

Report on Campus Safety
University of California, Riverside
By Nichi Yes

Date of Creation: 2021-02-07

Date of Completion: 2021-02-21

Terms of Use: We¹ encourage the widespread sharing of this report and use of our research. Our only conditions are that our words not be misconstrued.

The coroner can arrest the sheriff. The office of the coroner was established in 1194, by Article 20 of the “Articles of Eyre”. What was the purpose of the coroner? To protect the financial interest of the Crown in criminal proceedings. The coroner is, “in many instances, a necessary substitute: for if the sheriff is interested in a suit, or if he is of affinity with one of the parties to a suit, the coroner must execute and return the process of the courts of justice,” according to [James Wilson](#) in chapter seven of volume two of his [Lectures on Law](#).

The UCRPD does not have a coroner, does it? And when the UCRPD is interested in a suit, and when UCRPD is of affinity with one of the parties interested in a suit, who must execute and return the process to the courts of justice?

In the 2021-02-18 meeting of the CSTF, the Honorable Jorge Hernandez said:

“And I saw from the beginning that we weren't going to answer every question. We weren't going to be able to deal with every problem. We have diverse thoughts. We have diverse feelings, you summarized it in terms of people wanting to abolish the police. I see from my role every single day that a police officer is necessary, but I'm also mindful that when I'm out on the street and a police officer gets behind me, even though I must appear at court judge, there are times I'm scared shitless because I don't know how that's going to end. So this really is **this balancing between needing protection, but not needing them to beat us.** You know, there's always that **balance**. But I think this task force is really a great step towards it. And I hope that it does not stop

¹ We are plural, i.e. a system of alter personalities sharing one human body, and as such take the liberty of using the first-person plural pronoun “we”. Nichi Yes is sixteen people in one human body.

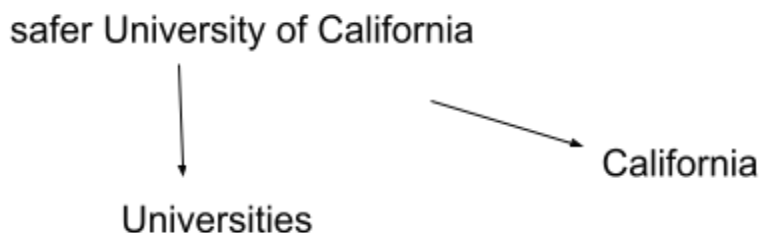
here. A lot of times we get people to ask our opinions and then the opinions get filed in a drawer somewhere. And then that's the end of it. And then, they, you know, lip service, will I ask these people about what their thoughts and opinions are? So I want to make a statement, but I need to be very careful how I craft it."

The highlighting is mine. The Honorable Judge Hernandez identifies the two primary elements of this whole discussion: The protection from bad things that the police provide and the bad things that the police provide. The point of this report is that the police do not provide the protection and they do provide the bad things. It is then trivial to conclude that anything other than abolition and complete divestment from policing.

A researched response to this report is requested from:

- Jack Clarke, Chair of UCR Campus Safety Task Force
- Kim Wilcox, UCR Chancellor
- Christine Victorino, UCR Associate Chancellor
- Tom Smith, UCR Interim Provost
- Mariam Lam, UCR VC of DEI (CDO)
- John Freese, Interim Chief of Police

I make this request with the utmost respect for the aforementioned individuals and their time. I take it as obvious that America needs to stop everything and deal with its racism problem, and equally obvious that that will not happen. The reason that that will not happen is that America lacks a leader. By this I mean that there is nobody Americans agree to follow. But this is not the case of the University of California, Riverside. We have leaders. It is this leadership that should use their future fluency to show the way to a safer University of California.



In this figure I add two flow arrows. You can shape the safety of Universities and you can shape the safety of California. Beyond that I will leave for a future report, and your own imaginations.

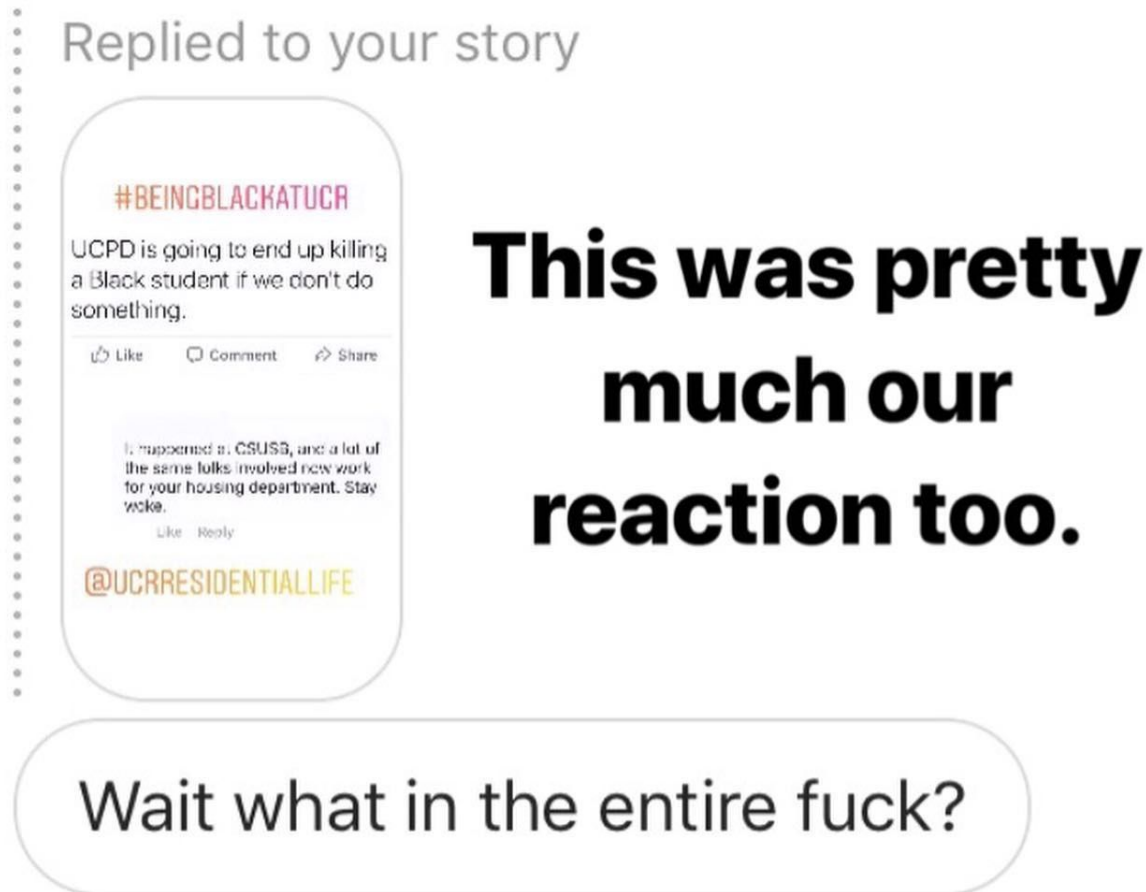
The question I ask at the meeting I give this report to you:

"I came here in 2017, and I keep up with the news. I research the important people in my life. At my previous academic institution, I saw firsthand how things go under rugs. We the graduate community are threatened daily with assault or even worse. And we are dying. I'm glad UCR's graduate and professional students elected one of the dying among us to represent us. It's unfortunate more attention hasn't been paid to our dead students this year; that anyone here thinks more context is necessary should be disgusting enough. I really hope it's a long time before anyone else in our seats have to lead through the deaths of so many students and loved ones. As someone who keeps TAing a class called Evil that invites students to share evils from their own lives, I've had to read and hear horrors I'm not morally at liberty to share, that you need to do more to stop. But the data is clear that money in policing does not protect our campus. Graduate students are continually sexually assaulted, physically battered, et cetera on campus, at campus events, and by campus authorities. I've witnessed the Director of the Title IX Office need personal physical protection from a violent individual, and UCR went through great lengths to enable his freedom to rape, terrorize, and be credited with a degree. We would far rather be co-conspirators and benefit from your leadership and wisdom than antagonists, but first, we need to be able to trust you to stop hurting us. Stop detaining us. I've been detained more in grad school at UCR than in grade school, middle school, high school, and college combined. And I am in a position of power, I am luckier than many of the other graduate students here. The current system called "Campus Safety" prevents students from being safe. You can take actions to change that, and to ensure the safety of graduate students. .

I'm not being dramatic. I'm being realistic.

So, my question: What concrete actions will you be taking this month, this quarter, this academic year, and this calendar year to replace harmful and not helpful structures with helpful and not harmful structures? Needless to remind you, but this is an emergency. We are dying. How can the research and education leader that is UC Riverside help us? And what concrete actions will we see from you so we can trust your answer?"

But we also have this:



This image is dated [July 16, 2019](#), though I remember overhearing this much earlier in the LGBT Resource Center on campus.

The full collections are linked below.

[Being Black at UCR Instagram Photos](#)

[Being Black at UCR Facebook Timeline Photos](#)

[Being Black at UCR Facebook Mobile Uploads](#)

Policing continues the biggest mass hate crime against Black people and many other marginalized communities in the United States today. When will Kim Wilcox, Gerry Bomotti, John Freese, and Tom Smith commit to disinvolving UCR and protecting our community? In 2017, Chancellor Wilcox committed to protecting us from ICE. In 2021, why not policing?

Following the bisection of the discussion into putative benefits and asserted costs of policing, we must ask what are the most complete, most recent, and most relevant sources of information regarding these benefits and costs. As a philosopher and presupposing differing intuitions that *should be resolved with data and theory* we construct this table:

Most Complete Research on Protective Effects of Campus Policing	Most Complete Research on Harmful Effects of Campus Policing
Most Recent Research on Protective Effects of Campus Policing	Most Recent Research on Harmful Effects of Campus Policing
Most Relevant Research on Protective Effects of Campus Policing	Most Relevant Research on Harmful Effects of Campus Policing

Conveniently, all we have to do is fill this table in with a few sources. I.e. the research has been done, and it overwhelmingly shows that the protective effects are negligible and the harmful effects are significant.

Contributing factors to Campus Safety:

Many factors contribute to campus safety, all of which must be taken into account when devising a strategy to steer the campus into a future without:

1. Anxiety and other mental health epidemics in academia
2. Riverside's poverty
3. America's violence
4. America's guns
5. Riverside's bigotry

6. America's bigotry
7. Sexual predators
8. Financial predators
9. Physical predators
10. Food insecurity
11. Housing insecurity
12. Legal insecurity
13. Suicide
14. Medical insecurity

The CSTF should have been talking about all of these things. Clearly, the charge of the CSTF extends beyond the ability of the CSTF. UCR is a gathering of some of the world's best researchers. Because this is a matter of life or death, I do feel justified in my request.

Case Studies

We need to do a series of case studies in which we:

Ask: What Went Wrong

How it Could Be Done Better

I cannot attest to anyone's experience with the UCRPD but my own. Conveniently, prior to assigning me to the Campus Safety Task Force, the University of California, Riverside Police Department (involuntarily) provided me its detention services.

What happened:

Today (Feb. 20, 2021) I retrieved this Facebook post from the date of my detention:



Nichi Smith

June 4, 2019 ·

Being held against my will.
Already forced to strip in front of
people.
Please help.

For further reference I include this comment:



Jeremy Pober

Nichi has asked me to say that she's at Pacific Grove Hospital; 5900 Brockton Avenue in Riverside, 855-410-7541, and that visiting hours are from 6-7 PM.

Like · Reply · 1y



Upon leaving I was able to comment:



Nichi Smith

Thanks, everyone, for the concern and getting information around quickly. Sorry for the alarmingness of the status -- the place was, as described by the director "a hole" filled with screaming and threats, so I was deep in escape mode.

Now I shall elaborate. On June 4 I was staying with a friend in Bannockburn Village Apartments. I cut my arm while shaving. A lot of ambiguity rests on "cut my arm while shaving", but to make a short bifurcation: I either accidentally or intentionally cut my arm with a razor blade in the shower. The reality is, I was upset, so I *recklessly* and *furiously* used the razor. Was my resulting injury intentional? It was predictable, though uncertain. Not aimed at, per se, but simply allowed to happen. The philosophical literature here runs deep, and conversations I've had with Luca Ferrero, Michael Nelson, Jeremy Pober, Deborah Nelson, Jared Smith, and many others in my first year of graduate study in seminars on this precise sort of situation. To avert a lengthy philosophical literature review, I'll instead note that this is the sort of situation in which all of the facts are known and what's debated is a matter of interpretation and thus ultimately semantics. That is, you get the idea when I say that I was recklessly shaving knowing I might bleed, and we can carry on despite the ambiguity of self-harm.

Unfortunately I do not have any photographs of the injury. However, here is me on June 12, 2019.



Clearly my arms weren't very cut up, nor had they been. You may notice my shoulder is at an awkward angle; that was due to an injury that is about to be explained.

I do retrospectively agree that it was inappropriate behavior on my behalf to walk around with blood falling out of my arm because of the safety hazard posed to others. Though I was detained not for harming others but perceived threat to myself. The [June 4 2019 \(Initial Encounter\)](#) video shows a transition from relative peace to someone with a uniform, badge, gun, and intent to detain me. I.e. as the officer enters the scene, the violence begins. My esteemed colleague and friend Marek Twarzynski advocated for me throughout. I should note at this point that my communication disorder includes not being able to speak sometimes. My dissociative identity disorder includes amnesia and sudden changes in personality.

The officer shown in the video told us that she was just going to take me to the health center for a wound dressing. The wound dressing went alright, and I was consistent in saying that I was fine and that I just wanted to get to class. When I went to leave, I was intercepted by a white man with a gun. While normally this would be cause for alarm, this time it was just John Freese, if I recall correctly. He took me to Pacific Grove (see above photograph). He didn't tell me my rights or really give me any useful preparation. He did say multiple well-intentioned sexist and queerphobic things on the way there. As I recall, he compared my "gender problems" with problems his daughter was going through, or perhaps had gone through; I'm sorry, I don't remember the precise details of what he said about his daughter. It was a long day for me.

After he left me with the ward (I refuse to call it a "hospital") I was shuffled around a few workers, asked to sit in a few waiting places. I don't really understand the idea here that I'm so dangerous I must be detained but also you expect me to just sit in waiting rooms for extended periods of time. I'd seen on TV so many characters walk along with their executioners too long. After this incident I understood why one must mind one's business.

I refused to consent to anything because I did not want to be there. That seems like a pretty straightforward reason to not consent. After I wrote "I DO NOT CONSENT" on all of the forms they demanded that I sign, they took my boots. They already had the laces, but I guess they needed to assert their dominance by degrading me a bit more.

I made the above Facebook post from my solitary room once left alone. Phones are disallowed in the ward; they can't have a record of what

goes on inside. (Actually, I filed a police report, and the Riverside PD officer told me after I described the assault that the whole incident was caught on camera. Nothing happened after I made the report.)

About half an hour later, after the hospital got a call from the outside that mentioned my Facebook post. They inferred that I must have snuck in a phone to post. Four nurses came into my room. I remained non-violent and verbally denying consent to all actions involved throughout. They reached into my underwear, grabbed my crotch, my buttocks. When they pinned me to the bed/table, one nurse noticed that my bra had an underwire, so another retrieved a cutting tool and cut my bra off of me. So, to be clear, I had four nurses wrestling me down, and I'm just non-violently curling myself up for protection. One woman sits on me. A man wrenches my arm so hard and far that

1. It's out of place in the photograph above
2. It is still damaged today

I believe the term is "maim". Cool. Thanks to UCRPD, I was maimed.

I was pushed off the table, and eventually the four of them managed to rip my clothes and body apart enough to take my phone. I filed a police report, called the numbers I was told to call regarding my rights, I read any documentation of rights I could find, and demanded any I could demand. I should point out that argumentative and legal rigor is hard enough in college and court, I do not think a student experiencing severe psychiatric distress should be expected to perform.

After these four individuals finished physically and sexually assaulting me, I threw a balled up paper towel in frustration. In response, the nurse threatened me with chemical restraint. Throughout my time there, I heard and saw many people physically and chemically controlled by the staff.

A 5250 was ordered. After the psychiatrist did not examine me, he declared based on hearsay that I was psychotic. I should note, too, that psychosis is not in and of itself reason to detain someone. (If it is, then come get me, anytime.) Though to be clear "psychosis" was just sloppily written in the comments section of the paper he filled out. The box he checked was unable to take care of self. This decision was made not based on medical observation, but rather hasty ableist prejudice. (I.e. I looked crazy², so they treated me like a crazy person. *The fact that that*

² This is a slur, but it applies to me.

sentence has meaning shows how deeply entrenched ableism is in our culture.)

I could go on ad nauseam about the problems with Pacific Grove, which UCRPD is still putting students through. I met another UCR student on the inside. The traumatic bonding experience there makes getting into the details of those locked up with me a bit much for this report. Be aware, though, that the place horrifically abuses the mentally disabled. I have already begun conversations with Student Health Services, so again, let us return our focus to the UCPD.

After I returned to campus I was referred to Case Management. If instead of calling UCPD, Bannockburn had called Alton Carswell, for example, I would not have been sexually assaulted, I would not have had my shoulder maimed, I would not have been held against my will, I would not have had so many of my basic rights violated. I might have been helped instead of battered. As it turned out, the solution to a minoritized individual feeling low because of said minoritizations' effects is not Straight White Man with a Gun. He tried his best, and he's a nice guy, but America is in the grips of a mass delusion that Black Lives Do Not Matter. Neither do Insane or Crazy lives, as is demonstrated ever so clearly every time I am thrown around and the staff piece together that I'm far more educated than they are, and usually I need to talk to a Doctor to realize I'm not one of "them" and I should be let out to write reports like this.

In short, I realized I had to pretend to believe the same sick things the people who lock up and beat on crazy people do so I could be here and tell you all how dire the situation is. Because I do believe there's good will here, and just an ignorance of what's going on.

I've spent a lot of time studying how people value. I think I've more or less figured out my own: I can light myself on fire and determine that I feel pleasure from it. Reading the Psychology literature, I am an extreme minority. Basically, my entire life runs at traumatic levels of stress. Those first weeks of COVID-19 panic felt like the whole world was suddenly on my wavelength. I attempted suicide multiple times during the writing of this document.

But the story so far was only June 2019. In July 2020, I was added to the Police Chief's Advisory Board. Then the Campus Safety Task Force in fall.

On January 11, 2021, UCR once again had the police out for my detainment. I called a hotline for help in the early hours of the morning as I was having thoughts of self-harm. I said don't send an ambulance. They sent an ambulance and the fire department. I was curled up under a table in the garage, so they didn't find me. Then I went to bed. The Riverside City Police came about an hour later to my off-campus house, lied to me about my rights, lied to me about where I was going, put me in handcuffs made of a material I'm allergic to, around my wrists that were just recently lacerated, not being very safe for COVID-19 in a household in which someone was immunocompromised. I was driven in the back of an RPD squad car. If you're not familiar, the seat is only half as deep as needed, it's plastic, there's no leg room, and I'm in handcuffs. Also my wrists are lacerated and I'm allergic to the metal. The officer manages to make some ableist jokes while we wait for my COVID nose-swab. Which they took right before putting me in a room full of people, many without masks, no realistic ventilation, etc. The staff didn't sanitize or change equipment between patients, either. Some guy drools all over a blanket and then they hand it to the next inmate without a wash. Also every couple hours I get to watch the staff beat the shit out of another person deemed not sane enough for human rights. This place had some side rooms to throw people into. (Fun fact: The "suicide watch" at both Pacific Grove and Riverside University Health System Emergency Psychiatric Department is entirely insufficient and leaves multiple available suicide methods. Also, at Pacific Grove, I unscrewed a screw from the bathroom wall and cut my wrist intentionally. So that in fact my admission to the place and my interaction with UCPD did directly precipitate further self-harm. But seriously, those places are not safe for us or anyone.) Eventually I get out, and again, this isn't the Student Health Services Report. But as we get to the part where the CSTF is described as an extension of policing, this makes it such that the police detained themselves this January. That is, when we get to the analysis of the critique of the CSTF by Professor Dylan Rodriguez, you will come to understand how ironic January 11 was for me.

UCPD Resources

The UCPD consumes a lot of resources. We list them here, and invite the reader to begin considering better uses than policing for these resources.

- Money
- Buildings
- Legal powers
- Land
- Vehicles
- Lighting
- Electricity
- Water
- Weapons
- Labor

I have been pointing these out primarily to academic departments, suggesting that academics should be a higher priority than policing in a budget crisis and also always.

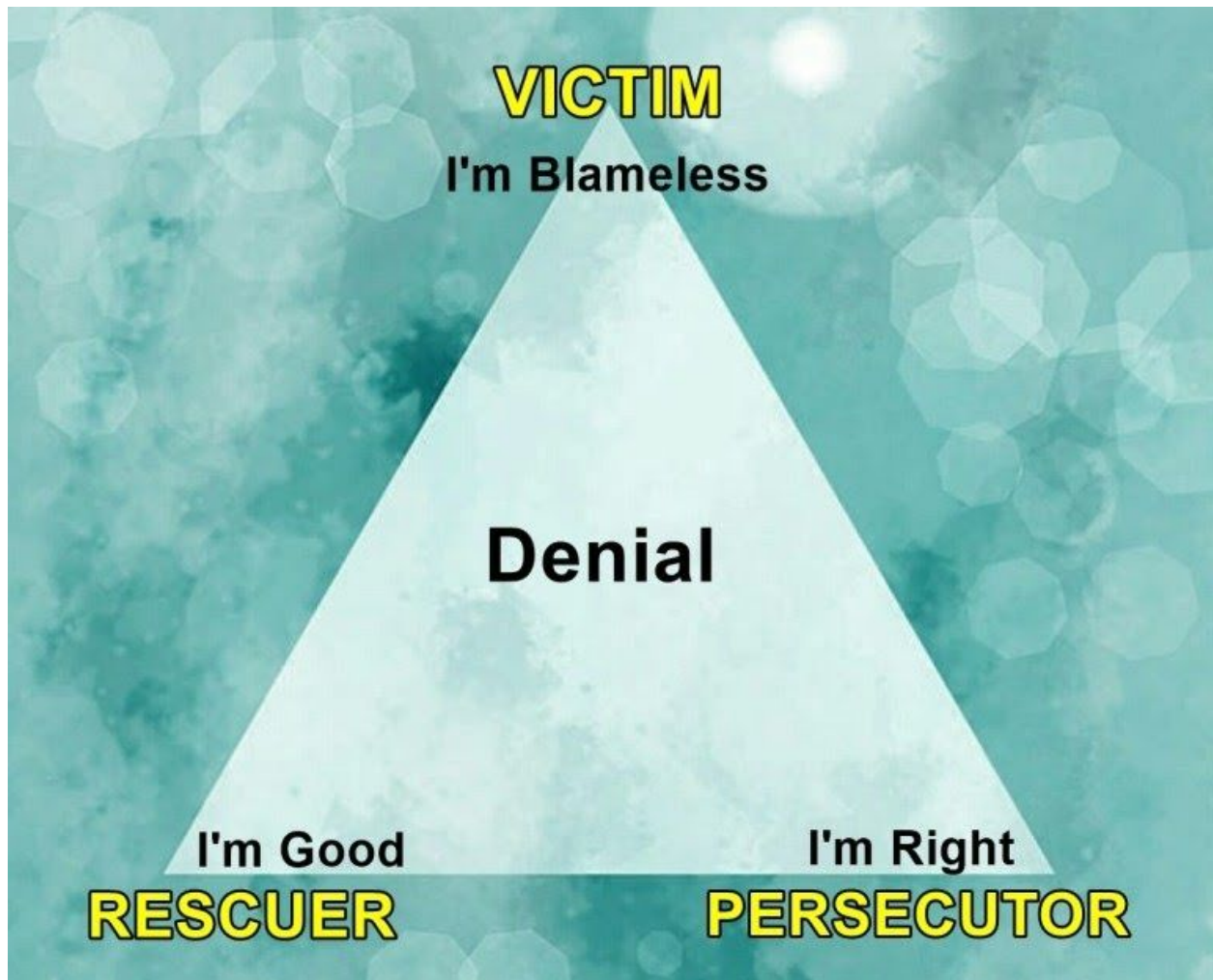
In response to [Remaking the University: Campus Safety Task Forces As Police Power](#), by Dylan Rodriguez, Professor in the Dept. of Cultural and Media Studies at UC Riverside

My initial thinking was that I would continue to be in the Campus Safety Task Force I'm in because like a virus I am here to spread dissent from within, weakening my host, continuing to partake in the performance of police power, striving to minimize the damage done in the process, while aiming to accentuate the grotesqueness and atrocity of the entire production. As a scholar of evil, and yes that is a professional expertise I've gained at UCR, I feel suited to identify the evil all around me this year and publicly announce on behalf of the campus safety task force that we are complicit in evil and should be, as part of a complete abolition of campus policing, be shut down.

Yet, after reading this in an earlier draft of this report, Jack Clarke said, "Here where you've talked about you're viewing yourself in terms of your

participation in this has been similar to a virus. I want to say, and I should have said this in the beginning. I see no students here. I see no chancellors. I see a group of colleagues who are trying to do something that's good for the UCR community. And so Nichi, I would respectfully disagree with you. You are not a microscopic entity in the body of this larger part. You are a colleague at the table with as much voice as anybody else."

I had a response analyzing how this brings me back to a position directly in Rodriguez's sights above. But I think Jack is touching on something important here. This task force has demanded more from all of us I imagine, though I would at least strongly suspect most of us, from the personal. If I am to make sense of these two perspectives sharing the same reality, then I must understand that the position of UCR GSA President has a history of abuse. As do the task forces. I present now this triangle from the Southern California Adult Children of Alcoholics:



I do not claim to be blameless. I do suppose my response to #ICantBreathe is indeed to rescue. Because sometimes reality just sucks, these are ways to deny it. Because Black Lives Matter, we need to be willing to accept reality; we are blameworthy. But we can be blameworthy and move forward. As it stands, this Task Force does seem to be a vehicle for shifting the Overton window towards abolition.

Rodriguez writes, “The administrative response of the UC system to revolts against antiblack police violence and “systemic racism” mirrors the broader national drift toward a reformist restoration of law-and-order, political stability, and respectable policing. Relying on the triage and public relations model of administratively appointed “campus safety task forces” (in which university police are core members), UC administrators exemplify a process of institutional consultation, auditing, and piecemeal reform that installs the reproduction of police power as a premise of deliberation.” That is, the

UC's response is recognizable as the same as many other responses seen nationwide that focus on restoring respect in the police rather than increase safety or divest from antiblackness.

“Campus safety task forces are not merely *inadequate* to the task of slowing, interrupting, or ending the asymmetrical terror produced through modern campus policing—including but not limited to gendered antiblackness, Islamophobia, queer and transphobia, misogyny, ableism, white supremacy, and racial violence. Beyond this fundamental yet? unsurprising inadequacy, these task forces work to *sustain and re-legitimize police power* while extending the parameters of policing as a layered infrastructure of state and state-condoned violence.”

That is, what the CSTF does is extend policing and seek to re-legitimize it in the public opinion. What it does not do is slow, interrupt, or end policing. We see also here particular populations affected include Black people, women, Muslims, LGBTQ people, disabled people, and people of color. Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Chief Diversity Officer, and Associate Professor of Comparative Literature/Vietnamese Mariam Beevi Lam commented on an intermediate draft that “Perhaps folks do not know the history, but the students who met with the administration several times (including the original authors of the student list of demands) also demanded that the Chancellor form a task force to tackle the issue of policing, and he did so relying on Student Affairs to conduct a nomination/selection process that led to the names of the students invited to participate in the Task Force. If this is all deemed an extension of police violence, what would be a proposed alternative mechanism for such discussions demanded by the students? How does any slowing, interruption or end to policing happen without some consultative process?” She highlights the paradox at play here: having a conversation about policing to improve campus safety must include the police, but to do so at the same time empowers and legitimizes the police. And so I again point to the distinction I make between policing and police. For example, I do not think John Freese, the Interim Chief of Police, should be fired. I think he should have a different role, that involves safety but not policing. I’m loathe to say anyone should still keep badges, uniforms, and guns, but so long as those dangers exist in this world, we need to be able to deal with them. A Director of Campus Safety should direct the campus community in how to be safe. So just as the medical school needs

drugs, deadly diseases, and training that can kill as well as save lives, the defense school needs badges, uniforms, and guns that can kill as well as save lives. This is a school, after all, and I still don't understand why such a vital-to-life part of it is so divorced from the powerful abilities to know more and do better that we have in the academics.

I turn now to UC Santa Cruz, who the UCR GSA has, along with other entities in this University system, not done the best for in the past, according to the information I have received.

"During the late winter and early spring, under the authority of Chancellor Cynthia Larive, the UCPD had violently repressed the graduate student-led wildcat COLA (cost of living adjustment) strike at UC Santa Cruz. In June, the Los Angeles (city) Police Department prevailed on an agreement with the UCLA administration to convert Jackie Robinson Stadium into a temporary outdoor jail for people arrested during mass demonstrations throughout Los Angeles after the police killing of George Floyd."

Who is Cynthia Larive?

About Cynthia K. Larive



"Cynthia K. Larive was confirmed as the eleventh Chancellor of University of California Santa Cruz by the UC Board of Regents on May 16, 2019. She began her tenure on July 1, 2019."

"An accomplished bioanalytical chemist, Larive came to UC Santa Cruz from UC Riverside where she was serving as provost and executive

vice chancellor. As provost, she was responsible for the academic enterprise, managing large scale initiatives as well as the daily operations of the UC Riverside campus, developing academic and administrative policies, and working closely with the chancellor, the Academic Senate, and the deans of UCR's colleges, schools, and divisions to formulate and realize campus goals. Since 2012, she has served in a variety of administrative roles including Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Divisional Dean of Physical Sciences and Mathematics, interim Dean of the College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences, and Chair of the Department of Chemistry."

"At the time of Drake's appointment, widespread condemnation of UC administrators' history of sanctioning law enforcement violence seemed to mesh with the incoming UC President's poignant account of his own encounters with police harassment: "It's been a part of American life for all too long, and it's something that needs to stop and we need to find better ways of being able to keep our communities safe."

"Two parts of Wilcox's qualifying statement clarify the assumptive premises of the UCR Task Force's convening. First, while it is a common rhetorical convention for elected officials, police chiefs, and other institutional executives and administrators to invoke a universalized notion of "our values" in the course of narrating their policies and decisions, such pronouncements avert sober consideration of the ethical premises of the university: What if "our values," read as the institutionally enforced priorities of the university, effectively (though tacitly) *encompass* systemic, discursive, normalized antiblackness and antiblack policing at the very same time that they fetishize notions of Black student "success" and graduation rates?"

What *if* "our values," read as the institutionally enforced priorities of the university, meaning the use of "our values" is to be understood as referring to the actually upheld values in institutional action, effectively (though tacitly) *encompass* systemic, discursive, normalized antiblackness and antiblack policing at the very same time that they fetishize notions of Black student "success" and "graduation rates"? Then we as a campus are engaged in systemic, discursive, normalized antiblackness and antiblack policing despite how we focus and parade the notion of Black student success and graduation rates. This sounds accurate.

So, we have that in practice our values include systemic, discursive, normalized antiblackness and antiblack policing. At the same time fetishizing Black student success and Black student

graduation rates. If a sufficient effort by UCR had been made, the Black successes should be able to “speak for themselves” instead of the university speaking for them.

“Posed another way: How does the policing of Black people, Black presence, and Black (intellectual, cultural, and social) life form the historical conditions of possibility for “our values,” which in turn cohere institutional notions of “diversity, equity, and inclusion” especially when they are applied to the work of university policing task forces?” We can break this down into the policing of Black people, presence, intellectual life, cultural life, and social life. These five form the historical conditions for diversity, equity, and inclusion Especially with regard to university policing task forces! Putting this together, we can come to understand how UCR achieves diversity in policing of Black people, diversity in policing of Black presence, diversity in policing of Black intellectual life, diversity in policing Black cultural life, diversity in policing Black social life, equity in policing of Black people, equity in policing of Black presence, equity in policing of Black intellectual life, equity in policing Black cultural life, equity in policing Black social life, inclusion in policing of Black people, inclusion in policing of Black presence, inclusion in policing of Black intellectual life, inclusion in policing Black cultural life, and inclusion in policing Black social life.

“Second, Wilcox’s preemptive dismissal of abolitionist forms of campus safety as a concession to the jurisdiction of the city police and county sheriff is a red herring. This is because of the longstanding practice of “concurrent jurisdiction.” Put simply, city and county police *already* have shared authority with the UCRPD on campus and campus-owned property, and such is a common arrangement for campuses that employ their own police forces.” Can we stop with this disproven line of reasoning, now? If so, good. If not, why not?

“Importantly, there is no inherent prohibition on the possibility of a university negotiating concurrent jurisdiction with external police departments *in the absence of a campus police force, provided alternative forms of security and safety are instituted in place of the UCPD.*”

“The spectacle of the UCR Task Force’s one hour virtual “town hall,” held on November 12, 2020, evidenced the administrative leadership’s lack of preparation, research, and seriousness in grasping their topic. This was despite the fact that, according to Associate Chancellor Christine Victorino, it was provided with a “shared drive with scholarly work in the area of police abolitionism [sic] and racial profiling.” (Full transparency: this shared drive apparently includes at

least one of my published scholarly articles on policing and police violence in the UC system.)” What was in these drives? Not much. And we didn’t discuss these readings because if we did, then everything here would already be known to have been already said! All of this! The only reason UC can keep having these performative task forces is because nobody is around long to see a plan through, but I did the reading, so I know the history, and the questions the penultimate draft the CSTF put forward are already answered and display a complete obliviousness to the current state of research.

“While the Chair of the Task Force (a local attorney and UCR alumnus) assured the hundred or so audience members that the group was “open” to considering abolitionist alternatives to the UCRPD, the prominent (and rather defensive) presence of UCR Police Chief John Freese constituted an embodied rebuttal of the Chair’s generous claim.” I, Nichi Yes, in fact verified at that Town Hall that the Chancellor explicitly said the CSTF would not discuss abolition. And that we had not discussed abolition until the town hall. To be fair, We have been talking a lot more about abolition since the town hall.

To be sure, let’s review the minutes. The [first meeting](#) did not. In the [second meeting this document](#) was shared, some suggestions for expanding the policing, and no abolition. [The minutes](#) of the meeting following the [town hall](#) reveal how slow our direction was in shifting. Then the University of Oregon Police Chief Carmichael came to a [meeting](#). But that puts us past the town hall.

“In response to Freese’s description of the “diversity” of the UCRPD (“We have twenty-two male officers, three female, one Asian [sic] officer, two Black officers, seven Hispanic [sic] officers, and fifteen white officers”), I posed a written question to the panel: Is the Task Force aware that increased diversity of police personnel does not lead to less racist, less sexist, less transphobic, less antiblack police practices?

The Police Chief’s rambling response to this rudimentary question further undermined confidence in the Task Force’s credibility and analytical rigor, given Freese’s central role in its deliberations:

“We—like all police departments—we hire from the human race. It doesn’t matter what color our police officers are. Our police officers, just like any human beings, can have, um, feelings and things that are part of their lives and that they act on, sometimes subconsciously. As the leader of this department, I’ve always had a clear stance that we do not stand for any kind of prejudiced behavior from our officers.... [T]he best way I can answer that question is that we do the best with hiring from the human race. I acknowledge that it doesn’t matter what color or

the makeup of our police department or any police department, you're, you're uh, you're dealing with human beings."

Do I need to explain the problems with this?

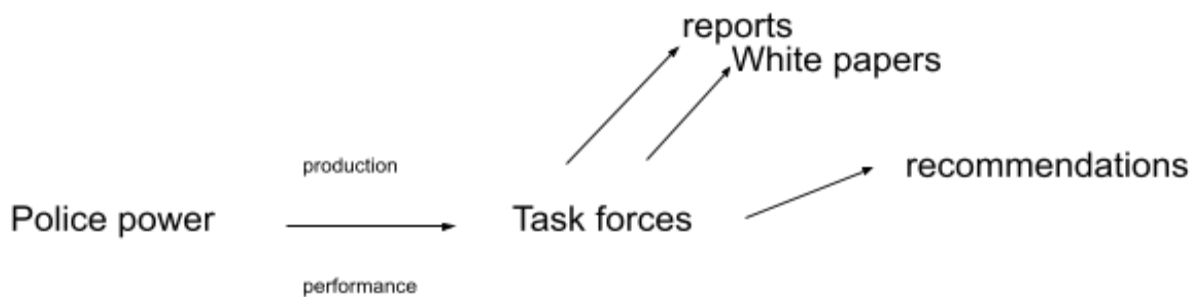
Especially revealing is a passage from the [minutes](#) of the Task Force meeting held immediately after the Town Hall:

[UCR Police Chief] John Freese raised his concern about a recommendation for abolishing the police force; [Associate Chancellor] Christine Victorino suggested focusing on developing justified, well-founded, and implementable recommendations."

"The public ritual of the "campus safety task force" reproduces the legitimacy of police presence by inviting criticism of its excess, dysfunction, mismanagement, corruption, antiblackness, racism, misogyny, queer phobia, transphobia, ableism, and white supremacy (etc.)"

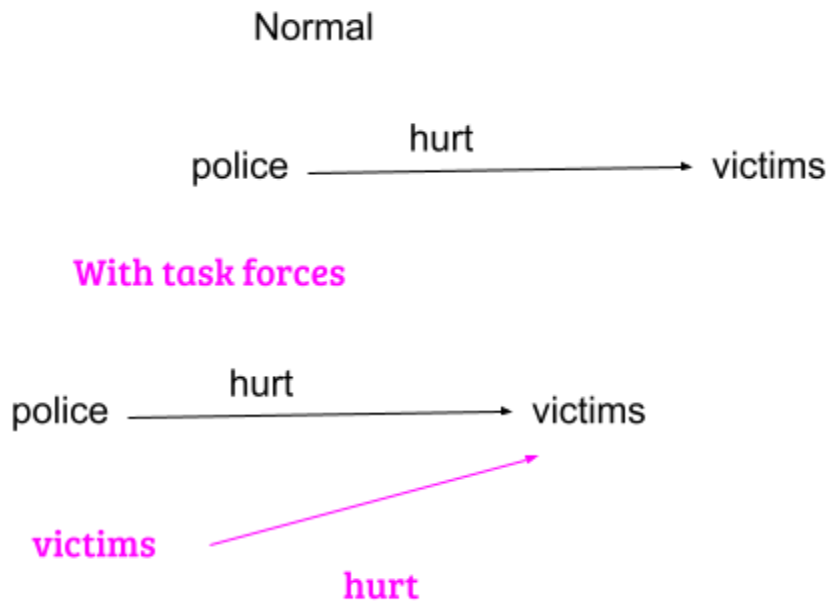
"Such task forces are *a production and performance of police power* and are thus constitutive of, rather than external to it; their deliberations (including task force reports, white papers, and recommendations) extend the technology of policing to incorporate the ceremonial participation of critics, individualized and communal targets of police terror, and survivors of acute (and homicidal) police violence."

I present, then this figure, an illustration of the described activities of task forces.



Policing strategically includes its critics, targets, and survivors. That is to say, in a sort of "state of nature", with no task forces, critics (C), targets (T), and survivors (S) are clearly distinct from police (P). Because of Campus Safety Task Force (CSTF), C, T, and S are instead acting as

part of P. So, in this next figure, we have an illustration of the described effect of task forces.



So why am I on one? Because it is an avenue to bring victims to the police side. With a critical mass of us inside, we can have our side turn against itself. Which diverts attacks away from victims. While being on the task force requires making it my job to hurt victims, I can be absolutely awful at my job. Thanks to white privilege, probably, I can be absolutely dismal at this and yet somehow not get fired.

“These processes tend to not only incorporate the direct participation of police, but also extend the reach of domestic counterinsurgency as a defense of the fundamental legitimacy of police power (violence) and police militarization (domestic war).” I.e. policing extends beyond the police via violence and domestic war.

“This counterinsurgency serves to protract and reproduce antiblack (etc.) state violence at the very same time that it solicits indignant outrage against it. Yet, the omnipresence of police reform task forces at university and college campuses also occasions an overdue reflection on the *continuities* of policing and police power beyond “the police.”

“Continuities” here understood to be the relations constantly connecting policing and police power to that beyond the police. Dr. Rodriguez here says that this occasions an overdue reflection. As a member of the CSTF, let me NY reflect. Via the CSTF, I have contact with (see list of CSTF member). This does seem to extend well beyond UCPD. Do I have police power as a member of the CSTF? I can imagine

someone thinking perhaps I do not. After all, I, a graduate student, cannot just arrest a student.

Yet if I were to have a vendetta against a particular Black student, do you think I could use the CSTF to police this student? I think the answer to that question is yes, and I'll say now it is a horrible reality, but I think you're right, I could. Really, to any of you reading this, I'm sorry, I'm not trying to lord my power over you. I don't really care for it, honestly. You're more interesting to me as an equal, anyway. And I don't want to police my students, either.

But I don't think I'm telling you anything you don't know, and I do think I'm telling a lot of people something they don't fully realize but would admit if nobody would ever hold them to it. At UCR, as well as the other UC campuses, white grad students can do whatever they want to Black undergraduate students. That's fucked up. If someone reports, chances are, the Black students will get in trouble. That's fucked up.

In summary: Task forces give the public appearance of the University having done something. Serving on them serves that end. But, serving on them allows participants access to what it has access to. So, for instance, the police chief, provost, VCSA, etc. have to give an audience to task force members. Additionally, task force members can speak for campus policing. So, they should publicly announce that their total organization, i.e. campus policing, is racist, violent, and should be abolished.

I link to the [Cops Off Campus \(@ucftp\)](#) here. This twitter account cannot be covered in full in this report, but is a good resource. We now turn to:

DIVEST/INVEST: Organizing the Abolition University | Challenge Inequality

"In the words of The Movement for Black Lives (M4BL), "All public institutions designed to serve the people, must cut ties with the police in the interest of public safety." On June 1, 2020 the LAPD used the university's Jackie Robinson Stadium as a "field jail" to detain protesters and others arrested for curfew violations, including UCLA students. In response, the DIVEST/INVEST UCLA Faculty Collective was formed to work in coalition with student and community organizations toward implementing the goal of divestment from the police state and investing in reparative public goods towards the horizon of abolition. The Institute on Inequality and Democracy has created this repository to organize resources and work toward this goal together."

I suggest reading [Tw: Anti-Blackness, police violence, death For Immediate Release: June 2, 2020](#). Now, as for this CSTF:

In response to [Campus safety task force announcement | Inside UCR](#)

September 14, 2020 announcement by Chancellor Kim Wilcox of formation of CSTF, “to advise on how we might improve safety, and the feeling of safety, for all members of the UCR community”

“I have asked this group to take a broad perspective on this assignment, seeking advice on budget, recruitment of officers, training, weapons, use of force, uniforms, community engagement, and oversight.”

To give brief advice on each of these:

- Budget: Reallocate 100% of UCPD spending to other units on campus.
- Recruitment of officers: Do not recruit any officers for the sake of policing. Do carefully screen any employees hired for the creation and preservation of campus safety. Make sure to recruit in such a way to avoid recreating a policing structure.
- Training: Divest from police training, immediately switch to training on decided methods of establishing campus safety, details of some options provided below. Retrain all current associates.
- Weapons: Besides as established for their use in martial arts classes and other educational and carefully monitored situations, weapons are inappropriate for possession on a university campus.
- Use of force: Force should not be used on anyone without their consent unless necessary for the prevention of grave harm to self or others, and even then while the use of force is understood to be excusable, it remains unjustifiable, a serious cost borne by the user of force in defense of people. As such, the minimization of nonconsensual force on people should be a top priority of campus safety.
- Community engagement: Those employed for the good of campus safety should be engaged in all parts of community life. As this is a community of a research university, academic research and education activities should be central to this engagement.

- Oversight: Proper oversight requires transparency and accountability. For adequate transparency, the UCR Department of Campus Safety or its equivalent will require regular external and internal review, and for adequate accountability, the provision of a variety of possible sanctions that may be levied against agents of the department by the community for misconduct.

Kim Wilcox said, "I am not asking the Task Force to opine on the issue of whether we should maintain a police force," but just as sometimes a dissertation proposal can radically mispredict the ultimate direction of the dissertation, this charge radically mispredicted the ultimate correct course of action for the Task Force. This is not an opinion. It is a statement of necessity.

Kim Wilcox said, "We are better served as a community by having our own police force, which reflects our values and reports to the campus." This is wrong. Details below.

Kim Wilcox said, "Without our own police, we would fall under the jurisdiction of the Riverside Police Department and the Riverside County Sheriff." While true, it is also true that *with* our own police force, we currently fall under the jurisdiction of the Riverside Police Department and the Riverside County Sheriff. Chancellor Wilcox, did you not know this? If you did know this, then what is the relevance of your statement here?

Kim Wilcox said, "The Task Force will review our overall campus safety efforts" As a member of the Task Force, I can say that this did happen. The police and health concerns are quite clearly the biggest current threats to campus safety. Campus safety efforts in response to policing have been counterproductive, in fact aiding and abetting in the harms effected by America's policing institutions via funding a campus police department. Campus safety efforts in response to health concerns have been, as far as I can tell, a genuine effort to do the best we can for our community in the face of a statewide University budgeting tradition that places UC Riverside at a massive financial disadvantage. Put simply, it is the opinion of the UCR GSA that policing is bad and student health services is trying.

Kim Wilcox said, "focusing primarily on operation of the UCR Police Department and its relationship to other entities on campus and throughout the community"

We present this table to fill in analyses:

	CURRENT	FUTURE
UCRPD operations:		
UCRPD relations to other entities on campus:		

The UCRPD operates primarily in isolation from the campus, though is occasionally weaponized against vulnerable people on campus.

Kim Wilcox said, “Nonetheless, I have outlined some specific areas (listed below) for the Task Force to consider.

Mission and Scope of Responsibilities

- How do we define campus safety?
 - Who is “we”?
- Is UCPD tasked with the appropriate set of responsibilities?
 - No.
- Are we asking them to do things that might better be done by others (e.g. non-violent conflicts or mental health issues)?
 - Yes.
- What portion of the unit’s efforts should be devoted to community engagement, both on and off campus?”
 - 100%

Oversight

- Should the campus create an oversight board to assist in monitoring police operations and assist in assessing the department’s performance on an ongoing basis?
 - No
- If such a group were formed, what would be its charge and membership?
 - --

Police Operations

- What measures should we take to reduce and eliminate systemic racism?
 - Abolish the police
- Do we have sufficient policies regarding use of force?
 - No
- What should be our uniform and weapons policy – what should all officers carry, what should be available for special situations, and how should they be deployed?
 - Weapons policy proposal: No weapons allowed on campus
 - What officers? What kind of officers are there? GSA has a Public Relations Officer. What kinds of weapons does Jessica get to carry?
- Is the present model that relies primarily on police cruisers for monitoring campus optimal?
 - No.

Personnel

- How should campus safety personnel be hired, trained, and evaluated?
 - As safety professionals.
- What should be the profile of UCPD officers – personal, educational, and professional?
 - Not applicable.
 - Okay, but if understood de re, to take a move from philosophy, what should be the profile of the people who are currently employed as UCPD officers, personal, educational, and professional? They are, after all, people, and as such deserving of personal, educational, and professional development. Personally, they probably on the whole need healing from the trauma of being part of UCPD. Educationally, they need to retrain to use their abilities for some other positions. Professionally, I think this is a last opportunity for them to not suffer for their wrongdoings moving forward. But then, I'm being nice, and others may not do so.
- What training should be part of the initial appointment and what continuing professional education should be required?
 - For campus safety:

- Initial training:
- Continuing training:

Budget

- Is the budget appropriate to the needs of the campus and the responsibilities of the police department?
 - No.
- Should some resources currently dedicated to the UCPD be redirected toward other programs or departments?
 - Yes.
 - "some"->"all"

Assessment

- How should UCPD's effectiveness be assessed beyond crime statistics?
 - This is answered via demonstration.
- How should we account for changing campus community attitudes toward the department, the creation and fostering of positive relationships with campus partners, and the overall feeling of safety by all stakeholders on campus?
 - Research, education, and administration, respectively.
 -

Changing campus community attitudes toward the department	Should be accounted for by	Research
The creation and fostering of positive relationships with campus partners	Should be accounted for by	Education
The overall feeling of all	Should be accounted for	Administration

stakeholders on campus	by	
---------------------------	----	--

Below are some links. I have not had time yet to fully explain these.

[Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures](#)

<https://cops-off-campus-ucla.github.io/>

[Cops Off Campus Statement of Black Solidarity](#)

[Black Study, Black Struggle](#)

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Asc%3AUS%3Aa98831cb-84f7-4a77-bbfe-60ffac75c9d0#pageNum=1>

[SM VERSION Faculty to Faculty Outreach Doc](#)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpj0n236ZC-ybX_DkNz62e99CHw5ugm-ksv_3jyquAvalhLQ/viewform

[DIVEST/INVEST: Organizing the Abolition University | Challenge Inequality](#)

[Coalition launches campaign to remove police from UC campuses](#)

[UC statement on protests, violence following George Floyd's death](#)

[UC Davis: Chancellor's Statement on George Floyd](#)
[Statement on George Floyd](#)

From each of the Chancellors' statements we should find reasons they give that are also compelling reasons to abolish UCPD.

[Task Force on Campus Safety | Office of the Chancellor](#)

[Police 'reform'? Get cops completely off UC campuses](#)

Defund or reform UC campus police? The debate rages

UC Campuses Have Disclosed Virtually No Records Under Police Transparency Law

University Of California Campus Police Have History Of Excessive Force Against Protesters

Shock and Anger at UCLA

Students protest UC Berkeley police arrests they say were racially motivated

News Press Room Michael V. Drake to become 21st president of the University of California

Whose University? When Police Pass the Baton to Campuses · Policing and Labor

UCLA calls police use of Jackie Robinson Stadium a violation

Statement on LAPD using Jackie Robinson Stadium
UC President-elect Michael Drake experienced harsh policing

African American students thrive with high graduation rates at UC Riverside

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

In response to <https://disorientation.guide/>

- “The modern university is woven into a system of settler colonialism, racial capitalism, anti-Blackness, and state violence. As the current Black-led anticolonial wave gestures toward the implosion of colonial-capitalist civilization, the University must come to terms with its own negation.”
- “California is the fifth largest economy in the world”

- “the University of California is the third-largest employer in the state”
- “The UC system was not only sedimented on the stolen lands of the Ohlone, Nisenan, Patwin, Tongva, Chumash, Kumeyaay, Acjachemen, Miwok, Cahuilla, Luiseño, and Serrano; it generated its early operating capital via the land-grab process afforded by the Morrill Act.”
- “The endowment funds generated by the University of California’s wholesale theft and speculation of Indigenous lands amounted to over \$19 million, as represented in 2020 USD. As Dene scholar Glen Coulthard argues, “settler-colonialism is territorially acquisitive in perpetuity” (Coulthard 2014, 152). For the UC system, this “primitive accumulation” — the outright dispossession of Indigenous peoples from their lands — is constitutive of both its real estate investments (the UC is also the largest landlord in California) and the initial operating capital that seeded its historical and ongoing accumulation and dispossession. “
- “We are here for many reasons, arriving from just as many different paths. We’ve come here from places of frustration, despair, hope, love, and inspiration. Exhausted by the patronizing language of so-called allies and the tokenization of our identities and struggles, we’ve found refuge among comraderie and community.”
- “For first-gen and poor students of color in particular, the university conjures up feelings of cognitive dissonance. Commonly viewed as a site of refuge for those on the underside of capitalist society, the university banks (literally) on its myth of erudition and progress. Yet once they arrive, students are forced to conform to the folly of professionalism and the performance of class-belonging that are as discomfiting as they are false. Our feelings of uneasiness and anxiety are dismissed as maladjustment, to be remedied by acclamations and more conformity. This is our *sentipensar*, our holistic way of thinking with feelings bestowed on us by our ancestors. It is our way of recognizing that something is wrong, that we are conflicted — caught between the hopes and dreams of our community and the violent nature of the university we encounter once we arrive.”
- “Abolition is a framework that asks us to radically reimagine institutions such as the UC, in light of the entity’s complicity with genocide, slavery and the military and prison industrial complexes.”
- “As a social relation, the University is a site for the reproduction of the structural violences of settler colonialism and racial capitalism.”

- “We reject the limits of the University; we reject the University itself. Instead, we ask, *what exists beyond its horizons?*”
- “ While we engage deeply with various ideas and theories, we do not aspire to form another banal academic journal for armchair radicals. We do not want to be legible to the University. We want to destroy its gaze. Our goal is to spark *something different* across the physical (and virtual) spaces of the colonial-capitalist University, widening and expanding the cracks in its foundation, and using its ruins as kindling for insurrectionary fires. Don’t get it twisted: this is a declaration of war. “

[Land-grab universities \(Land-Grab Universities\) — High Country News – Know the West](#)

[Denver successfully sent mental health professionals, not police, to hundreds of calls](#)

Is this a model to imitate?

Statement on UC Policing in Relation to Research on Policing

The University of California in its ignorance of the literature surrounding policing is guilty of either:

1. Gross Academic Negligence: As an institution of higher education, and as a research university, the UC has a duty to know and act upon the relevant literature. Interpreting the UC as anti-racist, rather than racist, we must assume the UC simply did not know about the past five decades of research regarding campus safety, policing, and racism in America, or
2. Deliberate Conspiracy to Orchestrate Racist Violence: The research done at the UC is known by the UC. The policing done at the UC is known by the UC. Interpreting the UC as academically competent, as fitting for a University of its prestige, we understand the UC to understand its implementation of UCPD as a racist project that has resulted in mass and grave violence to students, especially those with disabilities or who are BIPOC. As such, the continued funding of UCPD is understood as a commitment to ableist and racist structures and practices.

