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Subject: RE: Meeting Next Week

i know that meeting is happening in just a few minutes, but here are some of the things we've been talking about...

- BDS
 - Engaging in BDS can be a powerful way for the college to take a principled stance on social justice and human rights. By endorsing BDS in support of Palestinian liberation, the college aligns itself with a global movement advocating for the rights and self-determination of Palestinians. This not only demonstrates solidarity with an important social justice issue but also underscores the institution's commitment to ethical investment practices and responsible global citizenship.
- Increased funding to support social, educational, and political programming on campus.
 - Enhancing funding for social, educational, and political programming on campus is crucial for fostering a diverse and inclusive learning environment that promotes Palestinian liberation. Such programs can create spaces for dialogue, understanding, and advocacy, ultimately raising awareness about the Palestinian cause and empowering students to engage with the issue constructively.
- Increase the number of minority full time tenure track faculty.
 - Increasing the representation of minority faculty members, including those who are knowledgeable about Palestinian liberation, enriches the college workplace with diverse perspectives and experiences. This not only broadens the range of topics and perspectives covered in the curriculum but also provides role models for students who may have a personal or academic interest in the Palestinian struggle.
- Academic freedom
 - There's an escalation to repress Palestine activism and scholarship on college campuses. College administrators and government officials (laws, courts, etc) implement measures that could threaten academic freedom. Academic freedom is a fundamental cornerstone of higher education, as it allows for open and unrestricted discourse on a wide range of topics, including sensitive and controversial ones like the history of military occupation in Palestine. Releasing a statement in support of academic freedom to discuss the history of military occupation in Palestine not only reinforces the institution's commitment to free and open inquiry but also sends a clear message that diverse perspectives and critical examination of contentious topics are valued.
- How do we encourage faculty to decolonize the classroom?
 - Encouraging faculty to decolonize the classroom is essential in promoting a more equitable and informed discussion of Palestinian liberation. By providing training, resources, and support to faculty members, the college can help them reevaluate curricula, challenge Eurocentric biases, and incorporate diverse perspectives, including those related to the Palestinian experience, to foster a more inclusive and balanced educational environment.

-j

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