

Presented to UCSA (DATE)

UC STUDENT ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

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A resolution urging the Regents of the University of California to disarm our current campus police forces for the betterment of the University community and the safety of its students of color. With rising militarization on campuses around the globe, and particularly within American institutions of higher learning, we recognize that this disproportionately endangers students of color and Black students in particular. We as UC students and as a University system cannot support this increased militarization and must resist increasing police militarization on our campus if we are to fulfill our stated mission of education.

WHEREAS, the history of policing is a history of racial terror; one which grows directly out of runaway slave patrols and the black codes.¹

WHEREAS, campus police were specifically introduced into the university system in the 1960s and 70s to quell student protest².

WHEREAS, our campus has a long history of activist suppression, including but not limited to the pepper spray incident of 2011³; and,

WHEREAS, our campus also has a history of racialized violence by both individuals and police forces⁴; and in which armed police did nothing to intervene in incidents caused by individuals, and in which, when police are the attackers, their access to weapons increases their threat to the student body,

WHEREAS, our police force has increasing access to military-grade weaponry and vehicles.⁵ Although a temporary ban was placed on this by Pres. Obama, our new president has promised to reinstate the transfer of military grade weapons to police departments⁶.

¹ <https://worxintheory.wordpress.com/2014/12/07/origins-of-the-police/>

² http://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2015/09/college-campus-policing/407659/?utm_source=SF
Twitter

³ <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2012/08/22/1123006/-Now-We-Know-What-the-UC-Davis-Police-Union-Thinks-of-Pike-Justified-With-His-Use-of-Pepper-Spray#>

⁴ <http://www.davisvanguard.org/2015/09/studying-while-black-former-student-shaken-by-police-encounter-on-ucd-campus/>

⁵ <http://shine.forharriet.com/2016/02/black-woman-student-attacked-by-three.html#axzz4c5tBlbtp>

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⁶ https://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/22/world/americas/campus-police-acquire-military-weapons.html?_r=0

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/aug/22/donald-trump-return-military-equipment-police>

WHEREAS, despite not needing deadly weapons in the course of their job campus police continue to utilize a culture of fear around school shootings to justify their increasing armory of military grade hardware⁷

WHEREAS, there is evidence that campus police rarely intervene in school shootings until after the events are resolved⁸, when they mostly serve to provide secondary support. Despite not demonstrating need, we still see a move towards increased militarization,

WHEREAS, in addition to their own weapons, UCPD has connections to other law enforcement agencies with various military-grade hardware - Woodland's Mine Resistant Armored Vehicle (procured from the Davis Police Department) and the Yolo County Sheriff's proposed purchase of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle are two examples of this.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the UC Student Association calls for the UC Regents and President Napolitano's administration to disarm campus police of all lethal and military-grade hardware.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University provide guidelines for non-police, community-based responses to community wellness issues such as but not limited to smoking in a non-smoking zone so that even the possibility of unnecessary stop and frisk, search, threat of violence or other escalation is removed from everyday life on campus for all members of the community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The UC Student Association reasserts our commitment to fairness, equity, and equality by developing student services which are not dependent on police intervention.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the Office of Campus Community Relations, University of California Office of the President (UCOP); UC President Janet Napolitano; and the Regents of the University of California.

⁷<http://www.npr.org/2015/07/30/427806790/many-colleges-have-armed-police-squads-but-are-they-worth-the-risk>

⁸ <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2015/10/oregon-shooting-gun-laws-213222>