

August 13, 2004

It's FREE: [Kerry 'Unfit' Book](#)

- ▶ [Home](#) · [Late-Night Jokes](#) · [Archives](#) · [Cartoons](#) · [News Alerts](#) · [U.S. News Links](#)
- ▶ [Int'l News Links](#) · [MoneyNews](#) · [Contact Us](#) · [NewsMax Store](#) · [Classifieds](#) · [Get Your Site Listed](#)

With Carl Limbacher and NewsMax.com Staff

*For the story behind the story...*

Thursday, Aug. 12, 2004 1:13 p.m. EDT



[Click Here](#)

## Univ. of North Carolina Won't Recognize Christian Group

For the second time in less than two years, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) has denied recognition to a Christian group, claiming that the group's desire to limit its membership to Christians constitutes "discrimination."

*Story Continues Below*



[Click Here](#)

Sites to Check Out

[List Your Site Here](#)

- [Shopping Malls](#)
- [Attention Conservatives! Click Here To See Liberals Mocked, Ridiculed And Lamponed Like Never Before Seen!](#)
- [Start Your Day with Coffee and a Cigarette? Sound Insane? Well, maybe not...](#)
- [#1 Key for any Website - Top Search Engine Pro Reveals Secrets of High Rankings](#)
- [As seen on CNN & Oprah! Health Discovery that actually reverses the aging process!](#)
- [Need Cash or Lower Bills? Get free quotes for](#)

**Protect those closest to you!**  
 You could save up to 60% on Term Life  
 Get a FREE quote from  
**MATRIX DIRECT**  
 INSURANCE SERVICES

[Click Here](#)

**Power Notebooks.com**  
**The Most Powerful LAPTOPS on the planet!**  
 Click for POWER ▶




[Click Here](#)

Self employed?  
 Small Business Owner?  
**Affordable Health Insurance made easy!**  
 no more hassle or searching through red tape!

[Click Here](#)

"A Christian group has a right to be Christian, a Muslim group has a right to be Muslim, and a Jewish group has a right to be Jewish," said David French, president of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). "It seems absurd that anyone in a free society would have to make this argument, but time and time again FIRE has had to fight for this constitutional right at universities."

The Alpha Iota Omega Christian fraternity (AIO) at UNC contacted FIRE when, according to AIO leaders, the university suspended the group's recognition and froze its university account and Web access without warning.

This occurred after AIO objected to signing an agreement which would have prohibited the use of religious affiliation as a criterion for membership – because following such a policy would defeat the very purpose of having a Christian fraternity.

[home refinancing. All credit types welcome.](#)

● [How To Make Maximum Money In Minimum Time! #1 Best-Selling Author Reveals Secrets!](#)

● [Stop Hair Loss! DHT hormone causes 90% of hair losses. Dihydro-testosterone \(DHT\) damages hair follicles...](#)

● [Commodities Are Hot! Learn how you can participate in the fastest markets! Free trial.](#)

● [Sell Your House Now! housebuyernetwork.com can buy your house Fast! Quick and Confidential](#)

● [Men: How to Do One-Fifth the Exercise and Get Twice the Results in Just 20 or 30 Minutes.](#)

● [Bottled Appeal: Athena Pheromones get you more romantic attention. Scientifically-proven formulas for men and women.](#)

● [You could be advertising on NewsMax - Click here!](#)

## Check out the Reagan Collection

[Click Here Now!](#)



Unrecognized groups do not have official rights at UNC and may not reserve space on campus, apply for funding from mandatory student fees, or take advantage of a variety of other rights and privileges that all recognized groups enjoy.

UNC's decision is all the more shocking in light of the fact that this is the second time in less than two years that FIRE has had to intervene on behalf of a religious student group suffering from discrimination at the hands of UNC's administration.

In December of 2002, the very same UNC administrators attempted to force the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to remove a provision of its constitution that required the officers of that Christian group be Christian.

UNC quickly reversed this decision after FIRE publicly exposed its unconstitutional and illiberal actions.

UNC's latest episode of discrimination against religious students began during the fall of 2003, when Segun Olagunju, at that time AIO's president, met with Jonathan Curtis, UNC's assistant director for student

activities and organizations, to discuss his concerns about the group's application for recognition.

"For more than twenty years, it has been the law that public universities must provide equal access to religious student organizations. These universities cannot condition that access on the adoption of nondiscrimination regulations that strike at the heart of the religious character of the group," said FIRE's French.

In July of 2004, FIRE wrote to UNC Chancellor James Moeser, saying: "UNC simply may not use its nondiscrimination policy to dictate how religious student organizations must deal with matters of faith. If UNC allows expressive organizations to exist at all on its campus, then it must allow religious organizations to exist, to select their own members, and to establish policies and practices in pursuit of their goals. No group can control the content of its message if it is unable to choose its messengers."

While FIRE also expressed a desire to resolve the matter amicably, UNC has yet to attempt to refute the students' claims or even to defend its actions.

FIRE is a nonprofit educational foundation that unites civil rights and civil liberties leaders, scholars, journalists and public intellectuals from across the political and ideological spectrum on behalf of individual rights, due process, freedom of expression, academic freedom and rights of conscience at our nation's colleges and universities.

**Editor's note:**

- [God wants you to be rich, not poor! Find out the secret biblical lessons to success - Click here now](#)
- [Harry Wu reveals the real China - Click Here Now](#)
- [Ann Coulter is fighting back - Click here to see her battle](#)

Sponsored Links

**E-mail This Article to a Friend**

[Printer Friendly Version](#)

[Reprint Information](#)

### **Inside Cover Stories**

- [Schwarzenegger Hails 'Terrific' Chum Kerry](#)
- [Kerry: I Wouldn't Respond to Nuclear Attack](#)
- [Bush Praises Kerry's 'Honorable' Stint in Vietnam](#)
- [Cheney: Kerry Not a Wartime Leader](#)
- [Michael Reagan to Address GOP Convention](#)
- [Springsteen Helps Edwards Woo 'Losers, Whores and Gamblers'](#)
- [Univ. of North Carolina Won't Recognize Christian Group](#)
- [Kerry Stumbles as Swift Boat Veterans Expose Him](#)
- [Heinz Kerry Mystery Son Backed Nader](#)
- [Wallace Eyes Legal Action Over Limo Bust](#)
- [Keyes Elaborates on Obama and Slavery](#)
- [More Inside Cover Stories](#)



- [Home](#)
- [Money News](#)
- [E-Books](#)
- [NewsMax Mall](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Late Nite Jokes](#)
- [Cartoons](#)
- [News Links](#)
- [Magazine](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Advertise](#)

[NewsMax.com Privacy Statement](#)

All Rights Reserved © 2004 NewsMax.com