

Resolution in Support of Reclaim UCSD

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2011 ASUCSD passed a “Resolution Upholding Commitment to the Principles of Community” stating that ASUCSD will not partake in any “divisive external political issue... and political belief by remaining neutral,”

WHEREAS, in the same resolution, ASUCSD decided it “will refrain from decreeing involvement in world events if such edicts can be reasonably expected to offend and alienate members of the UCSD community,”

WHEREAS, recent social movements emerged revolving around the state, national, and global financial crises; and more locally, the privatization of public higher education and the structure and transparency of the UC Regents,

WHEREAS, on November 9th, students at the University of California, Berkeley conducted a “day long strike and peaceful demonstrations against big banks and education cuts culminated in some 4,000 people” but the UCPD brutalized the students with batons “and arrested 40 people as the university sought to uphold a campus ban on camping,”¹

WHEREAS, on November 18th, the non-violent peaceful protest at the University of California, Davis resulted in police brutality of students with the usage of military-grade pepper spray,

WHEREAS, students across the UC system are peaceably assembling and occupying public space with a shared goal to dialogue and address general ideas for financially burdened students,

WHEREAS, a broad coalition of student organizers launched the Reclaim UCSD movement to engage UC San Diego with the various social movements across the UC campuses,

WHEREAS, beginning on November 28th, in solidarity with the general UC strikeout, students of UC San Diego are peaceably assembling and reclaiming public spaces on our UCSD campus through the Reclaim UCSD movement,

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of UC San Diego is the elected organizing body by students to represent, advocate, and lobby upon relevant issues that impact their student life and which seeks to “provide support for those within our community, and focus on the issues that directly affect the people with whom we have the responsibility to serve,”²

WHEREAS, the ASUCSD Office of External Affairs works to “advocate for issues regarding higher education and lobby system-wide University officials and local legislators on the UCSD student body’s behalf,”³

WHEREAS, the “Resolution Upholding Commitment to the Principles of Community” prohibits any political involvement by ASUCSD and effectively limits the ability of the Office of External Affairs to advocate upon issues impacting students,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the ASUCSD shall rescind their decision to maintain neutrality in regards to world events and political issues and instead shall take a more proactive approach to allow the association to partake in relevant political affairs that deeply impact students and are significant to their student lives,

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the ASUCSD shall condemn any police brutality and the militarization of the UCPD throughout the UC system in response to the peaceful assemblies by students on their respective campuses,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUCSD further condemns the UCPD for violating the Constitutional rights of UC students, primarily the First Amendment Rights to the freedom of speech and the right to assemble,

BE IT RESOLVED, the ASUCSD shall support any efforts and actions on behalf of the UC San Diego students to protect Constitutional and civil rights,

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, the ASUCSD fully endorses and supports the Reclaim UCSD movement.

SOURCES

1. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/11/16/occupy-cal-draws-thousands_n_1097975.html
2. <http://as.ucsd.edu/site/page/view/about>
3. http://as.ucsd.edu/governing_documents/rules.php?type=standing