

June 15, 2025
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned for academe.

Our academic system has long been the envy of the world and drawn the brightest and most driven people. Besides a remarkable learning environment this has fostered dramatic discoveries and a vibrant start-up community benefitting humanity but America particularly. The system has been fully supported by Democrats, Republicans and businesses. Our basic freedoms and fairly open visitor policies have been another essential ingredient and universities have in turn helped strengthen democracy. Your stunning attempts to destroy our universities have already driven a majority of scientists to consider relocating according to a recent Nature survey. Students now ask not only what graduate programs might be good for algebraic geometry but relatively safe politically. Research should absorb a student completely and disappearing visas and stipends make that impossible.

Please assure me that you will support universities.

My pride in the US derives in part from our science.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson