

Invitation to Participate in Video Project "Faculty on the Front Lines"

Dear colleagues,

We want to share information about a project from the [AAUP's Center for the Defense of Academic Freedom](#) (CDAF) titled "[Faculty on the Front Lines](#)." This video series aims to document the experiences of AAUP members who have faced repression for their speech. Our goal is to highlight issues of partisan interference and violations of academic freedom by allowing affected individuals to tell their stories in their own words.

On behalf of CDAF, Anna Feder, director of the project, would like to extend an invitation to you and your colleagues to participate. This work is especially meaningful to Anna due to her personal experience of the connection between her speech on campus and the loss of her academic position. As a trained documentary filmmaker, she believes that the best way to combat repression is by sharing our own stories. This project invites participants to collaborate with our team to craft narratives in their own words and to expand the scope of existing media coverage on such cases.

Participating in this project will not only help to raise awareness about the broad impact of this disturbing trend of silencing academic workers, but it can also support the efforts of individual faculty members in this fight. Having an easily shareable personal story can be valuable for letter-writing campaigns, legal actions, fundraising efforts, and community building. CDAF and AAUP affiliates are available to offer strategies, techniques, and training for sharing your story in shareable digital formats.

Participants are provided with a link to access the CDAF virtual "studio" for an hour-long recording session. Shortly after the recording, an edited version of the interview is shared for review and feedback.

If you are interested in sharing your story, please email cdaf@aaup.org. Our team is here to help.

In solidarity,

Isaac Kamola, Center for the Defense of Academic Freedom, director

Learn more about the first phase of the project, which includes the full playlist, an introductory Substack post, and a related podcast:

- [Faculty on the Front Lines | AAUP](#)

Related stories and other media:

- "[A New Project Exploring Attacks on Academic Freedom](#)." Anna Feder, *Academe Blog*. October 2, 2025.
- "[The chilling effect of Title VI investigations: the professors accused of antisemitism](#)." *The Guardian*. September 11, 2025.
- "[In Defense of Academic Freedom: The Frontlines of Educator Resistance with Karim Mattar, Sherena Razek, and Bill Mullen](#)" *Jadaliyya's Palestine in Context*. August 28, 2025.
- "[In Defense of Academic Freedom: The Frontlines of Educator Resistance with Isaac Kamola and Rupa Marya](#)." *Jadaliyya's Palestine in Context*. July 17, 2025.
- "[In Defense of Academic Freedom with Andrea Brower, Michel DeGraff, and Anna Feder](#)." *Jadaliyya's Palestine in Context*. March 3, 2025.