

We, the undersigned academics, write to express our deep concern about actions taken by the administration of Michigan State University against a member of our scientific community, a Turkish origin mathematician Professor Selman Akbulut. Recently, Michigan State University administration is charging Professor Selman Akbulut with "targeting faculty who have served in administrative review", which is solely based on Professor Akbulut's writing his thoughts that are critical of actions taken by the administration; decrying racial discrimination against Middle Eastern graduate students, retaliation of faculty including himself who is critical of non-ethical treatments in the Math Department; asking corrections for the disciplinary actions he has faced as retaliation. Dismissal for Cause process was recommended by the department chair, and initiated by higher administrators.

Professor Akbulut received his PhD from University of California Berkeley in 1975. He is a well-known Turkish mathematician who devoted his life furthering mathematics, and collaboration with mathematicians throughout the world.

Intellectual freedom and expression of thoughts are non-negotiable elements of academia. We urge MSU administration to protect academic freedom and free speech, cease retaliation against its constructive critics, and prevent all kinds of discriminative actions. We urge MSU to ensure that Professor Akbulut's academic rights are fully respected. We call on the whole world mathematical community and in particular EMS and AMS to raise their voice against this shameful mistreatment and persecution of our colleague.

Respectfully,