

June 23, 2016

The Honourable Dr. Hassan Rouhani
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran
c/o H.E. Mr. Gholam Ali Khoshroo
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of
The Islamic Republic of Iran to the UN
Email: iran@un.int

Re: Detainment of Dr. Homa Hoodfar in Iran

Your Excellency:

I am writing on behalf of the Brock University Faculty Association (BUFA) to call for the immediate release of Professor Homa Hoodfar, who is a Concordia University professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. She is being detained in Evin Prison in Tehran.

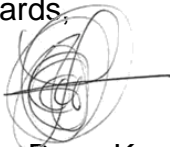
Professor Hoodfar is a well-respected anthropologist with an international reputation. She studies topics such as family relations and the challenges facing women in the Middle East and takes a balanced view toward these issues.

Although Professor Hoodfar is being held in prison in Iran, to our knowledge, she has not been charged with any offense. We also understand that she is in need of medical care and has not yet had the benefit of legal representation. She has been forbidden to leave the country and has had her possessions seized.

We are extremely concerned with her arrest and interrogation. In the name of academic freedom, legitimate international scholarly research, and basic human rights, we urge your government to act quickly and decisively to do everything in its power to secure her release and safe return to Canada.

I respectfully ask for your help in resolving this unfortunate situation. I thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Regards,



Linda Rose-Krasnor, Ph.D.,
President, Brock University Faculty Association
Professor, Department of Psychology