



ASUCD SENATE MINUTES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
Virtual Meeting
June 1st, 2021

I. Call to Order

Vice President Barneond called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

II. Quorum Roll Call

Senators Present (of 12)

Annoushqa Bobde; Fauziya Faruk; Amanjot Gandhoke; Mallika Hari; Ryan Manriquez;
Kristin Mifsud; Michael C. Navarro; Kabir Sahni; Devin Santiago-Vergara; Maahum
Shahab; Lauren Smith; Tenzin Youedon.

Senators Absent:

Ex-Officios Present:

Internal Vice President Barneond; President Krueger; Controller Lopez-Perez ; EAVP
Saishruti Adusumilli .

Ex-Officios Absent:

Commission Chairpersons Present:

Academic Affairs Commission Chair Navreet Hundal ; Business and Finance
Commission Chair Pitts ; Environmental Policy and Planning Commission Chair Sydney
Cliff; Ethnic and Cultural Affairs Commission Chair Saii; External Affairs Commission
Chair Natalia Waid; Internal Affairs Commission Chair Julian Garcia ; Gender and
Sexuality Commission Chair Nora Martinez.

Commission Chairpersons Absent:

With senators present out of 12 senators seated, quorum was established.

President Krueger provided clarifications about the bylaws.

III. Consideration of Old Legislation

Senate Resolution #20:

MP Jacobs stated that they reject the hate crime statistics produced by?, but anti-semitism is legitimately scary and is always unacceptable.

MP Zara stated that she is a student at Davis, and stated that caterpillar's tools participated in demolitions of Palestinian neighborhoods, as of the past several years, caterpillar military wheel loaders are also used as a ? weapon. Reytheon supplies israeli air force with missiles. In 2008-2009, israel used them to launched an assault on Gaza that killed... in february of 2018, israeli missiles..., in july . raytheon has provided the us government with tomahawk cruise missiles that... amnesty international described the attack as at the least very unlawful... and providing security for israel's illegal west bank settlements. Run equipment for israeli checkpoints in gaza that are part of the israeli barrier. As a uc davis, does not want her money going to companies complicit with human rights abuses and genocides. If ? want their money

going to this, they're free to contribute independently. Are we trying to sustain our economy at the costs of innocent lives.

MP Anna stated that passing this resolution is not an option, it is a must. As someone who has watched her palestinian friends and colleagues lose their family members, the idea of them voting against this resolution is appalling. Palestinian is not synonymous with muslim, so please leave your islamophobia at the door. Are you ok with your tuition money going to the companies that provide the israeli government with bulldozers to destroy palestinian homes, surveillance... as a student of this school, is not okay with her money going to these organizations that contribute to murder and genocide. Should not have to live with the very valid fear that they will be blacklisted and will face harm if they so much as speak about their human rights. Our money is being used by this school to fund corporations... does not want to be funding a single second of pain against a human being. Actively using the emotional and physical labor of the palestinian students on campus trying to convince senate that their community does not deserve harm and pain. Show your students that their well-being matters to you by saying yes to this resolution.

MP Seeta reiterated her talking points from last time. The west bank and gaza remain occupied territories. Palestinians are also subjected to significant border control, and many of these controls impede access to educational opportunities. Everyone assembled here is speaking within an educational institution. Why wouldn't we all be on the side of steadfastness in the face of injustice. Faculty and students at princeton university have signed on to a statement that understand the struggle for palestinian liberation is intertwined with other movements for equality... sf teachers union recently issued a bds endorsement. Teacher makes important connections between Palestinians, labor struggle, and human rights. Raised these recent statements... everything she has quoted her is taking a much more expansive position than the resolution in front of us is asking for. This resolution is asking for corporate and social responsibility, ask of the resolution is very specific and focused. This situation is an opportunity to model taking a position and staying with it. Seems that sometimes voting yes is taking a position, while voting no is neutrality. But voting no is an action, and means something just like voting yes does. Asks everyone to vote yes

Senator Hari deferred to MP Charlie Y, a Jewish student, stated that she supports Palestinians and believes they should be afforded the same rights as everyone. Does not believe the senate resolution aligns with those goals, this does nothing but put down jewish students. At the end of the day, that money belongs to the UCD administration and they have already ruled this unconstitutional. This bill will only serve to harm jewish students at davis. Has been shown time and time again how these anti-zionist sentiments only embolden anti-semitic attacks. Palestinians and jews are both suffering rn, and if you fail to recognize that, ask yourself why. There is a reason uc davis is known as one of the most anti-semitic uc schools, it is because it is. Even though she supports palestinians, is labelled a settler colonial white supremacist. This bill does not solve the palestinian plight, instead it hurts people like her and makes her scared to practice her religion. Stand with palestinians, but instead of passing resolutions that don't get anything done, wants mediated conversations. Falling down a trap of hate and injustice where people think this hate is justified. Do something constructive for once and make sure everyone feels welcome.

MP Shahar Zach thanked the authors of this resolution and ECAC for introducing it. Wants to urge senate to approve this resolution. Palestinians just went through another round of extreme violence committed by the israeli government. This episode of horrible death and violence is part of a much longer ?... as an Israeli-Jew himself who has lived almost all of his

life in Israel, rejects Israel's colonial violence and urges ASUCD Senate to take a principle stance and show solidarity for palestinians and human rights. Please join thousands of people across the US and stand resolutely against the human rights violations by the state of Israel.

MP Joshua stated that he supports SR #20 bc he does not think uc davis should be giving money to corporations violating human rights and cannot believe that is controversial. The statements presented by those opposing the bill were so consistent. Contradictions: israeli state identified with judaism in general → if denouncing the israeli state is anti-semitic, then that means that all jewish people have to own that state's colonial settler policies, and does not think this is true. If we are to honor majorities, let's start there. Why is there a need for humanitarian aid? Could it be the bombings of civilian targets, the bulldozing of homes, amount of calories palestinians are allowed? Should we perhaps address causes and not effects? This is the goal of bds. Heard we should seek a solution that helps palestinians with out harming jewish people → thinks SR #20 will advance this, no one is free until everyone is free. Politics is literally nothing but the navigation of situations where there is no simple solution that everyone supports, the work of politics is to solve competing claims.

Senator Youedon deferred to Noah.

MP Noah stated that he wanted to touch on the nature of anti-semitism and israel. Only speaking on behalf of himself. To non-jews and many of the jews who will speak this evening, wants to emphasize that this bill is not anti-semitic. Boycotting four corporations does not contribute to actual anti-semitism. Calling jews who oppose israeli government as anti-semitic and self-hating jews is extremely offensive and goes against everything judaism stands for. Wrong to weaponize fear and identity to protect the profit margins of four companies. Diminishes and ignores the voices of progressive jews at uc davis. Less than half of american jews say that caring about israel is essential to them... on top of the national numbers, misconception that uc davis fosters an unsafe environment for jews. Not once has he felt uncomfortable or offensive to express his identity on campus. Identity cannot be determined by anyone's purity test, jewish identity does not necessitate support for israel. Will be many attempts to characterize the resolution as extreme or anti-semitic, but what it is is to defund four major corporations that commit human rights violations. This resolution only talks about these four corporations and does not reference jewish individuals. Divesting from them will not result in a change of safety for him or jewish students. This resolution was authored by a jewish organization on campus. Not only was the jewish community consulted, the jewish community authored the resolution. Recognize the difference between anti-semitism and denouncing the actions of the israeli government. Opposing the israeli government is not anti-semitic, despite numerous attempts to characterize it as so. The focus of this discussion should center around ensuring that Palestinians have the same basic rights afforded to all other humans. As a jewish student of uc davis, asks everyone to vote yes on this resolution.

MP Uriel G stated that he supports this resolution because it is clear to him that palestinians live under an apartheid system. Knows these words like apartheid, ethnic cleansings causes a strong reaction in some. Has videos and documents of israel bombing schools in gaza. Many severely discriminatory policies that cause harm to palestinians. Wish to state that as someone in the jewish tradition, clear that our jewish tradition points to standing in full solidarity with the palestinian people. Supporting palestinian freedom is not anti-semitic. In the past, some have said that jewish people who support bds are like "latinos who support trump" wishes to say as someone who is latino and jewish, this is nonsense. To the senate, asks them to please vote yes to this senate resolution.

Senator S-V deferred to MP Rachel.

MP Rachel stated that someone was saying that they are upset about different struggles palestinians have to go through and how they want to support them but it will come to their expense. Thinks this is a loaded statement to say. If you really do support the palestinians, you will be here standing with us supporting the resolution. Also wanted to address the fact that passing bds will lead to anti-semitism on campus. Wants to reiterate the fact that aligning the jewish identity with that of an ethno-state is anti-semitic and contributes to the hate crimes that jewish people have to face. Another thing that was brought up previously at last meeting was that passing this resolution would come to expense of jewish students, wants to make it clear that this is not about picking a demographic, about either being pro-human rights or anti-human rights.

MP Morgan asked all ASUCD senators to pass this resolution to divest from four corporations. This is not a conflict, it is a colonial military occupation and a colonial structure of violence. Palestine does not even have a military, does not want tuition dollars going to human rights abuses of palestinian people. UC Davis has already contributed to UN of ethnic investments. No matter the subject, it is wrong to be funding corporations that abuse human rights. Stop forcing palestinian students to look at and fund these corporations. Stop telling palestinian students that divestment does not help and is... read about destroyed generation olive trees

Senator Gandhoke deferred to MP Michelle HaLevi.

MP HaLevi stated that here is another anti-israel piece of legislation meant to demonize the jewish state. To say this is not two-sided is wrong. Raytheon supplies the iron dome defense system to sustain israel's main defense against rocketfire at israeli civilians. If ecac is arguing this is not about hamas, disagrees bc they play a big role in this discussion. Each bds hearing is a culmination of anti-semitic tropes, targeting israel as the sole problem of the middle east. For those of you who think hamas is just a resistance movement, ... this is terrorism not resistance. You refuse to recognize our trauma and pain in this two-sided conflict. Palestinian leaders are responsible for the plight of the palestinian people, yet no one holds them accountable. The double standard is astonishing. My people's history in israel does not exclude the history of arabs in the region. Direct correlation between bds and anti-semitism. Engaged in war and in war we all lose. To penalize israel for its defense is unjust. Vote no on this resolution.

MP Connor stated that at the last meeting, there was one MP who brought up the definition of anti-semitism that was passed by ASUCD a few years ago. If it was the one he was thinking of, believes that definition was the one that removed discussions of israel. When that was removed, that resolution had unanimous support. Great example of unity that occurs when different communities fight against different forms of oppression. Need to acknowledge the structural nature of these systems of oppression and the different power dynamics that are involved here. Need to have a just peace, a negative peace is one with absence of tension and positive peace is one that involves justice. That will also involve a lot of discussion but is important to recognize that a lot of past discussion around palestinian states have not involved a just solution. There is already division around these issues, and not voting for this resolution, is a political position. Voting for this resolution is one step toward justice, the same way that we saw with south africa, where one divestment was one helpful tactic in the fight

against apartheid. More actions are needed, but this is a step in the right direction and a way to challenge corporations that cause a lot of harm.

Senator Faruk deferred to MP Baani.

MP Baani stated to please pass this resolution and divest from corporations committing genocides. To those who believe this is only symbolic, let it be symbolic, let it be a symbol of anti-oppression. Thinks about the significance of today in this hearing: the anniversary of ? attacks by the indian government. The indian commanders overwent special training with the israeli training with... this training came useful when the commanders entered the ? site, the most holy site. Doesn't this all sound eerily similar to what happened a few weeks ago. Secondly we are winning. Win in the shifting of this narrative and the upsurge of support for human rights in palestine. Made lives living hell for palestinians and what trauma looks like. This meeting is being swept over for the love and solidarity of palestinians, so many are stepping up and showing that palestinians can no longer be silenced. For those who might be on the fence, and might not know... complies with all international law and human rights norms. Free palestine always and forever.

MP Dalia stated that she is a graduate student at uc davis and is a palestinian-american. This is extremely important and really urges everyone to listen to what you have mostly been hearing so far, which are the elegant and eloquent pleas to pass this resolution. Deferred to MP Em.

MP Em stated that she is here today to support SR #20, and wants to acknowledge that palestinians live in an apartheid and settler colonial state. Should not have to be giving this public comment. Should be enough that palestinians in palestine have called bds as an action that supports them in a struggle. G4S provides israel with physical infrastructure of apartheid: just in the last couple of days, video circled of school children could not return home because of gate that blocked school from home. G4s also provides security equipment and personnel to israeli prisons and police. Unreasonable to support uc davis students to support the prison industrial complex anywhere, including in palestine. Policing here in the us is intimately tied to that in palestine. US police departments have said they use israeli tactics as a model. Asking them to be complicit not only in human rights abuses in palestine but also... raytheon is a military contractor that supplies the... if you look at all the wars that have happened in our lifetime, will find over and over again instances of civilian casualties by missiles guided by raytheon. Does not think human rights abuses are a particularly complex issue, when we look at the companies, the choice really is quite simple. Uc davis should not be forced to support these death-making institutions with our money. If this resolution does not pass, means palestinian students who have watched the ethnic cleansing of their families and people will have to be complicit in the violence.

Senator Hari deferred to MP Nicole.

MP Nicole, a Jewish-Israeli student, stated that the claims about Israel are unfair. It is solely thanks to the iron dome technology that defends israeli citizens. Aim to inflict as much damage as possible. Hamas is a terrorist organization, yet the people who speak in favor of this resolution refuse to acknowledge this. Hamas uses their own civilians as human shields, now let's talk about the israel response to violence against its civilians. During such attacks all such landlines are called into the building... Israel

demolishes a target only after making thorough efforts to notify all residents. This should serve as a testament to the country's priorities.

Senator Sahni motioned to a break from 9:31 p.m. to 9:37 p.m.

Senator Sahni called the meeting to order at 9:37 p.m.

MP Diego Vargas spoke in support of the resolution. Wanted to remind everyone that this is only talking about the four companies, not talking about anything else. If this were something we were trying to pass in the us, surveillance is present. This is something that needs to be boycotted in palestine and in here. Asked the senators to please vote yes on the resolution. Deferred to MP Jonah.

MP Jonah stated that he is a Jewish student here to support the boycott proposal. Bds has three simple demands for israel: ending the occupations of territories taken in, equal rights for all citizens, and... all three of these demands are in line with international law and UN resolutions. By opposing bds, zionists will out what is the most prominent non-violence effort to justice. Palestinians overwhelmingly support this measures. Opponents of this proposal have claimed that BDS is ineffective, it there is anything he has learned from past few weeks is that we live in a small world and our actions do affect one another. Globalized resistance is both possible and powerful. This is not a complex issue. Here personally to highlight the internal issue within the jewish community and how important it is to speak up, talking to his rabbi and she was talking about how she cannot talk about her political views in her professional capacity bc it risks her job. Paramount importance for us and especially jewish people to wade through the bs when it comes to bds, not about demonizing anyone and it is 100% about human rights and justice and equality. Really hope they vote yes on this.

MP Vargas stated to Hari and Mifsud not to eye-roll, this is not a laughing matter.

Senator Mifsud issued a right of reply, stating that if it seems like she has eye-rolling. She has ADHD, and that is a way she goes through processing what has been said.

Senator Hari stated that she was not laughing and means no disrespect.

Senator Faruk deferred to MP Bia Myanganbayar.

MP Myanganbayar stated she strongly supports this resolution in solidarity with palestine. There have been many brave palestinian students that came to senate and said this resolution will help them. Please do not speak to them and disregard them, and listen to them when they say this resolution will help. Believes that this association with corporations that are in violation of palestinian human rights... not comfortable with her money being invested in these corporations. Asks what it is precisely about them that deserves out money. We are paying so much for this school, and our money should not go to a company that aids in the destruction of palestinian lives. If you want it going there, you are free to contribute it independently. Their merchandise and products are known for becoming weapons which destory palestinian lives. We all covet to be ethical in our investments and our engagements, but cannot be ethical without... imperative to acknowledge the harm these companies profit from. We all know this is a recurring tragedy, and there are currently more than...

palestinians that are displaced from airstrikes. These are document human rights abuses happening, palestinians have nowhere to go, and their positions are a direct result from what these corporations have done. The effectiveness of this call for action stems from its ability to raise awareness. Speak truth to power, this resolution has the ability to shift the conversation to justice for palestinian people. The student body has not been silent watching the oppression of palestinians, and it is beyond time for asucd to stand its part in opposing apartheid.

Senator Smith motioned to move to Senate Discussion. Senator Mifsud seconded the motion.

Senator Manriquez stated that we have heard a lot of discussion tonight and wanted to divide the house. Senator Mifsud objected to the motion, saying she wanted to talk about it first before.

Senator S-V deferred his time to MP Yara.

MP Yara Kaadan, would like to address a few comments from this session. Coming forward as a child of Lebanese immigrants who have been affected by this. Heard comments about hamas, but is unaware of uc davis giving a single dollar to them. They do not have an iron dome, they do not have bomb shelters, clean water, access to electricity, freedom to move freely through the country in a car. Not planning on addressing the details of the human rights violations that her and friends and family have endured, but refuses to allow propaganda enforced by western imperialism to slide away from accountability. By addressing hamas is effectively equating all palestinians with hamas, which is clearly both racist and islamophobic. Also noted actions by senator mifsud and hari. Family pays out of state tuition, don't want money going to companies that are complicit with human rights abuses. Asks you to be consistent with your stance of human rights violations regardless of who it is affecting. Would be unethical to support those with opposing stances...

Senator S-V stated that a lot of community members came here to speak, and we should be listening to them.

Senator Smith stated that she speaks with a heavy heart as the openly Jewish senator on the Table. Witnessed hate speech on social media telling her community I hope "you all get what you deserve." has seen nothing done by asucd to support jewish community, same respect has not been granted to her. Makes her ashamed to be a part of a senate table that is considering passing a resolution as divisive and unconstitutional as this. Seeing that uc davis is listed in the top 10 most anti-semitic universities, not in the students' best interest to pass this. Told that it was inappropriate to discuss military matters on the senate table, yet ecac has been taking these actions. Definition of anti-semitism states that anti-zionism is anti-semitism. This resolution has little to no impact on our campus except the psychological harm to students. Our campus admin has already stated that they will not enforce this, but this symbolizes to our student body that... for those who claimed that uc davis is not anti-semitic bc you have not experienced it, think about the privilege you hold. This resolution is not about supporting israel or palestine, this discussion is about protecting our entire student body. Supporters of this resolution have simply claimed that all of their sources are dishonest. If you really cared about palestinian community, would find a way to support palestinian students without hurting another community.

Saii stated that for a point of clarification stated that she did not purposefully ignore to post anything on Holocaust Remembrance Day. cannot attest to why everyone else did not speak to you, but can say that it creates a pretty harmful environment when ecac, said that she said the naqba was made-up. Don't be racist.

Senator Mifsud stated what are we gaining by attacking each other. All uc davis students, can we please be students and listen to one another. Can we have a good discussion on that instead of violating our own contract that we are under. Need to have a civil conversation instead of these blatant attacks on each other. The rest of this is not going to a good solution if we cannot do that. Urges everyone on this board and meeting to continue that. Apologizes for any misconduct anyone has think she has done in this meeting, it is her ADHD ticks.

Senator Youedon thanked all the community members for coming to speak to the senate table. Stated that hamas should have no place in this conversation, it does not represent palestinians and to conflate them with palestinians is racist and islamophobic. There are products on campus that are complicit in the israeli government's human rights violations. To bring up hamas is a dangerous tactic. As a student in uc davis and a product of colonization, cannot give money to these corporations. Believe all students should have a say in where our money goes, and is upsetting that palestinian students are forced to contribute their money to companies that are harming their communities. Would like to repeat what this resolution is focusing on: caterpillar bulldozers demolish palestinian homes, g4s..., the violia environment subsidiaries transfer waste from israel into its occupied territories, palestinian students see this everyday and are reminded of it everyday. Voting bds isn't picking a side, and is about holding these companies accountable. To the senate table, these issues matter. To dismiss them as non-issues is to have privilege that palestinian students do not have.

Senator Shahab stated that she is so worried about her friends for speaking about this, wants to go back to what kristin was saying. We need to recognize that everyone hear has proximity to different communities. My experience looks very different than anybody else's. Personally, has two friends, one is palestinian and hasn't heard from her in over a week and last thing she told her was that six of her relatives had been arrested in the past month, with youngest being 16 years old. Go to bed and don't know if they are going to wake up in their own homes. Something she keeps coming back to is Kaffir Boy, something he talks about is the concept of ubuntu. Idea of recognizing everyone's inherent humanity and recognizing that we all come from places where we just want peace and justice. To her, that does look like asking admin to divest from those corporations. Does not think that blocking this resolution will block any peace, more and more people are starting to speak up. All have different experiences that we come from and different communities we have proximity to, these are not things far away, these are things right here. Can only imagine what it is like for these community members who have lost 21 family members in the past week. Thinks we should recognize that we all look from this from a different perspective, and this would just be a good time to vote

Chairperson Waid stated that as a chairperson of the eac, urges senate table to be on the right side of the table tonight and vote in favor of this resolution. Data shows that nearly 85% of deaths in this conflict have been palestinian. Students should not have to pay with their own tuition for these companies, have already set such a precedent to divest from companies that were intertwined with sinful activities. It's time to make a choice, this conflict goes beyond our lifetimes. Sees this argument as being a blockade to any action, and hopes it is replicated through the passing of this resolution.

Senator Navarro motioned to call the bill into question, shahab seconded the motion.

Annoushqa Bobde (yes); Fauziya Faruk(yes); Amanjot Gandhoke(no); Mallika Hari(abstain); Ryan Manriquez; (yes)

Kristin Mifsud (no); Michael C. Navarro(yes); Kabir Sahni(yes); Devin Santiago-Vergara(yes); Maahum Shahab(yes); Lauren Smith (no); Tenzin Youedon(yes).

Senate Resolution #20 passes.

IV. Adjournment

- *Adjourned at 10:19 p.m.*

Minutes taken & completed by:

Electronic Signature

[SENATE RECORDER NAME] | ASUCD Senate Recorder