

COMMUNIQUÉ FROM STUDENTS AT UC SANTA CRUZ LIBERATED DINING COMMONS

Today we participated in a transterritorial attack against the UC by liberating the College 9 / John R. Lewis dining hall. Comrades from so-called Davis, Los Angeles, Riverside, and Santa Barbara read the writing on the blood dripping walls: it was time to attack together!

Our action started off strong as we blocked off the swiper counter with our favorite phrase “NO SWIPES, ALL SMILES.” Students started coming in to the dining hall excited to be getting a free meal and saying FUCK THE UC. Many of them recognize the many ways the UC fucks them over. Some students decided to join in the action, moved by the idea that all it really takes is us to feed each other in order to strike a blow to the UC. Whatsmore, **student-workers and diners welcomed the action with excitement and energy, becoming inspired by what they saw as a strong attack against the UC’s bottomline.** Dining hall workers expressed solidarity. They recognize that students pay too much to eat there for food that they assured us is subpar.

Shortly before the end of our action, the UCSC Dean of Students, Garret Naiman, arrived at the dining hall with the intent of giving us “informed consent about possible disciplinary actions.” But determined not to let him start his usual admin banter, we let Naiman know that his 200K a year salary is what makes it impossible for students to live here. Not to mention the fact that the Chancellor, Cynthia Larive, rakes in \$500,000 dollars per year. The reminder of “informed consent” of possible Student Conduct violations for the “obstruction of university activities” by Naiman underscores that not all KKKops wear badges, some of them rock fauxhawks and dunks.

Naiman was joined by other admin cronies like Amanda Gullings, previously a cop for SCPD, who during one Halloween, collaborated with other KKKOPs to dress up as “convicts” in jumpsuits and braided hairstyles. Today, she is a kkkop for UCSC, who shows up to actions trying to surveil and intimidate. She’s a clear example of the ways in which the UC hires kkkops to keep their revenue and profits safe, and a reason why we say **KKKOPS off not just the campus, but off Mother Earth.**

We ended our action as we came to realize that the admin had banned the staff from replenishing any of the food and that this was their plan to interrupt our action. The largest dining hall on the campus was forced to suspend production by order of the administration. **They would rather nobody eat than let students eat for free.** This form of institutional violence is a direct assault on life and on the commons, which we understand as the “war against subsistence.”

We’ve said it before and we will say it again: “corny ass sing-a-longs” won’t get us the goods. We can not fall for the lie that every direct-action under the sun has been exhausted and that the only way we’ll bring the UC to its knees is by simply “withholding our labor over time”. **Being out on strike is the bare minimum, not the far horizon.** We have witnessed the latest smoke and mirror tactics from the UAW across our territories. From appealing to the sensibilities and consciousness of elected officials at the “capitol,” to fake ass “sit-ins,” and other hollow “escalatory tactics”—the UC is not worried about any of this shitshow. What the UC is worried about is expropriation. They are worried we will take what we want, instead of ‘demanding’ that they redistribute any of it more ‘fairly’ or ‘equitably’. They are worried about blockages in the flow of their revenue.

This is why “free food for everyone” truly terrifies the UC. **It exposes the logic of capital and attacks it simultaneously.** We must generalize these tendencies to bring this institution to its knees. **That begins, but does not end, with withholding labor.**



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