

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT
CIVIL APPEAL STATEMENT OF PARTIES AND ISSUES**

Case No: 20-3289 Case Manager: Ms. Laura A. Jones

Case Name: Meriwether v. Trustees of Shawnee State University, et al.

Is this case a cross appeal? Yes No

Has this case or a related one been before this court previously? Yes No

If yes, state:

Case Name: _____ Citation: _____

Was that case mediated through the court's program? Yes No

Please Identify the Parties Against Whom this Appeal is Being Taken and the Specific Issues You Propose to Raise:

Dr. Nicholas Meriwether, a philosophy professor at Shawnee State University, declined to address a male student as a woman. He offered to use whatever name this student preferred and to avoid using pronouns with this student. That way, the student would not be called something the student found objectionable, and Dr. Meriwether would not have to say things that contradicted his beliefs. But University officials punished Dr. Meriwether for violating their Nondiscrimination Policies, imposing restrictions that compelled even his speech off-campus.

This appeal presents one issue: Did the district court err by ruling that Dr. Meriwether failed to plead plausible First and Fourteenth Amendment claims when University officials punished him for expressing his views on human nature and when they compelled him to say things that would violate his philosophical and religious beliefs?

This is to certify that a copy of this statement was served on opposing counsel of record this 30 day of

March, 2020 .

John J. Bursch

Name of Counsel for Appellant