

# Wikipedia, Norman Finkelstein

## Tenure denial and resignation

In early 2007 the DePaul University Political Science department voted nine to three, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Personnel Committee five to zero, in favor of giving Finkelstein tenure. The three opposing faculty members subsequently filed a minority report opposing tenure, supported by the Dean of the College, Chuck Suchar. Suchar stated he opposed tenure because Finkelstein's "personal and reputation demeaning attacks on Alan Dershowitz, Benny Morris, and the holocaust authors Elie Wiesel and Jerzy Kosinski" were inconsistent with DePaul's "Vincentian" values. Amidst considerable public debate, Alan Dershowitz actively campaigned to block Finkelstein's tenure bid. In June 2007, a 4-3 vote by DePaul University's Board on Promotion and Tenure (a faculty board), affirmed by the university's president, the Rev. Dennis Holtschneider, denied Finkelstein tenure.

The university denied that Dershowitz, who had been criticized for his campaign against Finkelstein's tenure, played any part in this decision. At the same time, the university denied tenure to international studies assistant professor Mehrene Larudee, a strong supporter of Finkelstein, despite unanimous support from her department, the Personnel Committee and the Dean. Finkelstein stated that he would engage in civil disobedience if attempts were made to bar him from teaching his students.

The Faculty Council later affirmed the right of Professors Finkelstein and Larudee to appeal, which a university lawyer said was not possible. Council President Anne Bartlett said she was "terribly concerned" correct procedure was not followed". DePaul's faculty association considered taking no confidence votes in administrators, including the president, because of the tenure denials. In a statement issued upon Finkelstein's resignation, DePaul called him "a prolific scholar and an outstanding teacher." Dershowitz expressed outrage at the compromise and this statement in particular, saying that the university had "traded truth for peace."

In June 2007, after two weeks of protests, some DePaul students staged a sit-in and hunger strike in support of both professors denied tenure. The Illinois Conference of the American Association of University Professors also sent a letter to the university's president stating: "It is entirely illegitimate for a university to deny tenure to a professor out of fear that his published research ... might hurt a college's reputation" and that the association has "explicitly rejected collegiality as an appropriate criterion for evaluating faculty members".

**RJMI Comment:** It must be noted that as a general rule non-Catholics, such as Finkelstein, are forbidden to teach in Catholic schools. And that is yet another proof that DePaul is not really Catholic, because it and all other so-called Catholics schools commonly hire non-Catholic teachers. However, the reason DePaul did not give Finkelstein tenure is nevertheless unjust and hypocritical and no doubt ordered by Zionist Jews who ordered the Freemasons to deny him tenure.

## **Denied entry to Israel in 2008**

On May 23, 2008 Finkelstein was denied entry to Israel, according to unnamed Shin Bet security officials, because “of suspicions involving hostile elements in Lebanon” and that he “did not give a full accounting to interrogators with regard to these suspicions.” Finkelstein had previously visited south Lebanon and met with Lebanese families during the 2006 Lebanon War. He was banned from entering Israel for 10 years.

Finkelstein was questioned after his arrival at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv and detained for 24 hours in a holding cell. After speaking to Israeli attorney Michael Sfar he was placed on a flight back to Amsterdam, his point of origin. In an interview with *Haaretz*, Finkelstein stated “I did my best to provide absolutely candid and comprehensive answers to all the questions put to me. I am confident that I have nothing to hide... no suicide missions or secret rendezvous with terrorist organizations.” He had been travelling to visit friends in the West Bank and stated he had no interest in visiting Israel. Sfar said banning Finkelstein from entering the country “recalls the behavior of the Soviet bloc countries.”

## **Wikipedia, Beyond Chutzpah**

### **Dershowitz lawsuit**

In the book, Finkelstein extensively documented what he claimed was Dershowitz’s falsification of Israel’s human-rights record and his plagiarism of research from Joan Peters’ book *From Time Immemorial*. In response, Dershowitz initiated a massive lawsuit, having his lawyers write letters to the University of California Press threatening an expensive lawsuit if they published the book. At one point, Dershowitz called on the Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, to intervene on his behalf, to stop the book from being published, but the Governor refused. Eventually, Dershowitz backed off and the book was published by UC Press, albeit with some minor modifications as a result of Dershowitz’s threat.