

Highlights for Petition

A Global Anti-Hate Speech Petition on Behalf of Professor Yahya R. Kamalipour

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/yahyakamalipour>

Use highlights to share important news and landmarks regarding your petition. For example, you can add media mentions, signature targets achieved — and anything else you'd like visitors to your petition to know about.

Note: This petition is managed by Dr. Amit Schejter, Penn State University. The original postings of the following highlights, representing over 1000 endorsements from throughout the world, appear in the "Signatures" section of the online petition.

Content/Comments

Professor Yahya Kamalipour is an outstanding supporter and defender of justice and freedom for all humanity – a true peacemaker. I have been privileged to work beside him on a few occasions and was shocked by the unfounded and illogically conceived comments put forward by Dr Eisenstein against Professor Kamalipour. It appears to be little more than assumption and innuendo, and it is disconcerting to witness this associate professor from Purdue Calumet engage in this kind of gutter politics. Purdue University should really vet their associate professors more carefully if this level of disparaging commentary is allowed to pass as "knowledge" and "truth" at Purdue.

--Todd Lorentz

As a Christian, my family and I have known Dr. Kamalipour and his family since 1990 and for about 10 years we were neighbors. During that time, we visited each other's homes, our children grew up together, and we have remained in contact. The diatribe posted by a Purdue Calumet faculty, Maurice Eisenstein, is not only outrageous and unprofessional but totally false. He should be ashamed of himself for attacking our peaceful friend.

--Deanna Geertsema

I had the privilege of being the Chancellor of Purdue University Calumet for eleven years and the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs for three years. I have known Professor Kamalipour since 1987 and have always held him in highest regard. There has never been a reason to question his integrity or his motives. It is with sincere regret that he should be the subject of a slanderous attack.

--Dr. James Yackel

I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Yahya Kamalipour for over 30 years and the honor of working directly with him for 15 of those years. I take great pride (in my role as Chair of the

Content/Comments

Department of Communication and Creative Arts at Purdue University Calumet) of having been directly involved in the appointment of Yahya as a department colleague. As Chair of the department and later as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at PUC, I took great pleasure in watching Yahya continue to flourish as a teacher, scholar and superb citizen of the academic community and the discipline. After accepting a position at Morehead State University (Kentucky) in 1997 as Provost and Professor of Communication, I continued to follow Yahya's career and take great pride in his accomplishments. Throughout the years, Yahya has continued to demonstrate the highest level of personal and professional integrity. The claims made against him by Eisenstein are unbelievably outrageous and not credible (forgive my redundancy). They are outrageous to anyone who has any direct personal (have met him) or professional (have read his work) knowledge of Yahya. They are not credible to anyone who reads Eisenstein's blog with any degree of intellectual honesty – that is sufficient honesty to note that no direct substantiation of any of the claims is provided. Mr. Eisenstein should be ashamed of himself for demonstrating such a low degree of personal, academic and intellectual integrity.

--Dr. Michael R. Moore

It is hard to imagine that Eisenstein was taught in the United States. If he was, he certainly didn't pay attention during his instruction on academic honesty. Purdue should be mightily embarrassed by his presence on their campus.

-- Dr. Alan Richardson

Professor Yahya Kamalipour is a well-respected scholar in the field of global communication studies. As a fellow visible minority scholar working in the North American academy, I fully understand the devastating consequences of this kind of hate-speech and blatant racism against Professor Professor Yahya Kamalipour. It is essential that Professor Yahya Kamalipour's personal integrity and reputation be restored through appropriate actions by the university.

--Dr. Yuezhi Zhao

Professor Yahya Kamalipour has always been my inspiration and my best teacher. Not only has he supported me in my academic work when I studied at Purdue University Calumet, but he also helped my later career as a political activist with his valuable advice. Currently, I am a researcher and instructor in the National Research University Higher School of Economics in Moscow focusing on human rights and social movements; and I know for sure that I would not be in the place I am if it was not for Dr. Kamalipour. Hateful accusations against him derive from a mere civic illiteracy and not understanding what an ambassador of peace means. Unfortunately, as often happens in our history, hate is aimed at the best of our kind. I urge you to restore a positive reputation of my dear friend Professor Kamalipour.

--Alexandra Endaltseva, Instructor, researcher-analyst; National Research University Higher School of Economics

I have always held Dr. Yahya Kamalipour in high regard, both as a professor and mentor. Throughout my years at Purdue Calumet, I had the pleasure of taking 5 different courses from him. His lectures were consistently positive and intellectually stimulating and there are

Content/Comments

many things that still stand out in my mind even 15 years later. I distinctly remember when one of his books was released and he had a signing at Borders book store. I bought his book and had him autograph it for me because I respected his accomplishments and was proud to be one of his students! As a matter of fact, he was the professor who encouraged me to pursue a Doctoral degree when I went to him asking about his thoughts on Masters degrees. Currently, I am on the path to doing both of those things. I most likely would not have even considered a Doctoral degree if it weren't for Dr. Kamalipour....that is how much impact he made on me! I am extremely saddened and outraged that someone in academia could make an attack like this on Dr. Kamalipour. I am in full support of Dr. Kamalipour and I sincerely hope that appropriate actions are taken against this other professor.

-- Jodi L. Drake

The only character that has been disgraced here is that of the accuser for a baseless and juvenile case he has presented. Even a school yard bully would have difficulty with making this argument stick. I am disappointed at Purdue University for allowing such racism and hatred to be openly discussed under the freedom of speech cloak.

-- Barzin Mobasher

I had the distinct displeasure of working with Maurice Eisenstein (the Purdue Calumet prof in question) for several years. He's a far-right Israeli who specializes in attacking people he deems insufficiently anti-Muslim for not being true American patriots (remarkably, he seems not to have noticed any ironies in this position). I remember hearing from many students who had endured his classes; the sense I gained was that he's one of those profs who blames his students for his own manifest teaching inadequacies. But this attack goes over and beyond questions of academic ineptitude; he's crossed a line and should be censured for it.

-- John Abbott

Eisenstein's diatribe is full of misspellings, grammatical errors, vacuous statements and non-sequiturs. This guy is a college professor?!

-- Dr. Kevin Barrett

Professor Yahya Kamalipour is a good friend of mine and also a respectable scholar who has diligently promoted cross-cultural understandings and global communication for years. I feel sorry to see such unfair attack on Professor Yahya Kamalipour's personal and professional integrity. The fierce, discriminatory, and baseless accusations are certainly discouraging and unwanted. Again, I feel sorry to see this, especially in academia and in this global village.

--Dr. Chris Chen

I met prof. Kamalipour at the inaugural conference of Global Communications Association in Shanghai in 2009. I still remember how he welcomed me. I was very nervous because it was first time for me to participate in an international conference. After the conference, when I met him at the hotel lobby, he offered me to have a beer together. He taught me a lot of his experience as an international student and a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Content/Comments

His talk was very impressive and encouraging me because I was also an foreign born professor in Japan. I can't believe such a generous person has been under a personal attack.

-- Seongbin Hwang

I deplore the baseless allegations against Professor Kamalipour. Capitalizing on the success of a scholar of this status to gain fame is unethical to say the least. Professor Kamalipour is a respected US educator for whom I have the highest respect.

-- James Brenen Halaby

I oppose the smear campaign launched against Professor Kamalipour, who is an internationally-acclaimed scholar with the highest ethical standards. His appealing personality and impressive scholarship speak to his decency and commitment to the human mission of communication as a force of peace and understanding.

-- Dr. Mohammad Ayish

I AM WRITING TO SUPPORT DR. YAHYA KAMALIPOUR IN HIS EFFORT TO CLEAR HIS REPUTATION AND NAME FROM THE VICIOUS AND WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE UNJUSTIFIED ATTACK ON HIS REPUTATION. A TRULY DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO HIS DEPARTMENT, TO INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL STUDIES, TO HIS STUDENTS, AND TO PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET, DR.KAMALIPOUR HAS BEEN A GOOD CITIZEN OF THIS CAMPUS WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO MAKING PUC A TRUE COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS. THE ATTACK ON HIS REPUTATION IS AND SHOULD BE A DEEP CONCERN TO ALL HIS COLLEAGUES, INCLUDING MYSELF. IT IS ON THIS BASIS THAT I HAVE CHOSEN TO SIGN THIS PETITION.

-- SAUL LERNER

My family and I are personal friends of Professor Y. Kamalipour , whom we have had the honor of knowing for over 25 years. We are appalled that an institution of such academic renown as Perdue University would allow such a discriminatory and defamatory incident to occur and propagate with impunity. We attest to the academic, civil and moral integrity of Professor Y. Kamalipour and stand with many others to demand with one voice that justice be done by stopping those disaffected academics in their hateful campaign so that his impeccable personal and professional reputation be repaired.

-- Irma Bobroff

I proudly and fully support Professor Kamalipour in all of his endeavors. His standing in our academic and global communities are unparalleled and his integrity unquestionable.

--Sincerely, Mitchell Batson (Purdue Graduate-M.A. Communications and former student.)

Content/Comments

I have known Dr. Kamalipour for many years. In college he was a tremendous, instructor, advisor, mentor and friend. From what I know of him he is a well respected educator, and author worldwide.

-- Cindy Hall

The accusations made against Professor Kamaliour are baseless and false. Dr. Kamalipour's contribution to scholarship is well recognized and valuable. This hate campaign should be globally condemned.

--Christy Mady

I have known Yahya for approximately 13 years, and in that time have never experienced anything but kindness from him. He is an honorable man and I am saddened that a fellow faculty member would suggest otherwise.

-- Lee Lavery

Dr. Kamalipour served on my graduate committee. It saddens me to reply to such absurd allegations. Dr. Kamalipour consistently shows the utmost respect for all perspectives.

-- Jim Noland

I have known professor kamalipour for many years and consider him to be a highly professional and peaceful individual who has made numerous contributions to advancing global communication and understanding.

-- Dr. Homayoon Shidnia

Dr. Kamalipour is one of the most dedicated educators I have met. During my time at Purdue University Calumet, he always made sacrifices for students in the Communication and Creative Arts Department, regardless of any race, age, gender, etc. Any negative comments made about Dr. Kamalipour are completely false, as proven by the 900 plus signatures above me.

--Joe Wielosinski

Professor Yahya Kamalipour is a well-known colleague within the academic community and a well-respected promoter of peace and international cooperation in Iran and elsewhere. In my opinion, attacking such a peaceful, caring, and dedicated educator is not only outrageous but cruel, inhumane, and discriminatory. Clearly, those who stoop to such a low level of professional conduct have sinister motives and do not subscribe to the accepted norms of ethics and fairness. I have no doubt that such people will ultimately lose their own credibility (if they have any).

-- Dr Mehdi Mahdavinia, School Principal

Content/Comments

I know of Dr. Kamalipour through his work; the Global Communication Association and the suite of Global Media Journals. He is a model and an inspiration in the area of globalization for the common good.

-- Heather Morrison, Canada

The Professor Y. Kamalipour I have known for years represents the best of what we accept as the epitome of American values: respect, freedom and free speech, equality, liberty, tolerance and kindness to friends to foes alike. He represents altruism and academic integrity. His valuable contributions to the discipline of international media studies ought to make every resident of the state of Indiana very proud.

--Dr. Thimios Zaharopoulos, Provost, The American College of Greece

Yahya Kamalipour's personal integrity is not in danger from a bully and a libeler like Maurice Eisenstein. Eisenstein's vicious ignorance threatens the personal integrity of his silent supporters, including members of the Purdue administration and tenured faculty.

-- Ruth S. Turpin

Dr. Kamalipour is exactly the kind of public intellectual that the world needs to combat all kinds of narrow mindedness, fanatical religious extremism, and irrational violence. Those who lie about him are only attempting to advance their own fanatical agendas.

--Dr. Alan Spector

Not only have the attacks violated the norms of academic collegiality and basic human civility, the attacks are directed at one of the most sincere, honest, and compassionate in our midst. Disagreement is fine, even welcome, but unethical and pernicious dishonesty must be roundly rejected.

--Dr. Lee Artz

As a former international student at Purdue, I find it deeply disconcerting that Professor Kamalipour's good name is being slandered in this manner. He has always been very supportive of education, communication, intercultural understanding and friendship. The affront on his character is unfounded, childish and petty.

--Ivan Guerrero, MA in Communication

It is incredible to me that anyone would question Dr. Kamalipour's integrity or loyalty. He is a top-notch educator and citizen!

--Milan Dakich

Professor Kamalipour is a person of the highest moral integrity and academic honor. The blog post vilifying Dr. Kamalipour is completely irrational, and an anathema to analytical academic inquiry and rhetoric. The blog, posted by a Purdue professor, is an embarrassment to the institution.

--Dr. Deirdre Johnston, Professor of Communication, Hope College, Holland, MI

Content/Comments

Yahya is a world-renowned scholar and a wonderful human being. The attack against him is a baseless and cowardly act lacking any rational justification. Shame on Eisenstein!

--Vytanis B. Damusis

Professor Kamalipour is an outstanding scholar of international repute. He has provided honor to this University. We are lucky to have him on faculty at PUC.

--Joseph L. Wetchler, Ph.D.

Professor Kamalipour is a well-known international communication scholar and he is a proponent of peace and intercultural understanding. He should be supported not attacked.

--fatemeh tabatabaei

Dear Professor Kamalipour, As you know, there is a Persian proverb that cites “جواب ابلهان” pronounced “Javabe Ablahan Khamooshist” and is loosely translates as “it is futile to respond to or engage idiots”. So according to the proverb silence is the best answer. However, in my opinion these words of wisdom do not apply in every case. Having read the defaming statements about you, it appears to me that those verbal attacks on you and your professional integrity are not simply a case of stupidity. They are in fact an attempt to defame, intimidate, and deny your academic freedom. Professor Kamalipour, as you know these types of attacks are well documented and are nothing more than a borrowed page from the playbook used by others to slander, defame and intimidate. In fact your Political Science colleague may view his slanderous BLOGs as an opportunity to promote himself and perhaps attract national attention. Once again, this is hardly original; it is out of the same playbook used by others who seek publicity. So, my advice to you is to take a deep breath, personally forgive and forget the hurtful remarks made about you. At the same time obtain the best legal representation possible and take legal action against the “gentleman” for defamation. This may be a harsh response and not part of your character, but in my opinion it is essential. Bullies don’t stop on their own; they stop because someone stops them. As for Purdue University, I urge the administration to publicly acknowledge professor Kamalipour’s contributions to the university and his discipline, and support his right to free speech and academic freedom. I further urge the university administration to take appropriate disciplinary action (in accordance with the faculty handbook and code of conduct), against the offender, so to minimize future attempts to defame university staff and faculty.

--Best Wishes, Hossein Hakimzadeh, Associate Professor and Director of Informatics Indiana University South Bend

I read the blog over and over again. My intention was to remain impartial, to judge the piece by its content, and to not allow our friendship with Dr. Kamalipour affect my conclusion. I realized that the shortsighted blog carried so much contradiction. The writer claimed to hold higher moral qualities while his writing revealed otherwise. This is disappointing to see the extent to which one’s bias may affect his/her opinion of others especially when the person is expressing his prejudiced attitude in professional setting. I certainly did not expect such behavior from a professor! All humans are equal in fundamental worth. Dr. Kamalipour’s idea

Content/Comments

of global social equality is visionary. He has good intentions, and is broadminded. This is the root of how he can connect with all people from different walks of life worldwide. His public-spirited views should be followed by leaders of all people, now more than ever! As Saadi Shirazi said: Human beings are members of a whole, In creation of one essence and soul. If one member is afflicted with pain, Other members uneasy will remain. If you've no sympathy for human pain, The name of human you cannot retain!

--Dr. Saeed Darbandi, MD

I have known and worked with Yahya Kamalipour for more than 20 years. In that time I have found him consistently to display the highest regard for students and colleagues. I have never observed any incidence of disrespect, and I have never heard him utter a word that could be interpreted as unpatriotic or anti-American. I am disgusted by the claims against him. I am astonished at the lack of timely and appropriate reaction by the leadership of this university. This situation seems to me to be a total perversion of the concept of Freedom of Expression.

--Dr. Willilam L. Robinson

have known Dr. Kamalipour for over 24 years. Professor Kamalipour is a dedicated scholar with an international reputation in his field. He is a man of integrity and an advocate for free expression and coexistence. I am amazed that our colleagues at Purdue are letting such baseless allegations against professor Kamalipour to go un-noticed. The person making these allegations against Dr. Kamalipour should not be allowed to stand in front of classroom and play with our young peoples' minds.

--Dr. Mohammad A. Zahraee, Professor & Assistant Dean, Purdue University Calumet

Maurice Eisenstein should be fired. He appears to be mentally unfit, and could be a real threat to the safety of the campus community. He is tarnishing Purdue Calumet's image. I am embarrassed to say I graduated from Purdue Calumet at this time. Yahya is one of the best professors I have ever had. Truly a man of sound character and integrity. Please fire Eisenstein.
campus

--Jocelyn (Gallegos) Prue

I have known Dr. Yahya Kamalipour for more than 10 years and he has always been an advocate for understanding all viewpoints, expressing tolerance while increasing understanding among various constituencies. He was my professor and department head when earning my Master's degree at Purdue University, my mentor for classes I taught at Purdue and, most recently, a facilitator for an international panel on global communications on which I was a guest member. Having seen him interact in many environments throughout the years, I can attest to his passion for knowledge sharing, impeccable integrity and endless energy to make communities locally and globally a far better, safer, more educated and peaceful world. Professionally and personally, he teaches tolerance and understanding. As a mentor, he taught me and other students to develop better understandings of cultures and subcultures – whether different ethnicities, politics, languages, religions, economic status, sexual orientation or education – in order to achieve more cohesive, successful communication. I'm completely appalled at the defamatory rhetoric directed toward him! I expect Purdue University to take

Content/Comments

action against this slander because most importantly it defames Dr. Kamalipour unjustly but also because it puts all employees, students and graduates at risk. This type of cyber bullying needs to stop. Stay strong, Dr. Kamalipour!

--Meena Ahmadzai, MA in Communication

I cannot believe that this can be done to someone like Dr. Yahya, who has worked hard so far in the world of global communications for a peaceful world. It is indeed a great pity and utterly shameful deed to try and malign him in society. The offenders should be taken to the court of law for justice; of course this will not return anything to the damage done to his genuine reputation. Our support from India to a world communications crusader! God bless.

--KRISHNA B MARIYANKA

Prof. Kamalipour has long been a most active promoter of peace, love and understanding among different people. Our world need love, love and love. We don't want hate.

--Prof.and Dean Li Xiguang

I strongly urge that Purdue University take immediate action to support Dr. Kamalipour. He is a distinguished professor with great integrity and a global reputation as a leader in the field of communication studies.

--Dr. Vincent Mosco, Queen's University, Canada

Dr. Kamalipour is a scholar with outstanding character; he has been a defender of the rights of the oppressed religious minorities- such as mine. The allegations against Dr. Kamalipour are vile, most reprehensible and constitute defamation of his stellar character. My expectation of a prestigious academic institution such as Purdue University is that it will take action in defense of its outstanding academic faculty member.

--Jena Khadem Khodadad, Ph.D.

I have had the honour of knowing Professor Kamalipour on various levels; most important, as a scholar whose publications have been inspirational to me, but also as a co-editor of a book about the right to communicate, editor of a book in which I contributed a chapter, and a founder and leader of a global network of journals, one of which I am editing. In all these capacities, I found Yahya to be a role model for young and established scholars when it comes to ethics, respect, and excellence. Professor Kamalipour is all about global cooperation, tolerance, and peace. This is his wonderful reputation that I realize it every time his name is mentioned among colleagues that I meet with globally. His energetic and enthusiastic personality guides people around him to master but high quality achievements. Reading carefully and deeply what the accuser quoted from Professor Kamalipour's article clearly confirms that Yahya is a great advocate of mutual respect and cooperation among human beings of all cultures and in all regions. Such quote is an amazing statement that is, in fact, in favour of Yahya; instead, the accuser interprets it in a way that is clearly ignorant, biased, racist, and hostile. Anyone who does not recognize the goodness in Yahya's personality and dedication to helping and respecting others regardless of their race, gender, ethnicity, culture, etc., is a blind and deaf person. Like physicians who must prescribe medications to their

Content/Comments

patients to fight viruses in their bodies, the university must take strong actions against the accuser to stop him from spreading his disastrous ideas.

--Mahmoud Eid, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Ottawa.

I have known Dr. Yahya Kamalipour since the late 1980s. In that time, he has always shown me kindness, compassion, and respect. I am proud to know him, to work with him, and I am appalled that he has to endure such a vicious attack to his reputation.

--Erin Okamoto Protsman

I have worked with Yahya Kamalipour at Purdue Calumet for the past fifteen years. At this university, and at universities around the world, Yahya is known as a prolific scholar, a passionate teacher, and a man who has devoted much of his life to the service of others. Yahya Kamalipour is a singularly kind and generous man who has enriched the lives of all his friends, colleagues, and students.

--Dr. Richard Rupp

To anyone that has worked with or knows Professor Kamalipour the claims advanced are little more than spurious and hateful nonsense. Indeed, they reveal far more about the character and politics of his accuser, than the good professor.

--Daniel Pare, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa Department of Communication, School of Information Studies, & Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP)

The attack on the good name of Professor Yahya Kamalipour seems to be motivated by hate, ignorance and narrow-mindedness. I applaud Yahya's work to bring understanding among nations, peoples, and religions. Those filled with hate should come to recognize the profound value of such work for all humanity.

--Prof. Karim H. Karim School of Journalism and Communication Carleton University Ottawa, Canada

I've known Prof. Kamalipour for more than 30 years and he deserves the support of Purdue University at a moment like this. He has carried the University's flag all over the world and championed for diverse ideas and better media coverage on vital issues that affect people all over the world!

--Manjunath Pendakur, Ph.D.

This type of scurrilous attack undermines open inquiry, debate and the university environment. It creates a climate where people fear to speak for fear of having a goon squad attack them and drag their name through the mud. (That is the precise objective of the attack.) Most important, it also wrongfully demeans the reputation and stature of a scholar with an impeccable record.

--Robert W. McChesney, Gutsell Endowed Professor University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Content/Comments

Yahya is a good friend of mine, and in no way even remotely deserved the kind of attack he received on someones (Eisenstein) blog at Purdue -Calumet, back in June. Yahya had uttered some words about people all over the world having more inc...ommon than they have apart. He

said even though we have differences in religion or no religion, differences in culture and language, that we still have more in common than we do not, and that our commonalities can pave the way to peace and understanding. And for this he was verbally assaulted as somehow being in cahoots with terrorists. The one who assaulted him actually used Yahya's words about peace and dialogue as supposed evidence that Yahya was up to no good. This is absolutely crazy. I have never before seen such a mismatch of illogical words and irrational arguments made by Yahya's attacker. Please consider supporting him as he is a very good person, a calm person who deeply cares about peace, social justice, and ecology.

--Dr. Steve Szeghi Professor of Economics, Wilmington College

I have known of Yahya's work and contributed chapters to his books for years, since my days at Tel Aviv University as professor of communication and chair of the department and through my current position as the Interim Dean at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Yahya's reputation in peace-building, international collaborations and tolerance stands out in our field and I have heard much praise for his decades of work in these areas. He is the kind of engaged scholar that sets an examples to many others.

--Dr. Dafna Lemish

The biased article against Dr. Kamalipour is self-evidenced. It practically screams “hatred”; the loathsome projection of prejudiced mind. I was perplexed by the writer’s claim to support religions when he actually disregards what is preached by the very same religions in his writing. Should we look for a disguised alternative motive here? The constitution supports freedom of speech but shouldn’t you present the higher moral you claimed to have? Doesn’t your code of ethics mandate you to practice fairness, honesty, dignity, open-mindedness, acceptance (not tolerance) of those who are not like you? The ultimate humane goal is to cross diverse cultures, races, colors, genders, and different lifestyle choices; and meet each other as equivalents at higher ground of civilization. As a teacher with the accountability to be a decent role model, it seems that you are exactly going the other way! Your baseless failed attempt to defame your colleague will only discredit you. Dr. Kamalipour earned my admiration when he wrote: “The need of the hour is to get along with one another and, make friendship, and networks based on mutual respect and understanding.”

--Dr. Susan Yazdanmehr

I have known Professor Kamalipour for many years and worked with him on many projects. He's a genuine humanitarian, a first-rate scholar, and a master in the field of communication. The attacks on him — astonishingly enough from a colleague — are ignorant, mean-spirited, and unworthy of a fine academic community.

--Jim Kenney

First of all I want to pass my greetings to all those who love and respect the science. My honored greetings for Dr. Yahya Kamalipour who sacrifices himself in order to promote the

Content/Comments

contemporary thinking in the science world. Every single dispute against this is considered as a stereotype and will not take place in great minds' thinking. We do appreciate Dr. Kamalipour's endless effort in building up the contemporary way of thinking and wish him a long life. A fully support from Malaysia - Communication students. Sincerely
-- Djezair Ziberi, Communication Student / Malaysia

University Registrar - Valparaiso University I have had the privilege of being a student of Professor Kamalipour and of knowing him for many years now. There is nothing about him that even remotely resembles the ridiculous accusations he has suffered. As one personal example, we worked together when I returned to Purdue Calumet as an administrator 7 years after graduation and 10 years after that when it was time to move my career forward, he was a key professional reference for an American, Catholic female who was in the process of interviewing and securing a position at an International, Lutheran University. This hateful act is ridiculous when held up to the reality of this man's life work. May you find respite from this horrible experience, Yahya.
-- Shelly Kooi

I have known Professor Kamalipour for only a short time. But I feel that I have known him always. I have experienced his authentic kindness; his ability to put one at ease; and the positive energy with which he engages others in meaningful dialogue. He recognizes that he does not need to convince anyone to accept his position or beliefs on various matters. He recognizes the right of any individual to draw their own conclusions about life, and to pursue it in a manner that honors that person's individuality and simultaneously honors the rights of others. This is, apparently, not the posture of anyone who would attempt to defame him. As an African Native American, I continue to be stunned by the arrogance of those who would dare to impose upon others unkind and unhealthy perceptions of a person who has done no harm to anyone. I would think that the continued hire of this type of person would be counter to what any reputable institution would support. I believe that the intentions, actions and words of Professor Kamalipour have communicated for far too long the nature of the kind of man that he happens to be for a publicized defamation of his character to be allowed by an institution that considers itself worthy of respect.
-- Edith Armstrong

Professor Kamalipour has been my stellar colleague for the 25 years I have worked at PUC. I have co-edited a book with him and he has given me the opportunity to co-edit a special issue of the Global Media Journal. These allegations made by a troubled individual are blatantly false and do not deserve any recognition. I strongly endorse this petition with the hope that the PUC administration will recognize the seriousness of such allegations and take appropriate action.
--Dr. Theresa Carilli

I respect and admire Prof. Yahya Kamalipour. I've known Yahya for over sixteen (16) years, starting as a new graduate student entering the department at Purdue Calumet, and, since

Content/Comments

then, as a disciplinary colleague. It's been my experience that Yahya is nothing but the most upstanding, engaged, and enthusiastic American, dedicated to his family, profession, community, and country. In turn, he maintains a stellar reputation nationally and internationally as a scholar. Put simply: Prof. Kamalipour has my unwavering support.

-- Keith Berry, Ph.D.

Having known Prof. Kamalipour for over 25 years, I am outraged at the attack on his integrity and character. We all need to team up to support this "anti-hate speech" drive. Instead of promoting hatred we need to learn to promote tolerance and peace.

-- JAMALUDDIN HUSAIN

I have known Prof. Yahya Kamalipour as a friend and colleague for many years. Without hesitation, I can say that he is a person of great integrity with high ethical quality that our world needs many like him. He has always been an advocate of human rights and world peace. For certain there is no place in his mind for discrimination regarding any race, color, nationality, religion and gender. I whole heartedly support his efforts to continue serving as advocate of world peace and restoration of human rights for all.

-- Dr. Reza Najafzadeh

I have known Yahya Kamalipour for 30 years. He is a respected colleague and friend. We have shared membership in the intercultural divisions of associations such as the International Communication Association, which promote the achievement of peace through discourse, not war. Yahya is not the radical in this situation. He is an advocate of peace and tolerance for all people. I am shocked at the hate rhetoric that has been directed against him. This man has taken words of peace and interpreted them as words of war. I am a graduate of Indiana University at Bloomington and a citizen of the United States, although I followed my Scottish husband to Canada many years ago. I have only fond memories of Indiana and the many friends that I made during my years in your state. I think it is a blemish on Purdue University that an employee would engage in this kind of defamatory rhetoric, not only against Yahya, but also against other groups in society. I hope you will take action against the individual who has shown himself to be a true radical. (I also note that this man is railing in his blog against your regional campus at Oman, one of the Middle Eastern countries with an excellent human rights record and not harbouring of radical groups. With the support of the Canadian government, the engineering firm for whom my son works has recently established an operation in that country. His experience has been extremely positive. We cannot paint all people with the same brush. My husband, who was a bomber pilot for the RAF in the second world but also completely anti-war, once said that civilization has very thin veneer. Unfortunately, we see that reality in the inflammatory words that appear in the online blog of this reactionary and hate-filled individual.

--Dr. Sherry Devereaux Ferguson

Content/Comments

As an Iranian Jew, my family and I have known Dr Kamalipour and his family for many years. I would like to take this opportunity to summarily dismiss Mr Maurice Eisenstein's outrageous attack on the fine reputation and international standing of Dr Kamalipour. A simple Google search of Eisenstein attests to his unprofessional and discriminatory pattern of behavior and hateful comments. He is a disgrace to the fair-minded Jewish community, and Purdue University.

-- Azita ouryel

I am surprised at the authorities in the US to let a person like Mushe Eisenstein inflict such horrible hate at a decent person such as Dr. Kamalipour. I hope our friends in the US realise that this person hates Muslims even those who he does not know and has not ever met.

-- Alireza Dehghan

This kind of smear campaign is part of a deliberate, well-funded and systematically orchestrated strategy by the pro-Israel lobby to promote Islamophobia and bigotry toward Israel's perceived "enemies." The Lobby's relentless pressures on the US administration to attack Syria and Iran are part of this, are extremely dangerous and must be unequivocally resisted, exposed and condemned. This is the worst racism alive in America today.

-- Dr. Jack Dresser

Personal attacks on people are the weapon of choice of many Zionists to science any view contradicting their own. There is only one reason for that and it is that they do NOT have a case. Their lies are being exposed day by day and by very decent Jews like Ilan Pappé, Shlomo Sand, Miko Peled, Nurit Peled-Alhanan, Norman Finklestein, and many others.

--Dr. Ibrahim Soudy

Dr. Kamalipour was my professor and advisor while I was a student at Purdue University

Calumet. He is committed to promoting global understanding and does so through his efforts as a teacher, scholar, editor, and contributor to the common good. Dr. Kamalipour is peaceful and not at all anti-American. Malicious posts against him are unfounded. I support Dr. Kamalipour as a kind educator and promoter of peace.

--Evelyn Bottando, Ph.D. Indiana University Northwest Department of Communication

As a former student (MA 1996) of Professor Kamalipour's, it's hard for me to image anyone having an unkind word to say about him. I remember him being a wonderful professor, and I thoroughly enjoyed learning under his instruction. He was highly respected amongst his peers and his students. I pray the university will stand by him and fully support him during this difficult time.

-- Sherita S. Smith

Content/Comments

I worked with Dr. Kamalipour for several years while I was at Purdue University Calumet. I cannot believe any of the accusations made against him.

-- Michael A. Gealt, Ph.D.

Dr. Kamalipour is a respected member of the Purdue University Calumet academic campus and I find these accusations made against him deplorable. Working with him both as a student at PUC and with him as a public relations professional, he was always respectful of others' needs and offered his support in all situations. I now offer him my support for the administration at Purdue University Calumet to restore the personal integrity and global reputation of Professor Kamalipour.

-- Kathleen L. Berda

I have known Professor Kamalipour for almost 20 years. His scholarly credentials are impeccable. Furthermore, his professional and personal motivations are deeply rooted in democratic values. In fact, his frequent travels to Iran and his scholarship on Iran should be seen as "citizen diplomacy" that benefits the US by promoting democracy. I would like to comment on Maurice Eisenstein's actions in order to contrast these men's moral character; however, I fear that I would be sued. If such a comparison were made, it would be clear that the allegations against Professor Kamalipour are entirely without merit. Finally, it's outrageous that in the past PUC has ruled that Eisenstein's hate speech is protected under the first amendment. That is actually true, but it is a red herring. The real issue is whether such speech can be considered evidence of competent teaching.

--Dr. Colette Morrow

I have known Yahya for three decades, as a professor of mine and as an employer of mine. Never, once, has Yahya practiced hateful behavior, unlike the blogger who takes cheap shots at professional reputations, all while hiding behind a keyboard on the internet. Dr. Kamalipour has only the best interests of humanity in mind. He has actively worked for decades to improve international conditions through better communication. He is a hero, in my book. As for the false allegations by the blogger, I would not consider them to be worth their weight in table salt.

--Steven M. Haas

Attacking someone based on his or her birth place or religion does not constitute academic speech. Maurice Eisenstein's opinion fails the basic test of facts and logic.

-- Jin Lu

I respect freedom of expression, debate, and dissent among colleagues. if only, we could adhere to principles of truth and intellectual integrity there would be no need for such petitions.

-- Jyotsna Kapur

Content/Comments

I have read the slanderous blog posting and find the individual's interpretation of Professor Kamalipour's comments and tireless work for peace and intercultural understanding is fueled by ignorance and xenophobia and worthy of nothing more than casual dismissal. It is sad that Professor Kamalipour, an individual of such high personal integrity and strong commitment to peace, religious tolerance and cultural understanding, should be so maligned by "mmeisens" is beyond comprehension. I can only assume the author of this vitriol is either delusional or grinding a personal axe for some unknown purpose.

--Michael R. Ogden

I have known Dr. Kamalipour for over 25 years and know him to be a highly dedicated instructor and researcher. Dr. Kamalipour has made numerous scholarly contributions to the field of international communication. Earlier this year, Dr. Kamalipour was selected as the 2013 recipient of the Information and Telecommunications Education and Research Award for research given his work in helping to advance international media and communication through the start-up of the Global Media Journal; arguably the first and one of the most respected on-line journals of its kind. I find it amazing that a colleague from the same institution would take it upon himself to criticize and slander a fellow colleague. It goes without saying that Dr. Kamalipour is probably one of the most well-connected international specialists at Calumet-Purdue. The people he is in regular contact with are some of the best and most highly respected scholars in the field of international communication. They are not fire breathing jihadists as his critic would suggest. Such ridiculous criticism and political posturing reflects badly on both the Professor in question as well as Purdue-Calumet that would allow such irresponsible conduct to take place. I encourage you to remedy the situation as quickly as possible since a loyal and dedicated educator's reputation is needlessly being tarnished.

--Dr. Richard Gershon

Never in more than 25 years that I have known Yahya Kamalipour professionally and personally have I never heard him say an unkind word to or about anyone. The accusations against him are baseless. He is a true gentleman and scholar, and a credit to Purdue University. I am proud to be his colleague and friend, and stand with him.

--Dr. John R. Rosenbaum

Professor Yahya Kamalipour is an outstanding supporter and defender of justice and freedom for all humanity – a true peacemaker. I have been privileged to work beside him on a few occasions and was shocked by the unfounded and illogically conceived comments put forward by Dr Eisenstein against Professor Kamalipour. It appears to be little more than assumption and innuendo, and it is disconcerting to witness this associate professor from Purdue Calumet engage in this kind of gutter politics. Purdue University should really vet their associate professors more carefully if this level of disparaging commentary is allowed to pass as "knowledge" and "truth" at Purdue.

--Todd Lorentz

Content/Comments

I first met Professor Kamalipour at an interfaith conference held in a Sikh temple in Kenya. The conference was held by a group called "Globalization for the Common Good." I have read his academic books. His autobiography brought tears to my eyes. It melts a heart of flint. The viciously racist and ignorant attack on such an accomplished and decent academic with a record of promoting peace, human rights, reconciliation and interfaith understanding is shocking. This is reminiscent of the attacks on Jewish members of academia in Nazi Germany where they were lambasted for being Semitic propaganda and "orientalizing" attitudes. That was a code word for being born Jewish. Kamalipour is called by this detractor a "Muslim." That is apparently indictment enough! Then Kamalipour is tarred and feathered because he goes to Iran and teaches at universities there? That, to the author, appears to be evidence that he is somehow connected to nefarious activities. This kind of hatred has no place in academic environments. It is to be confronted head on. Appropriate Purdue University committees in charge of academic conduct must bring the accuser up for charges of conduct unbecoming of a faculty member.

--Dr. Ahmad Sadri

As a Coptic Christian I have worked with Dr. Kamalipour and his character, integrity, and actions always reflected a point of love and understanding in wisdom and understanding.

--Peter Sedrak

I am re-signing this petition to make my signature public. There can be no doubt the testimonies here truthfully reflect the peaceful nature with which Dr. Kamalipour pursues his life's work of spreading tolerance and understanding across borders. He has mentored countless students and taught us to see through the brash wrecklessness of mediated stereotypes. I can add nothing new, but that I read the attack against Yahya; it seems the person who wrote it does more harm to his own reputation as an intellectual than he does to anyone else. Grammar and spelling errors and all, he ought to worry more about indicting the groups he himself claims to represent. Those who shelter him ought to seriously consider that holding a badger to your breast is a very bad idea.

-- Brian Phillips

Working with Dr. Yahya Kamalipour as an advisor for communication I can confirm he has demonstrated commitment to scholarship. He is the idea man for the Center for Global Studies at Purdue University Calumet with the goal of internationalization, convening voices from around the world and locally for conferences and contributions to his books, journals, and conferences. I join my colleagues in signing this petition on his behalf.

-- Heather M. Cook

I categorically condemn any and all attacks on Dr. Yahya Kamalipour's scholarship, integrity and reputation. He is an outspoken supporter of world peace and open communication, and he backs up his beliefs with the highest level of proactive personal involvement and contribution.

-- Ken Bronowski

Content/Comments

Dr. Kamalipour is a brilliant, devoted and conscientious man. I was one of his students at Purdue; as a college professor in Florida, I still consider him my mentor. He is more than an author, a professor, and a decent human being, He is my friend. He doesn't force his values or beliefs on others--instead, he lives a life of goodness. Dr. Kamalipour is a fine example of the kind of life we should all strive for. He has never demonstrated anything but: respect for others; love for his family and support of community. This attack is a pathetic attempt to damage the reputation of a man all Americans should be proud of. Please do whatever you can to restore the reputation and integrity of this very special man.

--Barbara Lucero, Professor of Communications

I am someone who has known Professor Kamalipour for decades. I am honored to call him friend. I wholeheartedly endorse the above true and very appropriately worded statements. I intend to keep Professor Kamalipour, his wife and family as friends the rest of my life and hope to introduce more of my world to him and his writings. I stand by my dear fellow American friends, the Kamalipours, during this attack on his character and am confident that the truth about his character, his peace positions and wisdom will shine forth.

-- Alice M. Clark

It is ashamed in twenty first century, in United State, and most importantly in an educational institution, we still have our narrow minded, blindsided prejudices and ignorant. Isn't time to change and see the good other people do?

-- shahin hormozi anable

I am appalled that a respected academic and scholar like Prof Kamalipour should be subjected to this disgraceful treatment by certain quarters. Action must be taken to redeem this situation before the University is embarrassed further.

-- Dr. Bahma Sivasubramaniam

The bigoted effort to smear professor Kamalipour should not be tolerated and the university must take responsible action against anyone peddling hate and racism.

-- Shawn Amoei

Professor Yahya Kamilpour's Iranian initiatives are praiseworthy. As the Bible says "Blessed are the peace-makers". By talking to Iranians he is doing no more than what the US Administration is currently doing.

-- Professor Naren Chitty

I have known Professor Kamalipour for nearly 30 years as a teacher and a colleague. He is a man of great character. Any allegations otherwise are completely false and unwarranted.

-- Lori L. Montalbano, Ph.D.

Content/Comments

The only character that has been disgraced here is that of the accuser for a baseless and juvenile case he has presented. Even a school yard bully would have difficulty with making this argument stick. I am disappointed at Purdue University for allowing such racism and hatred to be openly discussed under the freedom of speech cloak.

-- Barzin Mobasher

The truth must prevail. Hate-campaign is not the proper way for academics though envy is always commonplace in academia.

-- Dr. Biplab Loha Choudhury

I have known and worked with Yahya for almost 20 years and have no doubt of his outstanding contributions to peace building and media studies in particular. I first met Yahya in the late 1990s thru the renowned late media scholar, George Gerbner, with whom I helped found the Cultural Environment Movement in 1996.

-- Dr. Rose A. Dyson

Dr. Kamalipour is one of the finest professors and strongest academic leaders at Purdue University Calumet. I have had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Kamalipour for many years. I have the deepest respect for him as a professional and a kind human being.

-- Janice Reynolds

having lived in this wonderful country more than 42 yrs,i find these attacks and innuendos very shameful and should not ever have to enter our great academic institutions.America is much greater than that and stands for much higher values.we are a model society for others to emulate ,and if we allow these vicious attacks enter our great institutions,we had caused an irreversible harm that will haunt us for many yrs to come.this is a great nation that stands for equality and acceptance.

-- fahimeh moghtader

It is so disappointing that a well-known university as Purdue, allows such a person to keep on brainwashing the students under the name of "freedom of speech"! It is rather freedom of prejudice and insulting and humiliating the other people! Dr. Kamalipour has become a role model for the Iranian young generations, because of his peaceful activities around the globe as well as his personal manner. Purdue University should be accountable to its hired employees!

-- Shahlla Hoseini

Content/Comments

Yahya is one of the most honorable and professional individuals who I have the pleasure to call my friend. An attack on his reputation and integrity is completely baseless and uncalled for. It is a shame that a person who teaches understanding and appreciating freedom of speech would have to defend himself from ignorance and hate. Yahya is a true American who represents the honor and values that this great country of ours stands for!!!

-- Jorge Lara

I support Prof. Kamalipour's strong program of research and excellent leadership role in the global communication arena. Universities have vital roles to play in protecting diversity and the dignity of their faculty.

-- Mohan Dutta

I am presently Cardin Chair for the Humanities at Loyola University Maryland and have had the distinct honor of collaborating with my colleague, Dr. Yahya Kamalipour, on numerous occasions. I have always found Dr. Kamalipour to be an open, supportive colleague who espouses the deepest values of the American Republic. Any suggestion to the contrary is either venal or just misinformed. I consider Dr. Kamalipour's contributions to the academy in general to be insightful and invaluable. I look forward to his continuing work in our field of international communication for many years to come.

-- Allen W. Palmer, Ph.D.

Professor Kamalipour is well known in Egypt and Arab Countries' media and communication scholars as a professor whose works, publications help create understanding among cultures and religions. I myself invited him to establish a new college at Future University, Egypt where he has done a great job. He is considered to be a freedom fighter and a man of principles. I really was shocked when I heard that somebody is trying to underestimate his reputation.

--Prof. Dr. Basyouni Hamada

Prof. Yahya Kamalipour is an outstanding scholar, teacher, friend and a wonderful person. He is friend to many and respected by all: A man of vision and a man on the mission to serve the common good.

-- Prof. Kamran Mofid

I had the honor to have Dr. Kamalipour as my teacher during my Master's degree program at Purdue University and he has been an example of integrity and knowledge. I admire his work and his persona.

-- Darcyana Moreno

Content/Comments

I have known Yahya Kamalipour for seven years through GCGI conferences and have found him to be a person who is peaceful, thoughtful, a promoter of harmony, an excellent communicator and a contributor to international and inter-religious understanding serving the common good. He is a kind and helpful colleague and does not deserve to be subjected to this outrageous accusation.

--Ann Hallock

I am surprised at the authorities in the US to let a person like Mushe Eisenstein inflict such horrible hate at a decent person such as Dr. Kamalipour. I hope our friends in the US realise that this person hates Muslims even those who he does not know and has not ever met.

-- Alireza Dehghan

My wife and I traveled to Iran with Yahya Kamalipour in 2005 where all three of us spoke to the Second International Conference on Public Relations in Iran, sponsored by Kargozar Public Relations Institute. Such travels are important for normalizing relationships between the people of Iran and the people of the United States. Yahya is doing the world a great service by helping to establish such relationships. He is a fine scholar, a true gentlemen, and a peacemaker who should be supported and not attacked.

-- James E. Grunig

Though Dr. Kamalipour has political views and may make choices according to his politics, he is not a political activist and is not affiliated with any political organization or group -- whether for or against the Islamic Republic. As for going to Iran, many people, even those who are opposed to the IR but are not an activist or a member of a political organization against the regime, they have no trouble visiting their homeland. Furthermore, Dr. Kamalipour's interaction with Iranian universities has focused on exchange of knowledge and scholarship, all of it in communication area. These accusations are baseless and detrimental to academic freedom, freedom of expression, and free movement of scholars to different countries.

--Dr. Ali Akbar Mahdi

Content/Comments

I have known Dr. Kamalipour for years. I have had the fortunate opportunity to learn from him as a student and to work with him professionally after my studies. I have personally seen the sense of peace and balance he carries into projects and relationships he has built across the globe. I am proud to know him and support the spirit of this petition.

-- Christopher Kosovich

I have known Dr. Kamalipour for 15 years as an impeccable scholar of international communication. He is a credit to Purdue Calumet and our discipline. His attacker owes him an apology.

--Joe Blaney, Munster, IN native.

I knew Professor Kamalipour and his family before I began working at PUC in 2003. We live in the same town; our children attended the same schools....grade school through high school. In addition, I took at class that Dr. Kamalipour taught, and have attended various campus events that Dr. Kamalipour attended. I

have NEVER in all of the years that I have known Dr. Kamalipour, to be nothing less than an upstanding, respectable, mild-mannered, citizen, and professor.

-- Laura Matthies

I know Prof. Yahya from the frequent times I met him in the Rhodes Forum of the World Public Forum / Dialogue of Civilizations and I dismiss the accusations leveled against him, and vouch as to his spirit of dialogue and tolerance.

-- Father Boulos Wehbe

This attack against Professor Kamalipour would appear to be comical if it were not so serious in its implications. Indeed, it seems that the accuser here is the one guilty of "anti-Americanism".

-- Robert Prey