



## *Society for Academic Freedom and Scholarship*

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25 March 2019

David Docherty  
President, Mount Royal University  
4825 Mount Royal Gate SW  
Calgary, AB T3E 6K6

Dear President Docherty,

The Society for Academic Freedom and Scholarship (SAFS) commends you and Mount Royal University for your statement Saturday 23 March to the campus community expressing regret that a scheduled talk on Muslims and atheism was wrongly cancelled by members of Student Affairs and Campus Life.

<https://www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/MediaRoom/Newsroom/balanceonourcampus.htm>

SAFS is especially impressed by words you quoted from Lesley Brown, Provost and Vice-President, Academic: "Academic freedom cannot come with conditions. In a university, we must protect academic freedom in everything we do, regardless of current events or circumstances."

That you are in the process of inviting the speaker, Armin Navabi, back to Mount Royal to give his presentation indicates that MRU is sincere in its regret and concerned to redress the wrong the cancellation did to the Mount Royal Community.

Sincerely,

Mark Mercer, PhD  
President, Society for Academic Freedom and Scholarship (SAFS)  
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