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# Militant Islam at The Bernardin Center - Scott Alexander Must Resign After Defending Fawaz Damra's Call to Kill Jews

The Catholic Theological Union And The Limits of Understanding by William Mayer & Beila Rabinowitz Pipeline News July 7, 2004

## The Catholic Theological Union And The Limits Of Understanding

### By - William A. Mayer & Beila Rabinowitz

CTU is in the news again.

Since the beginning of this year, unwanted media attention been directed at the Catholic Theological Union's Bernardin C Muslim Studies program and the program's embattled director, Dr. Scott Alexander

Alexander has been under fire because he is increasingly being seen as building bridges and associations - under the gu Christian/Muslim interfaith outreach - to some truly reprehensible disciples of radical [Salafi] Islam.

### A bit of history:

In February, as part of an ongoing series we have been doing about militant Islam in America, we came upon the activitie Jammal and the Bridgeview Mosque Foundation in Illinois.

Oussama Jammal is the Mosque's president and Sheikh Jamal Said its Imam, or religious leader. It has a reputation for be center of Islamist organizing, recruitment and fundraising activity. As a result, it has been under law enforcement scrutiny decade.

Bridgeview has a long history of funding groups like Hamas [In a February 8, 2004 article, the Chicago Tribune listed the entities as having received substantial funding from Bridgeview: "Al-Aqsa Educational Fund, Benevolence International Funding Relief Foundation, Holy Land Foundation For Relief And Development, Islamic Association For Palestine, and the Literacy Institute"] - through a complex arrangement of financial ties provided by organizations like the Holy Land Founda and Development [formerly the largest Muslim "charitable" foundation in the United States].

The Holy Land Foundation was shut down and had its assets frozen by the Federal government on December 4, 2001, a after the 911 attack.

"...the administrative record contains ample evidence that 1. HLF [Holy Land Foundation] has had financial conne to Hamas since its inception in 1989; 2. HLF leaders have been actively involved in various meetings with Hamas leaders; 3. HLF funds Hamas-controlled charitable organizations; 4. HLF provides financial support to the orphans families of Hamas martyrs and prisoners; 5. Hamas' Jerusalem office acted on behalf of Hamas; and 6. FBI inform reliably reported that HLF funds Hamas..." - from the Dept. of Justice filing in the case of Holy Land Foundation v.



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### Ashcroft.

On the day the doors of HLF were closed, President Bush presented the people's case straightforwardly, detailing where inside of Bridgeview ended up:

"Money raised by the Holy Land Foundation is used by Hamas to support schools and indoctrinate children to gro into suicide bombers....Money raised by the Holy Land Foundation is also used by Hamas to recruit suicide bombe to support their families."

It is interesting to note that not only is Jammal's Mosque located only a few feet from the now closed HLF office, but - acc Chicago Tribune - it immediately hired the man who ran the office, Kifah Mustapha, in an apparently defiant show of conti for the organization.

Bridgeview's Saudi trained Imam, Sheikh Jamal Said and at least one his Board members have direct ties to the terror ne themselves:

"One of Sheik Jamal's fellow mosque leaders, Muhammad Salah, drew scrutiny for his Palestinian fundraising act In 1993, while part of the mosque's eight-member executive committee, Salah was arrested at a Gaza Strip check and accused of financing Hamas military operations. He was sent to an Israeli prison for five years. In a statement Israeli authorities that he later retracted, Salah said a religious leader in America recruited him into the Muslim Brotherhood, which led to his involvement in Hamas. The man he named: Sheik Jamal..."—"Islamic Hardliners in Heartland"—Chicago Tribune—February 16, 2004

