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NEWS

University responds to prof's profane tweet about Kavanaugh supporters

By [Joshua Rhett Miller](#)

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C. Christine Fair
Georgetown University

The president of Georgetown University is denouncing an associate professor's wish for the "miserable deaths" of supporters of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, saying such statements run counter to the institution's values.

Georgetown president John DeGioia **issued a statement Tuesday** after associate professor C. Christine Fair tweeted on Saturday about the “chorus of entitled white men” supporting Kavanaugh’s nomination despite sexual assault allegations against him.

“All of them deserve miserable deaths while feminists laugh as they take their last gasps,” Fair’s tweet continued. “Bonus: we castrate their corpses and feed them to swine? Yes.”

Fair’s tweet, which has since been deleted, prompted more than 1,000 “vile missives” to be sent to her personal and work inboxes, as well as detailed death threats, including the insertion of an explosive device into her “p—y,” she told The Post on Wednesday in an email. But it also prompted DeGioia to issue a response reiterating the university’s stance on the free exchange of ideas.

“We protect the right of our community members to exercise their freedom of expression,” DeGioia’s statement continued. “This does not mean the University endorses the content of their expression. We can and do strongly condemn the use of violent imagery, profanity, and insensitive labeling of individuals based on gender, ethnicity or political affiliation in any form of discourse. Such expressions go against our values.”

While faculty members’ speech remains protected, Georgetown is “deeply committed” to classrooms free of bias and supportive of respectful dialogue, DeGioia said.

When asked Wednesday if Fair remained employed by the university, a spokesman referred The Post to a portion of DeGioia’s statement that read: “If comments made by faculty members are determined to substantially affect their teaching, research, or University service, we will address them through established University procedures outlined in our Georgetown University Faculty Handbook.”

Fair, an associate professor in Georgetown’s Security Studies Program within its Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, told The Post that she endorsed DeGioia’s statement entirely.

“Why would I not?” she wrote. “As far as I know, nothing has changed in my status.”

Regarding the tweet in question, Fair said she had been trying to craft a message in the style of the “repugnant misogynist missives” she had received for more than a decade when she wrote it.

“In retrospect, I should have blogged about this rather than tweeting it,” her email continued. “My intention was to throw back the kind of hate I get in one of the forms I get to make people as uncomfortable as I feel. My discomfort is not caused by words. My discomfort and that of millions of women is caused by the actions that are killing women, injuring us while our perpetrators’ behavior is explained away and normalized.”

Fair’s tweet was quickly noticed by conservatives across social media, eventually catching the attention of Fox News host Tucker Carlson, who blasted Fair for calling for race-based “genocide.” But that was all part of her “experiment,” she **told the Washington Post**.

“Maybe this was not my most eloquent attempt,” she told the newspaper earlier this week. “And I will certainly concede I was attempting to make people feel uncomfortable.”

Still, Fair insisted the idea that she was advocating for actual violence is ridiculous.

“I set this up for Tucker Carlson,” she said. “He proved my experiment.”

Put another way, Fair, who said she was abused sexually for years as a child, said she was trying to elicit a reaction.

“I aim to create language that creates as much discomfort as I am forced to feel in this regime,” she told the Washington Post. “I cannot tell you the rage and hurt it feels as all of those men on that Judiciary Committee kicked sexual assault survivors in the gut.”

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