

Resolution in Support of the Establishment of a UC Gun Violence Prevention Center and System-Wide Action Towards Campus Violence

WHEREAS, the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) lost a prestigious member of its faculty during an on-campus shooting on June 1, 2016;¹

WHEREAS, two students, one University of California employee, and one contract employee were injured during a stabbing attack, and one student was shot and killed during the incident by the UC Police Department, at the University of California, Merced (UCM) on November 4, 2015;²

WHEREAS, two students were injured during a shooting blocks from campus at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) on May 2, 2015;³

WHEREAS, six students were killed and fourteen others injured during a shooting at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) on May 23, 2014;⁴

WHEREAS, a woman was shot to death during a shooting at the housing complexes at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) on September 14, 2009⁵;

WHEREAS in 2016, the Ethnic and Gender program offices at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) were broken into, specifically targeting Muslim women of color⁶;

WHEREAS, in 2016, Graham Donath law offices released a list of the most dangerous cities to live in California, in which six listed cities housed a University of California campus;⁷

WHEREAS, the repeated occurrence of these horrendous attacks have shattered the sense of safety and security expected by students, staff, and faculty of a large, public educational institution, reducing the capacity of the University to provide the educational opportunity and excellence it promises;

WHEREAS, the students of the University of California recognize that "campus violence" is a broad term, and shall be defined as encompassing sudden acts of violence on or near campuses which are destructive to the well-being of students, faculty, staff, and other community members;

WHEREAS, while the students recognize gun violence to be the number one threat, "campus violence" can also include stabbings, bomb threats, fires, hate crimes, and any acts carried out to create terror within and outside of the community;

WHEREAS, the students of the University of California fully recognize that an issue such as campus violence ought to be addressed with an intersectional lens of communities disproportionately affected by structural violence;

WHEREAS, the University of California has failed to implement proper system-wide emergency response protocols to acts of campus violence;

WHEREAS, the University of California has failed to provide adequate mental health resources for campuses affected by acts of violence;

WHEREAS, the State of California has failed to provide the University with proper resources to address acts of campus violence;

WHEREAS, the United States government has failed to provide funding for the research of a nationwide gun violence

¹ <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/two-dead-in-apparent-murder-suicide-at-ucla-campus-responds>

² <http://www.ucmerced.edu/news/2015/update-four-stabbed-uc-merced-campus-suspect-deceased>

³ <http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Isla-Vista-Shooting-Monday-303363461.html>

⁴ <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/05/24/us/santa-barbara-isla-vista-shooting-profile/>

⁵ <http://abc7.com/archive/7013250/>

⁶ <http://abc7.com/news/muslim-female-images-targeted-in-uc-riverside-vandalism-/1277504/>

⁷ <http://www.gddl.com/2016/05/12/cities-california-dangerous/>

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epidemic;⁸

WHEREAS, the State of California recently legislated \$5 million in funding to the University for the study and research of gun violence;⁹

WHEREAS, the Students of the University of California believe this research institute to be an important first step in addressing gun violence not only on UC campuses, but at public places across the country and fully support its expedient establishment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association expresses its full support for the establishment of a new Gun Violence Research Center;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association asks that the Regents of the University of California to work with campuses to create a systemwide emergency protocol for lockdowns and other response measures to acts of campus violence;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association urges student leaders work within their own campuses to create mandatory emergency training for students, staff, and faculty;

THEREFORE FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association will continue to prioritize efforts to establish more effective emergency response protocols on and around campuses, advocate for laws which will prevent or reduce instances of campus violence, and support campus policies to make all students feel more safe at school.

⁸ <http://www.wired.com/2016/06/congress-refuses-california-funds-gun-violence-research-center/>

⁹ <http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-sac-essential-politics-california-lawmakers-create-a-1466095435-htmlstory.html>