



Issue with Ilya Shapiro Event 10/7

McDermott Me an <me an.mcdermott n u.edu>

Wed Se 17 2025 at 9:05 PM



Dear 

I'm happy to find a time to meet if Dean McKenzie's availability doesn't allow for a meeting on short notice.

I will add to the conversation the following clarification: I personally review with the Programming and Governance team (IPG) event and room-booking requests and reservations for dates on which we expect or experience conflicts with academic programming (for example, a noisy event with loud music in Greenberg when classes are in session nearby) or resource allocation challenges (examples include heightened security at NYU or even in the Washington Square neighborhood, such as a visit from a head of state or the Halloween parade; multiple simultaneous events requiring A/V support, JRNY access, catering, or enhanced security). We work through these requests with the goal of approving each and every one that can be supported responsibly and providing guidance, support, and flexibility whenever possible.

In consultation with IPG, and after a review of the already great demands on resources and personnel (including but certainly not limited to security personnel) during the week of October 6-10, 2025, I personally made the decision that we could not host your event on campus during that week. This is not a decision based on the proposed program or speaker but rather based on an obligation to provide enhanced security generally on campus during that week as well as resource commitments we have already made across multiple buildings for public and closed events during the same period. I apologize if this decision, which may be frustrating or disappointing, was communicated to you in a way that confused the issue; I take full responsibility for that miscommunication. For the sake of clarity and for future planning purposes, I do not know that anyone has any information suggesting that your proposed event would be subject to disruption or protest specifically related to the anniversary of the October 7th hostage taking.

I very much hope that your organization will be able to host your guest either by Zoom on October 7 or on campus during another week when we can better support you. As you likely know from Keton and other recent leaders of FedSoc, the Dean's Office has gone to great lengths to ensure that your organization and many other student organizations are able to host an impressive array of events and speakers on campus successfully and with minimal disruptions, and we will continue to prioritize that support whenever it is possible to do so safely and responsibly. I have spoken with IPG, and they are ready and waiting to help you plan for an alternative date or format in order to ensure that your event is a wonderful success.