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## COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

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May 15, 2024

Dr. Michael V. Drake President, University of California 1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor Oakland, CA 94607

Mr. Gene D. Block Chancellor, UCLA 2147 Murphy Hall Los Angeles, CA 90095 Mr. Richard Leib Chair, UC Board of Regents 1111 Franklin St.,12th Floor Oakland, CA 94607

Dear President Drake, Chancellor Block, and Chair Leib:

The Committee on Education and the Workforce (the Committee) is investigating the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) for its inadequate response to antisemitism and failure to protect Jewish students. I am horrified by UCLA's negligent and incomprehensible reaction to antisemitic violence and exclusion on its campus. UCLA's leaders have allowed their campus to become a severe and pervasive hostile environment for Jewish students, standing by as students, faculty, and affiliates were assaulted and harassed.

For days, the unlawful encampment's checkpoints illegally denied students access to campus buildings. 1 Jewish students were attacked, harassed, and intimidated for walking on their own campus, and all UCLA students were denied a safe and uninterrupted learning environment. 2 Finally, late on April 30, 2024, after days of the UCLA administration allowing severe and pervasive civil rights violations and harassment against UCLA students, many targeted for their Jewish identity, UCLA's campus erupted into violence when a group of instigators attempted to dismantle the encampment by force. Inexplicably, the "schools' police force didn't formally

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Amanda Starrentino, *Pro-Palestinian encampment blocks UCLA students from entering library during midterms*, CBS NEWS (Apr. 30, 2024, 9:34PM), <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/losangeles/news/pro-palestinian-encampment-blocks-ucla-students-from-entering-library-during-midterms/">https://www.cbsnews.com/losangeles/news/pro-palestinian-encampment-blocks-ucla-students-from-entering-library-during-midterms/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Greg Wehner, *Video shows anti-Israel protesters block Jewish student from getting to class; UCLA responds*, FOX NEWS (Apr. 30, 2024, 7:02PM), <a href="https://www.foxnews.com/us/video-shows-anti-israel-protesters-block-jewish-student-getting-class-ucla-responds">https://www.foxnews.com/us/video-shows-anti-israel-protesters-block-jewish-student-getting-class-ucla-responds</a>.

request the LAPD's help until midnight," and it ended up taking almost three hours for law enforcement to arrive and restore order.<sup>3</sup>

The UCLA administration "owns all the fallout from the response and lack of response to this protest," said Wade Stern, president of the Federated University Police Officer's Association.<sup>4</sup> Stern noted that at constituent schools of the UC system, "when protests erupt on campus, the decisions regarding the response of the UC Police rest firmly in the hands of campus leadership."<sup>5</sup>

While UCLA authorized the clearing of the encampment the next day, resulting in over 200 arrests, this action came far too late. Disruptions have persisted after the encampment's closure, resulting in the University moving all classes to remote learning and limiting campus operations. UCLA's leadership has failed to maintain order and safety.

The illegal, antisemitic encampment at UCLA is only the most recent display of a pervasive environment of antisemitism that has long been an issue at UCLA. Following a 2015 study, with similar results in 2018, a third of all Jewish students at UCLA reported being blamed for the actions of the Israeli government because of their Jewish identity either "frequently" or "occasionally." A third of the study's respondents at UCLA also reported a "hostile environment towards Jews." The report notes that "the highest levels of perceived hostility toward Jews were at UCLA." <sup>10</sup>

Even the undergraduate student government (USAC), intended to serve as a voice for all UCLA students, has a deeply concerning history of retribution against students who speak against anti-Jewish bigotry on campus. In 2015, councilmembers attempted to vote against a student's appointment to the USAC Judicial Board because of "her affiliation with the Jewish community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Nicholas McEntyre, *UCLA protests turn violent as fights break out and firecrackers explode in 'tent city'*, N.Y. POST (May 1, 2024, 7:09 AM), <a href="https://nypost.com/2024/05/01/us-news/ucla-protests-turn-violent-as-fights-break-out-and-firecrackers-explode/">https://nypost.com/2024/05/01/us-news/ucla-protests-turn-violent-as-fights-break-out-and-firecrackers-explode/</a>; Safi Nazzal, *After violent night at UCLA, classes cancelled, UC president launches investigation into response*, L.A. TIMES (Apr. 30, 2024), <a href="https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-04-30/ucla-moves-to-shut-down-pro-palestinian-encampment-as-unlawful">https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-04-30/ucla-moves-to-shut-down-pro-palestinian-encampment-as-unlawful</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Austin Turner, *Campus police union blames administration for UCLA's response to pro-Palestinian protests*, KTLA (May 5, 2024, 9:41AM), <a href="https://ktla.com/news/local-news/campus-cop-union-blames-administration-for-uclas-response-to-pro-palestinian-protests/">https://ktla.com/news/local-news/campus-cop-union-blames-administration-for-uclas-response-to-pro-palestinian-protests/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Federated University Police Officers' Association Statement on Response to Campus Violence, FEDERATED UNIV. POLICE OFFICERS' ASS'N (May 3, 2024), <a href="https://federateduniversitypoa.org/2024/05/03/federated-university-police-officers-association-statement-on-response-to-campus-violence">https://federateduniversitypoa.org/2024/05/03/federated-university-police-officers-association-statement-on-response-to-campus-violence</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Matthew Ormseth, *UCLA struggles to recover after 200 arrested, pro-Palestinian camp torn down*, L.A. TIMES (May 1, 2024), <a href="https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-05-01/la-me-ucla-camp-police">https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-05-01/la-me-ucla-camp-police</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> John Klemack & Jonathan Lloyd, *UCLA shifts classes to remote due to demonstrations on Westwood campus*, NBC L.A. (May 6, 2024), <a href="https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/israel-hamas-gaza-protest-ucla-encampment-officers/3405566/">https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/israel-hamas-gaza-protest-ucla-encampment-officers/3405566/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> LEONARD SAXE ET. AL., HOTSPOTS OF ANTISEMITISM AND ANTI-ISRAEL SENTIMENT ON US CAMPUSES 10 (2016), <a href="https://scholarworks.brandeis.edu/esploro/outputs/9924088244301921">https://scholarworks.brandeis.edu/esploro/outputs/9924088244301921</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> *Id*. at 17

on campus."<sup>11</sup> In April of 2022, a non-Jewish active-duty Marine officer and USAC presidential candidate was slandered by a fellow USAC representative as a violent, misogynistic "Zionist," merely for opposing an antisemitic resolution calling for the destruction of Israel and lowered academic standards for Palestinian students.<sup>12</sup>

On May 7, 2024, USAC passed a resolution calling for the resignation of Chancellor Block for not folding to the demands of the illegal, antisemitic encampment. Sponsored by the USAC "Cultural Affairs Commissioner," the resolution described pro-Israel counter-protesters as "white supremacists" but characterized violent, antisemitic protesters and outside agitators as "nonviolent pro-Palestine protesters" who suffered "state repression" after being held accountable for their lawless and discriminatory conduct.<sup>13</sup>

The USAC "Cultural Affairs Commissioner" had previously been involved in the targeted harassment of students who shared alternative perspectives on the conflict, including using official "Cultural Affairs Commission" social media accounts to slander students acknowledging Israel's right to exist as homophobic "Zionists" who have "shown support for UCPD" and seek to endanger UCLA students. 14

The resolution denounces Chancellor Block for promoting "false narratives" and refusing to describe violent antisemitic rioters as "victims of violence," and describes counter-protesters as "Zionist perpetrators... terrorizing students and community members." The students insist on total amnesty for violent rioters, for the school to "ABOLISH POLICING," and call for a "permanent ceasefire" and an end to what they allege is a "genocide in Palestine." The resolution also demands that the school end all academic relationships with Israeli schools, as well as the total elimination of UCLA's Center for Israel Studies. Finally, the resolution demands that the school pay for arrested students' bills, that UCLA provide free mental health counseling to antisemitic rioters, and that professors hold students "of Palestinian and Muslim identities" to lower academic standards. <sup>17</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Catherine Feliciano, *USAC removes video of controversial meeting on Judicial Board appointee*, DAILY BRUIN (Mar. 7, 2015), <a href="https://dailybruin.com/2015/03/07/usac-removes-video-of-controversial-meeting-on-judicial-board-appointee">https://dailybruin.com/2015/03/07/usac-removes-video-of-controversial-meeting-on-judicial-board-appointee</a>; Katie Shepherd & Ryan Leou, *USAC unanimously passes resolution condemning anti-Semitism on campus*, DAILY BRUIN (Mar. 10, 2015, 10:05PM), <a href="https://new.dailybruin.com/post/usac-unanimously-passes-resolution-condemning-anti-semitism">https://new.dailybruin.com/post/usac-unanimously-passes-resolution-condemning-anti-semitism</a>.

<sup>12 @</sup>ExposingUSAC, TWITTER, https://twitter.com/exposingusac; Minutes, UCLA USAC (Jun. 1, 2021), https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2021-06-01.pdf; Guillame Chantereau, USAC recap – May 25, DAILY BRUIN (May 30, 2021), https://dailybruin.com/2021/05/30/usac-recap-may-25; Notice of Finding, UCLA ELECTIONS BOARD (2022), https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z3bXn6zt48cFagVL6KOjH0Jv2cisOvaJ/view.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Resolution Calling for the Immediate Resignation of Chancellor Gene Block if He Does Not Meet PSE Divestment Demands, Grant Amnesty to Affected Students, and Waive Medical Bills of Those Hospitalized, UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL (May 7, 2024) [hereinafter USAC Resolution], https://docs.google.com/document/d/19g5EXnKlBeZt3oCtgEaLHCfig4fN7Gi4EatPz\_nlESs/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Cultural Affairs @ UCLA (@culturalaffairs), INSTAGRAM.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> USAC Resolution, supra note 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Id*.

A Jewish student said that USAC leadership has "purposefully used their position and power to make us Jewish students feel unsafe." Though the Committee seeks to hold the school's leadership accountable for allowing an explosion of antisemitic violence and discrimination on its campus, this disturbing resolution is another sign of just how entrenched antisemitism is at UCLA.

The unlawful encampment served as a hotspot for incidents of violence and antisemitic harassment:

- On April 26, 2024, journalists were blocked from accessing the encampment and were assaulted during attempts to document the camp. 19
- On April 28, 2024, anti-Israel activists shoved a Jewish student counter-protestor from another local college to the ground, kicked her in the head, and stepped on her. The assault left her bleeding and caused her to lose consciousness and to be rushed to the hospital.<sup>20</sup>
- On April 29, 2024, a Jewish student wearing a Star of David necklace was prevented from freely moving through the campus. The student was physically blocked by protesters from the encampment, even after identifying himself and showing his university ID. A UCLA security guard watched, without intervening, the student be crowded by protesters and be physically prevented from walking on campus.<sup>21</sup>
- Also on April 29, 2024, Dr. Nir Hoftman, a Jewish clinical professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was assaulted by a protester for walking near the encampment. Dr. Hoftman was "walking to give the interview to a news station and two or three thugs tried to block [his] approach to the open area." Hoftman was shoved by the protester, causing him to drop an item of personal property. The protester picked up that item, stole it, and retreated into the encampment. 23
- On April 30, 2024, Jewish students were blocked from accessing school buildings by protesters who told them it was "time to go" and that organizers of the encampment were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Shiv Patel, *Candidates in upcoming USAC elections participate in solidarity encampment*, DAILY BRUIN (Apr. 29, 2024, 5:11PM), <a href="https://dailybruin.com/2024/04/29/candidates-in-upcoming-usac-elections-participate-in-solidarity-encampment">https://dailybruin.com/2024/04/29/candidates-in-upcoming-usac-elections-participate-in-solidarity-encampment</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Joel B. Pollak, WATCH: Activists Assault Breitbart News Journalist at UCLA 'Palestine Solidarity Encampment', <a href="https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2024/04/26/watch-activists-assault-breitbart-news-journalist-at-ucla-palestine-solidarity-encampment/">https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2024/04/26/watch-activists-assault-breitbart-news-journalist-at-ucla-palestine-solidarity-encampment/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Pro-Israel protester in LA says she was shoved to ground, hit her head and was kicked, TIMES OF ISRAEL (May 1, 2024, 6:36AM), <a href="https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog\_entry/pro-israel-protester-in-la-says-she-was-shoved-to-ground-hit-her-head-and-was-kicked/">https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog\_entry/pro-israel-protester-in-la-says-she-was-shoved-to-ground-hit-her-head-and-was-kicked/</a>; NBCLA, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecD39KFX6oU">Jewish student recounts injury during UCLA protest</a>, YOUTUBE (May 2, 2024), <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecD39KFX6oU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecD39KFX6oU</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Ayala Or-El, *UCLA Student Eli Tsives on Standing Up to Campus Antisemitism*, JEWISH JOURNAL (May 1, 2024), <a href="https://jewishjournal.com/community/370969/ucla-student-eli-tsives-on-standing-up-to-campus-antisemitism/">https://jewishjournal.com/community/370969/ucla-student-eli-tsives-on-standing-up-to-campus-antisemitism/</a>
<sup>22</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> UCLA Professor Nir Hoftman: This is total lawlessness and anarchy, Fox News (Apr. 29, 2024), https://www.foxnews.com/video/6352003273112.

"not gonna let Zionists in."<sup>24</sup> In other cases, encampment members restricted access to central parts of campus using wristbands.<sup>25</sup> A journalist was assaulted, unlawfully detained by protesters, and had his property stolen while UCPD watched, claiming that they received orders to "stand down."<sup>26</sup>

- On May 1, 2024, a van displaying the Star of David inside a Nazi swastika, as well as antisemitic writing referring to Jews as "puppet masters," was parked on UCLA's campus in support of the encampment. The van loudly broadcast antisemitic rants blaming American Jews for the death of George Floyd, describing American campuses as "another theater of the war" against Jews.<sup>27</sup>
- Multiple UCLA professors and teaching assistants endorsed the encampment, cancelled class in support of the encampment, offered excused absences for students in the encampment, or moved class to the encampment itself, including:
  - A Chicana/o Studies, English, and Gender Studies instructor sent an email to students titled "Moving section to Palestine solidarity encampment Royce Hall," in which she stated the encampment is "an important event that highlights the student activists that continuously fight the injustices we face on a national and global scale" and that "most importantly, students and activists will be coming together to demand divestment from the companies that are profiting off the atrocities happening in Palestine."<sup>28</sup>
  - Asian American Studies professor Jolie Choi sent an email to her class praising the encampment and offered to excuse the absences of students who participated in the encampment.<sup>29</sup>
  - o Graduate student and History Department teaching assistant Aisha Zaman cancelled class in support of a "general call to walk out of classes for all Students and Professors in support for Palestine" and stated, "now is the time to be political." <sup>30</sup>
- The outside of Royce Hall was vandalized and graffitied with antisemitic statements including "IDF are Nazis." <sup>31</sup> A campus sidewalk was vandalized with a chalking of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> UCLA allows anti-Israel protesters to block Jewish students, JNS (Apr. 30, 2024), <a href="https://www.jns.org/ucla-allows-anti-israel-protesters-to-block-jewish-students/">https://www.jns.org/ucla-allows-anti-israel-protesters-to-block-jewish-students/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Aaron Bandler, WATCH: Pro-Palestinian Protesters Block Jewish Students, Others from Entering Campus, JEWISH JOURNAL (Apr. 30, 2024), <a href="https://jewishjournal.com/news/370951/watch-pro-palestinian-protesters-block-jewish-students-others-from-entering-campus/">https://jewishjournal.com/news/370951/watch-pro-palestinian-protesters-block-jewish-students-others-from-entering-campus/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Anthony Cabassa (@AnthonyCabassa\_), TWITTER (Apr. 30, 2024, 6:34 PM), https://twitter.com/AnthonyCabassa\_/status/1785437645616853225.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Sam Yebri (@samyebri), INSTAGRAM (May 2, 2024), https://www.instagram.com/reel/C6dBXxwLnhZ/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Email on file with the Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Email on file with the Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Email on file with the Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> @jeremotographs, TWITTER (May 2, 2024, 1:10AM), https://twitter.com/jeremotographs/status/1785899632650035554.

Star of David under the words "Step Here." Pictures of Chancellor Block displayed at the encampment featured him with horns and red eyes, an antisemitic trope, a picture of the Chancellor with Jewish CEO Larry Fink next to a bomb captioned "War Criminal Besties," as well as the Chancellor surrounded by flames with the caption "I am UCLA Chancellor Gene Block and I support Zionism." <sup>33</sup>

- Under the current "Cultural Affairs Commissioner," the USAC Cultural Affairs Commission provided supplies for the illegal encampment, including a large tent labelled "PAID FOR BY USAC."<sup>34</sup>
  - O The USAC "Cultural Affairs Commissioner," who is paid more than \$10,000 a year by the school, was an active participant in the encampment and associated protests. She used school resources to support the encampment including postponing events, unilaterally repurposing University offices for use by protesters, and funneling students to the encampment. She also harassed students for speaking in opposition to her radical, antisemitic views. Through conversations with UCLA students, the Committee learned that the "Cultural Affairs Commissioner" had previously accused Jewish USAC members of being "white supremacists," and told them that they had been "tricked" by their parents who "benefit from white supremacy."

The pattern of deeply troubling incidents and developments at UCLA extends beyond the encampment:

- Days after the October 7 attacks, the "Cultural Affairs Commission of UCLA" published a statement endorsing the mass murder of civilians. The USAC "Cultural Affairs Commissioner" wrote that "decolonization is not a metaphor," that the Commission "honor[s]" the Hamas fighters who had entered Israel to rape and murder innocent civilians, and called for the destruction of the state of Israel. During an October 10, 2023, USAC meeting, the "Cultural Affairs Commissioner" applauded the attacks, describing them as an "unprecedented, historic moment," and told Jewish students who support Israel that "your parents are liars." <sup>37</sup>
  - The "Cultural Affairs Commissioner" continues to use official Cultural Affairs Commission social media accounts to promote antisemitic falsehoods, including the blood libel that Israel is harvesting the organs of dead Palestinians.<sup>38</sup> The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Matthew Seedorff, *Jewish UCLA student said protesters blocked him from walking to class*, Fox L.A. (Apr. 30, 2024, 5:38PM), <a href="https://www.foxla.com/news/jewish-ucla-student-said-protesters-blocked-him-from-walking-to-class">https://www.foxla.com/news/jewish-ucla-student-said-protesters-blocked-him-from-walking-to-class</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Photograph of antisemitic art at UCLA encampment (on file with Committee).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Patel, *supra* note 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> OU-JLIC @ UCLA (@oujlicucla), INSTAGRAM, https://www.instagram.com/p/C3a68r6uAHC/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Megan Freeman, *Opinion: Unmasking Antisemitism Expressed by USAC's Cultural Affairs Commissioner*, HA'AM (Feb. 6, 2024), https://haam.org/opinion-unmasking-antisemitism-expressed-by-usacs-cultural-affairs-commissioner/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> *Id*.

Cultural Affairs Commission has also posted denials of any historical Jewish connection to Israel and described Jews as white settler-colonists from Europe despite an overwhelming historical and archeological record to the contrary.

- On November 8, 2023, protesters at UCLA beat a piñata bearing a picture of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, with masked protesters hitting the effigy with a stick while yelling, "Beat that fucking Jew!" 39
- On November 28, 2023, a Jewish student walking down Bruin Walk noticed masked individuals with large knives cutting down posters of Israeli children held as hostages by Hamas. When the student stopped to photograph the masked protesters, they chased the student while aggressively brandishing the knives. The student reported the incident to the police in detail, but no action was taken.<sup>40</sup>
- On January 19, 2024, the UC Divest Coalition at UCLA led a "Hands Off Yemen" protest in which protesters cheered on Houthi terrorist attacks against civilian shipping vessels. 41 The slogan of the Houthi foreign terrorist organization, written on its flag, reads as "God is Great, Death to America, Death to Israel, Curse on the Jews, Victory to Islam."
- On February 8, 2024, protesters at UCLA held a rally in which a speaker engaged in antisemitic attacks on Jewish counter protesters, stating "do you realize how Zionists… have that ugly, half-American, half-Zionist smiles [sic]?"<sup>42</sup>
- On March 20, 2024, an effigy of a pig surrounded by flames carrying a bag of money, with a collection can labelled with the Star of David, appeared on campus. The antisemitic display was labelled "UC REGENTS." 43
- On March 23, 2024, UCLA Medical School "Activist in Residence" Lisa "Tiny" Gray-Garcia led a lecture in a mandatory course on "structural racism," where Gray-Garcia praised the October 7 terrorist attacks, forced students to chant "Free Palestine," demanded that the students participate in a "prayer" to "the ancestors," and berated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Yaron Steinbuch, *UCLA students batter Bibi piñata to chants of 'Beat that f-king Jew!'*, N.Y. POST (Nov. 10, 2023, 1:24PM), <a href="https://nypost.com/2023/11/10/news/ucla-students-batter-bibi-pinata-to-chants-of-beat-that-f-g-jew/">https://nypost.com/2023/11/10/news/ucla-students-batter-bibi-pinata-to-chants-of-beat-that-f-g-jew/</a>. <sup>40</sup> *THE SCROLL: Images surface of pro-Palestinian UCLA students wielding knives around campus*, CAMPUS REFORM (Nov. 30, 2023, 10:37AM), <a href="https://www.campusreform.org/article/the-scroll-images-surface-of-pro-palestinian-ucla-students-wielding-knives-around-campus/24415">https://www.campusreform.org/article/the-scroll-images-surface-of-pro-palestinian-ucla-students-wielding-knives-around-campus/24415</a>; Visegrád 24 (@visegrad24), TWITTER (Nov. 28, 2023, 3:38PM), <a href="https://twitter.com/visegrad24/status/1729600584800411894">https://twitter.com/visegrad24/status/1729600584800411894</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Catherine Hamilton, *UC Divest Coalition at UCLA leads 'Hands Off Yemen' protest on campus*, DAILY BRUIN (Jan. 19, 2024, 6:32PM), <a href="https://dailybruin.com/2024/01/19/uc-divest-coalition-at-ucla-leads-hands-off-yemen-protest-on-campus">https://dailybruin.com/2024/01/19/uc-divest-coalition-at-ucla-leads-hands-off-yemen-protest-on-campus</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Dylan Winward, *Student organizations host rally demanding UCLA's divestment from Israel*, DAILY BRUIN (Feb. 8, 2024, 7:51PM), <a href="https://dailybruin.com/2024/02/08/student-organizations-host-rally-demanding-uclas-divestment-from-israel">https://dailybruin.com/2024/02/08/student-organizations-host-rally-demanding-uclas-divestment-from-israel</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Mike LaChance, *Protest Display at UCLA Depicts Jews as Pigs*, LEGAL INSURRECTION (Mar. 22, 2024, 8:00AM), <a href="https://legalinsurrection.com/2024/03/protest-display-at-ucla-depicts-jews-as-pigs/">https://legalinsurrection.com/2024/03/protest-display-at-ucla-depicts-jews-as-pigs/</a>.

students for refusing to participate – all while Medical School administrators and faculty watched in silence. 44

- Dr. Ragda Izar, a psychiatry resident at UCLA, criticized the American Psychiatric Association for acknowledging the harm caused by Hamas's October 7 terror attacks, saying that they had "centered the suffering" of Jews without also acknowledging their role as "colonizing forces for 75 years." <sup>45</sup> Dr. Vivian Burt, a psychiatry professor at UCLA, testified at a meeting of the UC Board of Regents that the event was "but the latest and most grotesque example of how anti-Semitism has been allowed to metastasize at UCLA."46
- In May of 2018, UCLA Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) disrupted an event about indigenous communities in the Middle East. SJP protesters destroyed Israeli and Armenian flags and prevented Jewish, Armenian, and Kurdish students from speaking.<sup>47</sup>

To assist the Committee in understanding antisemitism at UCLA and the school's response, please produce the following items no later than 5:00 PM EDT on May 21, 2024:

- 1. All documents and communications<sup>48</sup> since April 24, 2024, referring and relating to the UCLA encampment, including:
  - a. All documents and communications involving the following individuals: Gene D. Block, Darnell M. Hunt, Yolanda J. Gorman, Emily Rose, Rhea Turteltaub, Monroe Gorden Jr., Michael S. Levine, Ina Bryant, Mick Deluca, Michael J. Beck, Mitchell Chang, Ryan Adserias, John Thomas, Gawin Gibson, Scott Scheffler, and Richard Davis;
  - b. All communications between UCLA officials and/or their representatives and individuals associated with the encampment and/or their representatives; and
  - c. All communications between UCLA officials and the Los Angeles Police Department, California Highway Patrol, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, and/or any other relevant law enforcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Aaron Sibarium, UCLA Med School Requires Students To Attend Lecture Where Speaker Demands Prayer for 'Mama Earth, 'Leads Chants of 'Free Palestine', WASH. FREE BEACON (Apr. 2, 2024), https://freebeacon.com/campus/ucla-med-school-requires-students-to-attend-lecture-where-speaker-demands-prayerfor-mama-earth-leads-chants-of-free-palestine/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Aaron Sibarium, 'Revolutionary Suicide': UCLA Psychiatrists Cheer Self-Immolation in Leaked Audio, WASH. FREE BEACON (Apr. 12, 2024), https://freebeacon.com/campus/revolutionary-suicide-ucla-psychiatrists-cheer-selfimmolation-in-leaked-audio/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), ADL (Oct. 19, 2023), https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounder/students-justice-palestine-sjp# ednref71; Megana Sekar, Photo: Students protest lack of representation at Indigenous Peoples Unite event, DAILY BRUIN (May 17, 2018), https://dailybruin.com/2018/05/17/photo-students-protest-lack-of-representation-at-indigenous-peoples-unite-event.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> This includes e-mails, text and/or any other form of electronic messages, as well as any documents provided or exchanged through any medium. Custodians must produce all responsive documents, including those both on and off University systems.

entity.

- 2. All documents and communications referring or relating to alleged antisemitic incidents at UCLA since October 7, 2023, including:
  - a. A list of all student disciplinary/conduct cases relating to alleged antisemitic incidents at UCLA since October 7, 2023, showing the date, incident, case status, entity responsible for reviewing the case, status of the alleged perpetrator (normal status, suspended, expelled, etc.); and case outcome;
  - b. A list of all faculty and staff disciplinary/conduct cases relating to alleged antisemitic incidents at UCLA since October 7, 2023, showing the date, incident, case status, entity responsible for reviewing the case, status of the alleged perpetrator (normal status, suspended, terminated, etc.), and case outcome;
  - c. All documents referring and relating to student disciplinary/conduct cases relating to alleged antisemitic incidents since October 7, 2023; and
  - d. All documents referring and relating to student, faculty, and staff disciplinary/conduct cases relating to alleged antisemitic incidents since October 7, 2023; and
  - e. All documents and communications involving the following individuals: Gene D. Block, Darnell M. Hunt, Yolanda J. Gorman, Emily Rose, Rhea Turteltaub, Monroe Gorden, Jr., Michael S. Levine, Ina Bryant, Steven Dubinett, Mick Deluca, Michael J. Beck, Mitchell Chang, and Ryan Adserias.
- 3. All documents and communications, including, but not limited to, those involving the Office of the President, Office of the Chancellor, UCLA Police Department, undergraduate and graduate/professional schools, Campus Human Resources, and/or any other entities responsible for investigating and determining consequences for misconduct and violations of UCLA standards, referring or relating to:
  - a. The activities of SJP at UCLA and the UC Divest Coalition (and its constituent organizations) since October 7, 2023;
  - b. Posts by UCLA students, faculty, staff, and other University affiliates on social media platforms targeting Jews, Israelis, Israel, Zionists, or Zionism since October 7, 2023;
  - c. Anti-Israel protests at UCLA since October 7, 2023, and any assaults, harassment, and other disruptions to education and student life related to them.
  - d. Allegations of antisemitic conduct and/or discrimination against Jewish or Israeli UCLA students since October 7, 2023.

4. All video/audio recordings since April 24, 2024, including security/surveillance recordings and police body camera recordings, of the UCLA encampment, and related activities.

Congress' oversight powers are derived from the U.S. Constitution and have been repeatedly affirmed by the United States Supreme Court. <sup>49</sup> Under House Rule X, the Committee has legislative and oversight jurisdiction over "education or labor generally." <sup>50</sup>

Please see the attached instructions for relevant definitions and other directions for the production of documents. This request encompasses responsive materials in the possession of not only UCLA faculty, staff, students, and other affiliates, but also individual members of the UC Board of Regents. The request also extends to any informal communications such as text or other electronic messages. I expect that this request will be conveyed promptly to all parties who would be reasonably expected to have responsive materials.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Ari Wisch of the Committee staff at 202-225-4527 or ari.wisch@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Virginia Foxx Chairwoman

Virginia Foxo

Committee on Education and the Workforce

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> See generally U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 8; McGrain v. Daugherty, 273 U.S. 135, 174 (1927) (holding that "the power of inquiry—with process to enforce it—is an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function"); Eastland v. U.S. Servicemen's Fund, 421 U.S. 491, 504 (1975) (holding that "the power to investigate is inherent in the power to make laws"); Barenblatt v. United States, 360 U.S. 109, 111 (1959) (holding that "the scope of power of inquiry ... is as penetrating and far-reaching as the potential power to enact and appropriate under the Constitution.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Rules of the House of Representatives: One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, U.S. HOUSE OF REP. 7 (Jan. 10, 2023), <a href="https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules118.house.gov/files/documents/Rules%20and%20Resources/118-House-Rules-Clerk.pdf">https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules118.house.gov/files/documents/Rules%20and%20Resources/118-House-Rules-Clerk.pdf</a>.