



POLICY & RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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August 3, 2012

Dear :

This is in response to your California Public Records Act request dated July 29, 2012, for "the letter of inquiry sent by the Department of Justice to UCSD dated March 11, 2010." A copy of the requested document is enclosed. Copies of responsive records are typically made available at a cost of \$.20 (cents) per page as allowed by the California Public Records Act. Because the number of responsive pages being provided with this letter is minimal (6 pages), we are waiving the duplication fee for these records; however, this fee will not necessarily be waived for future requests.

This completes your request. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula J. Johnson", is written over a horizontal line.

Paula J. Johnson
Director

Enclosure



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

AIB:FRM:LMT:gg
169-12-17

*U.S. Mail: 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Patrick Henry Building
Suite 4300
Washington, DC 20530*

*Overnight: 601 D Street, NW, Suite 4300
Washington, DC 20004*

March 11, 2010

BY EMAIL COMMUNICATION (DPARK@UCSD.EDU)

D. Park, Esq.
Chief Campus Counsel
University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Dr.
La Jolla, CA 92093

Re: University of California San Diego

Dear Mr. Park:

It has come to our attention that there have been allegations of racial harassment of black students attending school at the University of California San Diego. Specifically, according to media reports, students at the University of California San Diego ("UCSD") organized a social event off campus calling it a "Compton Cookout" and promised to expose guests to "life in the ghetto." See Larry Gordon, Students Walk Out of UC San Diego Teach-In, Los Angeles Times, February 25, 2010. Additionally, it has been reported that the school also found a cardboard sign with the words "Compton Lynching" at one of the school's radio stations and that students working at the school sponsored radio station were accused of using racial slurs on the air. Finally, there was another incident involving a student hanging a noose in the campus library at UCSD.

Since the conduct described above may implicate the civil rights laws the Department of Justice enforces, including Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000c-6 and the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1703, we request that you provide us the following information to assist us in evaluating these allegations and to determine what further action, if any, is warranted. We emphasize, however, that we have reached no conclusion as to whether a violation of any federal law has occurred. Unless otherwise specified, all requests apply to the 2009-2010 school year.

1. Please provide the student enrollment of all University of California San Diego students, by classification (e.g. freshman) and race/ethnicity.

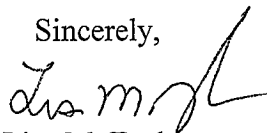
2. Please provide copies of the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 student yearbooks for University of California San Diego. These will be returned to UCSD.
3. Please identify whether the organization or persons organizing the cookout event were part of an organization recognized or supported (in any way) by UCSD. If so, please provide the name, description of the organization, as well as any documents describing the organization, included but not limited to the constitution, by-laws, membership rules, etc.
4. Please indicate the amount of school funds allocated, if any, by UCSD for this organization. Additionally, please indicate if any funds were allocated specifically for the cookout event, and whether students utilized school property for the planning or fund-raising of the cookout.
5. Please state whether or not tickets for the cookout were sold on school grounds and whether campus personnel or UCSD students participated in the collection of funds for the event.
6. Please state whether or not any UCSD employees attended the cookout.
7. Please indicate whether or not posters or flyers advertising the cookout were posted or distributed on campus grounds.
8. Please state whether UCSD provided support of any kind for the media outlet (Koala) (e.g., advisors, transportation, food, etc.).
9. Describe UCSD's relationship with the media outlet Koala.
10. Please indicate the amount of school funds allocated, if any, by UCSD to the Koala media event, and whether students utilized school property for the planning or fund-raising related to Koala. In addition, please describe what, if any actions, the school took in response to the sign containing the words "Compton Lynching" at the Koala media outlet.
11. Describe UCSD's investigation, if any, into the use of racial slurs by Koala personnel/invitees and the results of the investigation.
12. Describe the circumstances surrounding the discovery of a noose hanging in the campus library. Please include in your description the location of the noose, the duration it was present, and how and by whom was it discovered.
13. Describe UCSD's investigation, if any, into the noose hanging at the library, and what discipline actions, if any, UCSD took to address the incident.

14. For the 2007-2008, 2008-2009, and 2009-2010 school years, please provide all documents (e.g., investigative summaries, discipline reports, internal memoranda, electronic mail, reports to law enforcement agencies, and minutes from school board meetings where the complaints were discussed) reflecting complaints, allegations, investigations, and/or responses taken by UCSD regarding incidents of discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race and/or national origin at UCSD. Please include any incidents based on race and/or national origin at UCSD involving student-on-student, teacher-on-student, and student-on-teacher discrimination and/or harassment. In addition, for each complaint received - whether written, verbal, or otherwise communicated - please provide the following information:
 - a. the date, time, and location of the alleged incident(s);
 - b. the name, race, national origin of the alleged harasser(s) (indicate whether student, teacher, or other);
 - c. the name, sex, race, and national origin of the alleged victim(s) (indicate whether student, teacher, or other);
 - d. the names of all witnesses of the alleged incident (indicate whether student, teacher, or other); and,
 - e. UCSD's response to each complaint and allegation including the discipline imposed (if any) for each incident.
15. Please provide a copy of the UCSD's anti-harassment/discrimination policies.
16. Please describe what information or training has been or will be provided to staff, students, and others in response to incidents involving harassment and/or discrimination at UCSD. Please indicate when the training, if any, was or will be provided, as well as who attended or will attend.
17. The attached article includes a description of a teach-in organized in response to the incident. Please identify (1) the organizer of the event; (2) provide any copies of information disseminated at the event; and (3) discuss, what, if any response UCSD received from black students attending school at the University, and whether UCSD has taken subsequent remedial measures to address students concerns.

We are aware that UCSD has been working with the Department of Justice's Community Relations Service ("CRS"), and we encourage UCSD to continue such work. Our inquiry is separate from that of CRS as our offices have differing responsibilities.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance. Please send the requested information to our office by **March 26, 2010**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 616-1622.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. Taylor", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa M. Taylor
Attorney

Copy to:
Lynn Do (LynnDo@ucsd.edu)
Assistant to D. Parks

Attachment

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Students walk out of UC San Diego teach-in

The event was held in response to two recent racial incidents. But minority students don't believe the university will take significant steps to boost their numbers or improve conditions, one said.

February 25, 2010 | By Larry Gordon

Reporting from San Diego — A student walkout Wednesday disrupted a UC San Diego teach-in that was intended to promote tolerance in the wake of two recent racially charged incidents. Many of those involved said the protest showed how difficult it will be for the beachside campus to overcome long-standing concerns about the small number of African American students enrolled there.

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More than 1,200 students, faculty and staff packed an auditorium in the student center for the teach-in, which campus administrators organized in response to the incidents, including an off-campus party Feb. 15 that mocked Black History Month.

But halfway through the planned two-hour session, hundreds of students walked out.

The students, who were joined by many others during the afternoon, held their own noisy but peaceful rally outside the building, calling on UC San Diego leaders to improve conditions for minority students and boost their numbers.

Administrators may have thought the teach-in "would make us quiet," said Fnann Keflezighi, vice chairwoman of the Black Student Union. But she said minority students do not believe that the university will take significant steps to improve the situation. The controversial party, she and others contended, was just the spark that ignited long-simmering ethnic tensions on the campus.

According to UC systemwide data, UC San Diego enrolled the smallest number of black freshmen last fall of any of the nine undergraduate campuses, 46 students out of a class of 3,749. Overall, officials say, about 1.6% of the campus' 23,143 undergraduates are African American, among the lowest percentages in the UC system.

On Wednesday, many students wore black and white T-shirts -- "Real Pain, Real Action, 1.3%" -- that noted the low enrollment figures, although with a slightly different calculation.

The teach-in moderator, Mentha Hynes-Wilson, an African American who is dean of students at UCSD's Thurgood Marshall College, went forward with the session for several hundred people who remained in the room after the walkout.

Hynes-Wilson said she was not offended by the disruption.

"That's what they needed to do, and we need to honor that," she said.

No one was arrested during the day of protests, and there were no reports of property damage, according to a campus spokesperson.

Inez Feltscher, a UCSD student who heads the campus College Republicans club and participated in the teach-in, said she deplored the racially themed party but worried that the subsequent protests could deepen racial separation on the campus.

Feltscher, who called UCSD an "extreme leftist" school, said she was concerned that the recent events could reinforce an atmosphere of political correctness on campus.

larry.gordon@latimes.com

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