

ON THE UAW STRIKE 2022

SOME THOUGHTS FROM COMRADES IN SO-CALLED SANTA CRUZ

The corrosiveness of the university as a longstanding (settler) colonial-capitalist institution is hardly solved by the union and trade unionist strategy. Graduate students have been organizing for half a century and their condition has only gotten worse. **Sing-alongs and dancing to some corny-ass music won't get shit done.**

We are located at one of the most geographically unique campuses with only two-ways in and two-ways out and we are spending our time watching Brink's money trucks move in-and-out continuing to allow the free flow of capital that sustains the university. Along with the obvious example of capital being able to move through the campus with no issue, we have witnessed Costco semi-trucks, construction trucks, workers in "solidarity" that are bound by "no-strike" clauses in their contracts, dozens of tour buses full of prospective bond portfolios—we mean students—and of course the hundreds of scabs that come in the form of professors, administrators, staff, students, etc. who cross our picket line with no hesitation and no repercussion. All it takes is a simple "honk" and picketers cheer while the scabbing continues.

It seems that some fellow "strikers" are content with following the UAW's call to not engage in any unruly behavior or stir up any commotion by engaging in direct-actions because it "takes a lot of work to organize" or still fall on the excuse that it has been done "hundreds of times already." But we are here for all that. **We want all the fucking smoke with the university and their scabby cronies.** On the picket, day by day, we've seen UAW reps and their followers discourage and even actively police people

calling for direct action and the taking of the streets, demonstrating that the union has become just another way that the university polices people. **The UAW wants people to be content with a simple pay raise, but know that the university's walls are dripping in blood.**

In 2020, we said "Fuck COLA, we want revenge!" and expropriated dining halls in order to feed ourselves when the university never gave a fuck if we ate or not. We stood side-by-side with our undocumented, Black, Queer, Trans, Indigenous comrades when grad students only gave a fuck about their lousy raise. We built coalitions with other communities in struggle both on and off campus, just to end up at the mercy of the UAW's ULP strike. Fuck all that! It was on this bullshit campus that we were able to inspire others to take a stand and take what's theirs throughout this bullshit state, yet here we are watching some corny ass sing-alongs about how "UC is terrified" while the university thrives in the tameness of the UAW strike. **The UC is neither terrified nor worried about us because capital keeps on flowing thanks to the "soft" picket line upheld by UAW.** "If we don't get it, SHUT IT DOWN" is a hollow chant, when the TWO entrances of UCSC—we repeat only TWO—remain open and keep the university prospering with business as usual. **We need militancy and oppositionality to activate the spirit of the wildcat to expand this struggle to different realms, instead of just continuing to ask for crumbs.** Let's keep our commitments with our head held high and **foster the only possible relationship with the university: a criminal one!**



Link up: abolishtheUC@protonmail | [@abolishtheUC](https://twitter.com/abolishtheUC)

ON THE UAW STRIKE 2022

SOME THOUGHTS FROM COMRADES IN SO-CALLED SANTA CRUZ

The corrosiveness of the university as a longstanding (settler) colonial-capitalist institution is hardly solved by the union and trade unionist strategy. Graduate students have been organizing for half a century and their condition has only gotten worse. **Sing-alongs and dancing to some corny-ass music won't get shit done.**

We are located at one of the most geographically unique campuses with only two-ways in and two-ways out and we are spending our time watching Brink's money trucks move in-and-out continuing to allow the free flow of capital that sustains the university. Along with the obvious example of capital being able to move through the campus with no issue, we have witnessed Costco semi-trucks, construction trucks, workers in "solidarity" that are bound by "no-strike" clauses in their contracts, dozens of tour buses full of prospective bond portfolios—we mean students—and of course the hundreds of scabs that come in the form of professors, administrators, staff, students, etc. who cross our picket line with no hesitation and no repercussion. All it takes is a simple "honk" and picketers cheer while the scabbing continues.

It seems that some fellow "strikers" are content with following the UAW's call to not engage in any unruly behavior or stir up any commotion by engaging in direct-actions because it "takes a lot of work to organize" or still fall on the excuse that it has been done "hundreds of times already." But we are here for all that. **We want all the fucking smoke with the university and their scabby cronies.** On the picket, day by day, we've seen UAW reps and their followers discourage and even actively police people

calling for direct action and the taking of the streets, demonstrating that the union has become just another way that the university polices people. **The UAW wants people to be content with a simple pay raise, but know that the university's walls are dripping in blood.**

In 2020, we said "Fuck COLA, we want revenge!" and expropriated dining halls in order to feed ourselves when the university never gave a fuck if we ate or not. We stood side-by-side with our undocumented, Black, Queer, Trans, Indigenous comrades when grad students only gave a fuck about their lousy raise. We built coalitions with other communities in struggle both on and off campus, just to end up at the mercy of the UAW's ULP strike. Fuck all that! It was on this bullshit campus that we were able to inspire others to take a stand and take what's theirs throughout this bullshit state, yet here we are watching some corny ass sing-alongs about how "UC is terrified" while the university thrives in the tameness of the UAW strike. **The UC is neither terrified nor worried about us because capital keeps on flowing thanks to the "soft" picket line upheld by UAW.** "If we don't get it, SHUT IT DOWN" is a hollow chant, when the TWO entrances of UCSC—we repeat only TWO—remain open and keep the university prospering with business as usual. **We need militancy and oppositionality to activate the spirit of the wildcat to expand this struggle to different realms, instead of just continuing to ask for crumbs.** Let's keep our commitments with our head held high and **foster the only possible relationship with the university: a criminal one!**



Link up: abolishtheUC@protonmail | [@abolishtheUC](https://twitter.com/abolishtheUC)