

Meeting with USD Assistant Vice President for Student Life (Byron Howlett) about Matt Walsh

***all quotations are direct quotes that were stated in the meeting**

- “As a student, you don’t have to go to school here”
- “I don’t agree with most of the things the Catholic church says... I just don’t”
- “The University expects all guest speakers to... engage in perspectives in a manner consistent with USD’s mission and core values”
 - “If it is not consistent with the university’s values and mission, then it will not be allowed.”
- “The core values include upholding human dignity, creating a culture of respect and practicing inclusivity.”
- “USD encourages approaches to issues through an ethical manner, compassionate manner and peacefully”
- “Any content that is considered to be grossly offensive on matters such as sexual orientation... is inconsistent with USD’s values, mission, expectation of conduct”
- “Recent study of Matt Walsh” – “some of the things he has espoused... that he has spoken about have been harmful to those very communities that he’s been speaking about”
 - Understands it’s in a way to learn more about the communities, shedding light on what he considers misinformation by people who have opposite views than he does
 - Harmful particularly to the LGBT and trans community
 - What do you mean by harmful? “It is very disrespectful... it makes them feel lesser than. It impacts their dignity as humans.”
 - “We will not allow any member of our community to feel less than... we have a duty to protect all of our community members”
- Angela Davis has been denied from campus over antisemitic comments
- “The University is in full support of freedom of expression, freedom of inquiry... that’s the basis of a university... [but it also is a] delicate balancing act because we have a duty to protect our community members as well... in that case, for us at USD that usurps that freedom of inquiry and freedom of expression. We’re always gonna protect our community members”