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UC Student Association Passes Two Resolutions on Divestment by 9-1-5 Vote

Resolutions include calls for divestment from companies conducting business
with governments violating human rights

OAKLAND CA - On Sunday, February 8, The University of California Student Association (UCSA), the independent official voice of 240,000 UC students, passed two advisory resolutions: Resolution Calling for the UC Regents to Divest from Corporations Violating Palestinian Human Rights and Resolution Toward Socially Responsible Investment at the University of California by an 9-1 vote, with 5 abstentions.

The resolutions call for the UC to respect and act upon the call of University of California students to divest from investment in corporations that do business with Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Israel, Mexico, Russia, Turkey, Sri Lanka and the United States including, but not limited to, Boeing, Caterpillar, Cement Roadstone Holdings, Cemex, General Dynamics, General Electric, Hewlett-Packard, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and United Technologies. Ninety minutes of public comment was followed by debate among the fifteen board directors present. Tom Bradley International Hall on the UCLA campus was filled to capacity with UC students during the UCSA board meeting.

The resolutions also call upon the University of California to establish a means of implementing greater student oversight of the UC's investment policy. They further urge the UC to realign its investments to socially responsible companies, a standard that also includes divestment from companies that practice fossil fuel extraction, and those that perpetuate the Prison Industrial Complex. Similar resolutions have been passed to date by seven of nine UC undergraduate student governments.

“With this vote, UCSA reaffirms its role as a space where students can advocate, educate, and organize in support of the human rights, environmental and social justice issues which they deem important. We will continue engage with students on these issues in the pursuit of a quality UC system that reflects the values of UC students. The UC is a global force with a $13.2 billion endowment. Students have a right to see these funds invested in a way that they deem to be ethical and just,” said UCSA President Jefferson Kuoch-Seng.

About the University of California Student Association
The University of California Student Association is the official voice of over 240,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from the eleven UC campuses. It is our mission to advocate on behalf of current and future students for the accessibility, affordability, and quality of the University of California system.