

Dear President Cockett,

We, the USU Anti-Racist Solidarity Group, are writing to you on behalf of all the students at the University who would like to voice their concerns regarding the upcoming February 6th event at the Eccles Conference Center, "How Social Justice & Identity Politics are Negatively Impacting Culture & the University" with speakers Peter Boghossian and Corey Miller.

We understand and appreciate the opportunity to have thinkers and philosophers from all spheres of thought at USU. However, Dr. Boghossian has a history of unethical practices in academia specifically. While he is an established scholar and university professor, he actively rallies against cultural relativism and social justice in academia and has committed infractions at his home university that specifically targeted gender studies, queer theory, critical race theory, intersectional feminism, and the fat acceptance movement.

"How Social Justice & Identity Politics are Negatively Impacting Culture & the University" promotes logical fascism and anti-identity politics. Identity politics is a concept from critical race theory and gender studies that is central to creating a safe environment for Native American students and LGBTQ+ students respectively both of which groups specifically have a long history of persecution in this state.

Dr. Boghossian is an individual who has been investigated and proved to have used academia to mislead the academic community with the interest of diminishing fields of studies he disagrees with. His actions further marginalized groups that are already vulnerable and historically, systematically discriminated against, which is both unacademic and unethical. Providing him space for this event undermines the work the multicultural and minority student leadership groups and administrative bodies do everyday to promote diversity, inclusion, and safety of underrepresented students at this University. The implications and impact of this event is unprecedented and we do not condone it taking place at our University. We do not feel supported in our efforts towards student wellness, and we do not feel safe. Our hope is that the University will consider and prioritize student well-being and academic integrity for future forums.