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College Republicans of UW-Madison respond to recent media coverage surrounding course syllabus

[Madison, Wis.] –The College Republicans of the University of Wisconsin – Madison value an education that is challenging in nature and allows us to sift and winnow for the truth. Due to recent media coverage surrounding Professor Kenneth Mayer's course about the American Presidency, we believe that some context should be added.

Many of our executive board members have taken classes taught by Professor Mayer, and have found him to be an intellectually engaging professor that treats conservatives fairly. In the past, Professor Mayer has openly <u>criticized</u> how the University of Wisconsin – Madison handled President Obama's visit to campus due to its political nature and ties to the Obama campaign.

Our members have been exposed to university professors and courses where conservative viewpoints are discouraged and even <u>unacceptable</u>. Some students have even altered their viewpoints on assignments to better align with those of the professor to ensure higher grades in the course. Such bias against any student, regardless of ideology, is wrong and unacceptable on any university campus.

While this particular syllabus is controversial in nature and no class should convey a political opinion, we believe that such criticism of professors should be reserved for cases in which students are clearly discriminated against for their political beliefs. Based on personal experiences with him, we do not believe Professor Mayer is such a professor.