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### About Professor Courtney Brown

From: Pat Parrinello <pparri@republic.net>  
Date: Wed, 29 Jan 97 15:36:26 -0600  
Fwd Date: Fri, 31 Jan 1997 16:01:38 -0500  
Subject: About Professor Courtney Brown

Subject: Re: Courtney Brown  
Sent: 1/29/97 3:06 PM  
Received: 1/29/97 3:08 PM  
From: Bill Chace,  
Bill\_Chace@learnlink.emory.edu  
To: pparri@republic.net

A Statement about Professor Courtney Brown

Professor Courtney Brown is a member of the Emory faculty and teaches in the Department of Political Science. His published work in social science has received very favorable recognition from experts in the field. Independently of this professional work, he has recently established and runs "The Farsight Institute," an organization having no relationship whatever with Emory University, and from which it receives no support. Professor Brown has declared that he will not commingle his responsibilities at Emory with these other activities. To the best of our knowledge, he has honored that pledge. Under these circumstances, he is free to pursue his endeavors with his institute.

The principles of academic freedom, as well as the liberties granted to all American citizens, do not permit this university or any other university to constrain the ideas or opinions of any of its faculty members. John Stuart Mill said it best when in, On Liberty, he wrote: "If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind." Universities do not exist to shelter received opinion or to affirm what everyone knows. They serve instead to stimulate originality of thought and independence of expression. Since error is often the companion of truth, and since truth is always to be sought yet never to be gained, universities have always had an intimate acquaintance with falsehood.

While I do not agree with the content of Professor Brown's non-Emory activities, he has the right to pursue them.

William M. Chace

-- William M. Chace  
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