


DMN Committee Report, 2021

To mark the 30th anniversary of the Davis, Markert & Nickerson Academic and Intellectual Freedom Lecture, a panel discussion, titled *Challenges to Academic Freedom in a Changing Landscape, at Home and Abroad*, was originally scheduled for October 27, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was rescheduled to 2/16/2021 and held virtually (see announcement below). One panelist who had originally accepted the invitation later declined. The three panelists were:

- 1) [Nadje Al-Ali](#), Brown University
- 2) [Susan Benesch](#), Berkman Klein Center, Harvard & American University
- 3) [Michael Bérubé](#), Pennsylvania State University

University of Michigan Associate Professor Melanie Tanielian moderated the discussion. Honoree Chandler Davis, who had come to Ann Arbor for all previous lectures, participated actively in the virtual event. Over 140 persons attended it, some of whom from outside the U.S. During the day of the event, which went smoothly with negligible technical glitches, the panelists met with students and faculty. Two of the panelists contributed to a class on media law, taught by Committee member Faith Sparr.

While it is difficult to plan the logistics of the next event, the committee has begun discussions aimed at identifying the next speaker. After discussing a range of potential topics, the committee voted in favor of focusing on the silencing of the Palestinian voice on campuses. The implementation of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was the next priority. Potential speakers will be discussed in an upcoming meeting.



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN




Please Join Us

**30TH ANNUAL
DAVIS, MARKERT, AND
NICKERSON
ACADEMIC FREEDOM LECTURE**


**Challenges to Academic Freedom
in a Changing Landscape,
at Home and Abroad**

Webinar
Tuesday, February 16, 2021
4:00 – 6:00

Panel Discussion Featuring

<p>Nadje S. Al-Ali Brown University</p> 	<p>Susan Benesch Harvard University</p> 	<p>Michael Bérubé Penn State University</p> 
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Moderated by
Melanie Tanielian
University of Michigan



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