



# NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JOEL I. KLEIN, *Chancellor*

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## Chancellor's Strategic Response Group

52 Chambers Street, Room 215, New York, NY 10007

April 18, 2005

Mr. Ali Banuazizi  
President  
Middle East Studies Association of North America, Inc.  
1219 North Santa Rita Avenue  
The University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 85721

Dear President Banuazizi:

Thank you for writing to Mayor Bloomberg to express your concern regarding Professor Rashid Khalidi of Columbia University. The Mayor received your letter and forwarded it to Chancellor Klein who has asked that I respond on his behalf.

The New York City Department of Education greatly values the opinions of the academic community. The Department's decision concerning Professor Khalidi was based on the program's function in providing professional development for public school teachers who in turn instruct children in the classroom. We recognize that members of the academic community may agree or disagree with the Department's decision, and we appreciate your interest in and commitment to the education of our children.

Sincerely,

Terry Bowman  
Director, Chancellor's Strategic Response Group

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