# Columbia University Faculty Pass No-Confidence Resolution Against President Nemat Shafik



On May 16, 2024, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University passed a no-confidence resolution against President Nemat Shafik. The resolution, introduced by the American Association of University Professors' campus chapter, accused Dr. Shafik of violating academic freedom and student rights. Specifically, the faculty criticized her decision to call police to disperse a pro-Palestinian student encampment on April 18 and her pledge to discipline faculty members accused of antisemitism.

Of the 709 faculty members who voted, 65% supported the resolution, 29% opposed it, and 6% abstained. Dr. Shafik has not publicly addressed students since the police were called to remove the protesters, citing security concerns and canceling the main graduation ceremony.

Ben Chang, a Columbia spokesperson, stated that Dr. Shafik continues to engage with the university community and other leaders to heal the campus. Dean Amy E. Hungerford expressed hope for constructive collaboration moving forward. Despite the symbolic nature of the vote, it highlights the significant unrest and division on campus regarding Dr. Shafik’s actions and leadership.