resist any effort to memorialize him or turn him into an icon. History has shown, most painfully close to home, that when a culture elevates figures without accountability, hides wrongdoing, or delays acknowledging harm, the consequences echo for generations. From the Mountain Meadows Massacre to today, secrecy, misplaced reverence, and failure to confront uncomfortable truths magnify suffering and stain communities.

The responsibility to act justly and with integrity in such matters is immense. Failure to do so leaves lasting harm from silence and misplaced reverence.

Your journey, **63G-2-305(11)**, shows what true leadership looks like. You grew up “in the slums of the Philippines, in a shack with a leaky roof,” where you “hated the rain, but when the sky cleared, you could gaze at the stars that ignited your dreams.” A “serendipitous encounter with Catholic nuns” gave you and your sisters access to education, an opportunity that transformed your future.

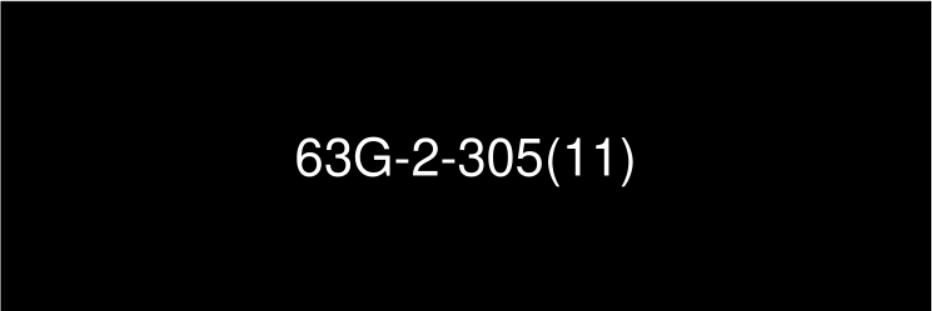
Those experiences of hardship and hope, of fear and faith, give you a perspective few can match. They are why your leadership carries such weight and why so many trust your vision. Vision 2030 is more than a roadmap. It reflects your belief that education, equity, and compassion can transform individuals and communities, ensuring UVU serves a multi-diverse student body and empowers every student to reach their potential.

In writing this, I sincerely hope expressing my opinion will not place me under scrutiny. I share it because I care deeply about the integrity of our university and the example we set for all students.

To memorialize him would be a grave mistake. We feel compassion for the few who attended the ceremony and witnessed something terrible, and we appreciate the university's efforts to support those students. But our community is far larger and more diverse. Honoring this individual would go against the values of the broader student body and the university as a whole, and it would deeply offend many of the students we are trying to educate and guide to be leaders for a more just and compassionate society. Charlie Kirk did not stand for civility, compassion, or truth. There was nothing civil about him.

With gratitude, respect, and hope for a more just and compassionate world, thank you for your consideration and leadership.

Sincerely,

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