

## **Resolution in Support of UC-Wide Day of Solidarity for Survivors of Sexual Violence on College Campuses**

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WHEREAS sexual violence is defined as a sexual act committed against someone without the person's freely given consent<sup>1</sup>,

WHEREAS 1 in 5 female-identifying individuals<sup>2</sup> and 1 in 16 male-identifying individuals<sup>3</sup> are sexually assaulted in college;

WHEREAS all survivors of sexual violence (including sexual assault and harassment), domestic violence, dating violence and stalking must be protected, respected and acknowledged by all stakeholders within the university;

WHEREAS sexual violence is not just an issue affecting students in the UC system, but one that must be addressed with the UC staff and faculty;

WHEREAS on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Sujit Choudhury, UC Berkeley's former Dean of the School of Law, resigned from his post as Dean after his executive assistant sued him and the UC Regents for repeated counts of sexual assault<sup>4</sup>;

WHEREAS in 2002, UC Berkeley's School of Law former Dean Dwyer resigned after it was exposed that he sexually assaulted a student<sup>5</sup>;

WHEREAS in 2015, UCLA Professor Gabriel Piterberg was accused of sexual assault by two students, in which his only consequences were a quarter without pay and a \$3,000 fee<sup>6</sup>;

WHEREAS after UC Berkeley professor Geoff Marcy resigned due to sexual assault charges, the UC Berkeley proceeded to give him the esteemed title of Professor Emeritus<sup>7</sup>;

WHEREAS in April 2015, Graham Fleming, the Vice Chancellor of Research at UC Berkeley, resigned after being accused of sexually harassing a former campus employee<sup>8</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/definitions.html>

<sup>2</sup>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2016/01/21/justice-department-1-5-women-sexually-assaulted-college>

<sup>3</sup>

[http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications\\_nsvrc\\_factsheet\\_media\\_packet\\_statistics-about-sexual-violence\\_0.pdf](http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications_nsvrc_factsheet_media_packet_statistics-about-sexual-violence_0.pdf)

<sup>4</sup>

<http://www.americanbazaaronline.com/2016/03/10/berkeley-law-dean-sujit-choudhry-indefinite-leave-sued-sexual-harassment/>

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2002/12/02\\_dwyer.html](http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2002/12/02_dwyer.html)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-ucla-sex-harass-20160302-story.html>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.buzzfeed.com/azeenghorayshi/professor-emeritus-marcy>

<sup>8</sup>

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/matier-ross/article/UC-Berkeley-s-chief-of-research-exits-as-sex-6195118.php>

WHEREAS these instances mark a clear failure of the University of California to provide a safe and equitable learning environment for the students it serves;

WHEREAS the UC Student Association, in response to the astonishing number of sexual violence incidents, created the two-year long UConsent campaign;

WHEREAS while the campaign resulted in mandatory sexual assault prevention training for undergraduate students, the passage of SB 397 and other vital victories, the advocacy campaign will be expiring in August 2016<sup>9</sup>;

WHEREAS our work is by no means finished when it comes to preventing acts of violence, and thus must be given direct attention towards creating sustainable action;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the UC Student Association establishes a Day of Solidarity for Survivors of Sexual Violence on College Campuses;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the day of solidarity ought to be implemented on every University of California campus;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that on this day, each Chancellor at the University of California is urged to provide a campus-specific update about their current progress toward ending sexual violence – be it in the form of electronic, verbal or other forms of communication;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that on this day, the UC Board of Regents is urged to provide a systemwide update to all University of California undergraduate, graduate and professional students, staff and faculty regarding the institution's progress toward ending sexual violence – be it in the form of electronic, verbal or other forms of communication;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the information must be available and accessible to the general undergraduate, graduate and professional students, staff and faculty;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that each Association's representatives on the UC Student Association Board of Directors ought to implement the Day of Solidarity on their respective campus, creating campus-specific plans of action on the most strategic ways to hold the event;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that this event shall be an annual occurrence;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that this annual event shall not take place during the school breaks, national holidays, or weekend but rather during the weekday when students are on campus;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the UC Student Association recognizes the necessity of this event, given the intersectionality of the issues and the widespread epidemic sexual violence has become;

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that the passage of this resolution marks a clear commitment by the UC Student Association to continue our efforts toward ending sexual violence after the UConsent campaign expires.

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<sup>9</sup> <http://ucsa.org/activities/undergrad-campaigns/>