

# Reinstate Fred Dube!

Fred Dube, a leader of the African National Congress of South Africa, is waging a fight to regain his post as a professor at the State University of New York's Stony Brook campus. Dube was fired last year after a smear campaign portrayed him as anti-Semitic. At issue is the right of students and teachers to objectively discuss racism and the state of Israel.

A federal court hearing will be held September 14 on the university officials' motion to dismiss the case. Every defender of democratic rights should rally to Dube's support. His firing is an attack on the First Amendment right of free speech and on the right of teachers and students at universities to express and discuss views without harassment.

The charges of unprofessional conduct in the classroom against Dube are a fraud. The case is a political one. The logic has been to brand not only Dube, but all South African anti-apartheid fighters as bigots.

Dube was imprisoned on South Africa's Robben Island for four years and forced into exile for his stand against apartheid. Like other leaders of the ANC, he has unrelentingly fought against all forms of racism and anti-

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Semitism — at home in South Africa and in exile in the United States.

The Faculty Senate at Stony Brook investigated the charges against Dube, and concluded by an overwhelming majority that they were unfounded.

If the firing of Dube is upheld, the pressure on students and teachers to conform to the political views of the government and school administrators will be intensified. The rights of all will be dealt a blow.

Far from encouraging objectivity on the subject of Israeli policies and racism, the firing of Dube is a gag order.

One of the best ways to defend Fred Dube is to provide him with the opportunity to express his real views and discuss the issues at stake in his case. Dube should be invited to speak wherever potential defenders of the Bill of Rights gather.

Supporters of the First Amendment and academic freedom should send letters of protest to New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, demanding that he take action now to insure that Dube is reinstated. Letters to Cuomo should be addressed to him at the Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany, N.Y. 12224.

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## ANC leader fights firing by university

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BY MAREA HIMELGRIN

NEW YORK — On September 14 at the federal courthouse in Uniondale, Long Island, the administration of the State University of New York will argue that a lawsuit filed by a leading member of the African National Congress (ANC), Fred Dube, should be dismissed.

Dube was denied tenure at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1987 because of his political views. His lawsuit demands his job back and a half million dollars in damages.

The Committee to Support Professor Dube is urging supporters of freedom of speech to attend the September 14 hearing. (Uniondale can be reached by train or by driving. By car, from the Northern State Parkway go south on Meadowbrook Parkway to Hempstead Turnpike; on Hempstead Turnpike go to Uniondale Boulevard;

turn left on Uniondale, the courthouse is on the right.)

The ANC leader has spoken at many campuses and before many groups on the freedom struggle in South Africa and the politics of race and racism. He has won broad support for his right to teach at Stony Brook.

Abdeen Jabara, president of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee is one of the latest supporters to send a protest letter to New York Gov. Mario Cuomo.

An ad demanding tenure for Dube, signed by more than 200 prominent defenders of civil liberties, is scheduled to appear in the September 9 edition of *New York Newsday*.

A column on Dube appearing several months ago in *Newsday* quotes the ANC leader saying of his former employers, "I am an albatross around their neck . . . I will not go away quietly."

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