

**ANTITEATER  
SPIRIT!**

**STUDENT  
ACTIVISM THAT  
(RE)SHAPED  
UCI, 1965 TO  
NOW**





# Anteater Spirit: Student Activism That (Re)shaped UCI, 1965 to Now

*Anteater Spirit: Student Activism That (Re)shaped UCI, 1965 to Now* is an exploration of six decades of campus activism at UC Irvine. Ranging from anti-war protests in the 1960s to the COVID-19 pandemic, the exhibit illustrates student-led efforts that helped shape the campus throughout history.

Socially and politically engaged, UCI students have made their voices heard on topics ranging from affirmative action and rising tuition costs to housing equality, free speech, and civil rights. From the origins of the iconic Peter the Anteater mascot to 21st century wellness centers and food pantries, *Anteater Spirit* chronicles how each generation of students organized to serve the needs of UCI's diverse student body.

*Anteater Spirit: Student Activism that (Re)shaped UCI, 1965 to Now* will be on display in the Langson Library from November 2022 through April 2023 during regular library hours.

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## A UNIVERSITY IN FLUX: SEARCHING FOR IDENTITY (1965–1980)

**UC IRVINE OFFICIALLY OPENED ITS DOORS TO STUDENTS ON OCTOBER 4, 1965.** The first decade at UCI proved to be a tumultuous time for US college campuses. The Vietnam War was at its height and issues related to free speech, civil rights, and gender equality were at the forefront of student concerns. Although only a few years into campus life, students at UCI made their voices heard about these issues and in the late 1960s held campus demonstrations such as a May Day rally and the Vietnam Moratorium.

1. **STUDENT RALLY IN SUPPORT OF UC PRESIDENT CLARK KERR IN GATEWAY PLAZA, STUDENT DAVID ALTSHULER AT THE MICROPHONE.**

Jan. 27, 1967. UCI Staff Photographer Series. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

One of the earliest student rallies on campus was held on January 27, 1967 in Gateway Plaza in support of University of California (UC) President Clark Kerr, who was fired by the UC Regents on January 20, 1967. Kerr had become a staunch advocate for freedom of speech rights on the UC campuses, and students took his firing as a direct attack on this right from the UC Regents.

2. **CHANCELLOR DANIEL G. ALDRICH ADDRESSES UCI STUDENTS.**

Jan. 23, 1967. UCI Staff Photographer Series. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich addressed the 1967 student rally against the firing of UC President Clark Kerr on the UCI campus. Other student concerns included proposed UC budget cuts.

3. **STUDENTS MAKING PROTEST SIGNS IN RESPONSE TO ACTIONS AT BERKELEY'S CAMPUS.**

c. May 1969. UCI Staff Photographer Series. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

On May 15, 1969 a protest for the People's Park on UC Berkeley's campus, later known as "Bloody Thursday," resulted in one of the most violent confrontations in UC history. The incident left one person dead, and hundreds of Berkeley students and residents were injured by heavily armed police.

4. **STRIKE POSTER.**

c. May 1969. UCI Gateway Literature Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Student strikes and moratoriums occurred in solidarity with Berkeley across UC campuses, including a 1969 strike at UCI, for which the original silkscreen poster was created.

5. **SOLIDARITY STRIKE FLYERS.**

c. May 1969. UCI Gateway Literature Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In the aftermath of the People's Park events, students distributed flyers that detailed the solidarity efforts and strike demands at most UC campuses in support of Berkeley students.

6. **UCI 11 ARRESTED AT BERKELEY.**

*New University.* May 26, 1969.

On May 23, 1969, 10 UCI students and one UCI staff person (Catherine Bell, Bruno Battistoli, Barbara Connelly, Donovan Dorsey, Tony Fernandez, Dianne Miller, Richard Siegel, Phil True, Joe Westerfield, Stavy Widdecombe, and student activity advisor Neil Malmberg), who were on a fact-finding visit in Berkeley to communicate information back to the UCI campus, were arrested along with 496 people in Berkeley. Following the arrest, ASUCI established a fund to secure bail bonds.

7. **UC'S MOBILIZE.**

*New University.* Oct. 14, 1969.

ASUCI sponsored a two-day Moratorium on October 14–15, 1969 to coincide with the national Vietnam Moratorium.

8. **STUDENTS GATHERING IN GATEWAY PLAZA FOR THE VIETNAM WAR MORATORIUM.**

Oct. 15, 1969. UCI Staff Photographer Series. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

At the Vietnam War Moratorium, student concerns included the Vietnam War, the firing of lecturer Angela Davis at UCLA, Reagan's gubernatorial administration, and the effects of a university-wide tuition hike.

## DID YOU KNOW? PETER THEN, PETR NOW

The election of the anteater as UCI's mascot is one of the first moments in campus history where students made their voices heard. Students Schuyler Hadley Bassett, Pat Glasco, and Bob Ernst spearheaded the successful voting campaign to adopt the anteater mascot in November 1965, with aardvarks a solid second.

The beloved mascot experienced renewed popularity in recent years as "Petr the Anteater," a student-designed collectable sticker. The original artist, known as "Original Petr" on social media, created 13 designs between September 2018 and June 2019. He revealed his first name, Qasim, on the @petr\_the\_anteater Instagram account with the release of his final sticker "Grad Petr." Because Petr's design is open source, other students have continued to create new "Community Petrs."

### 9. ORIGINAL ANTEATER MASCOT ILLUSTRATION BY JOHNNY HART.

c. 1965. UCI Collection on the Anteater Mascot and Other University Symbols. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Original drawing inscribed and signed by cartoonist Johnny Hart, whose B.C. comic strips inspired the campaign for the anteater mascot.

### 10. IT'S OFFICIAL! ANTEATER MASCOT.

*Spectrum*. Dec. 1, 1965.

News of the anteater election results broke in the student-run newspaper, *Spectrum*.

### 11. ORIGINAL ANTEATER CAMPAIGN ITEMS.

Oct. 1965, Virginia Tucker Collection on Early UCI Memorabilia. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The original anteater campaign logo appeared on items such as keychains, cloths, and buttons.

12. **ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW WITH SCHUYLER HADLEY BASSETT.**

UCI Collection on the Anteater Mascot and Other University Symbols. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

During a 2009 oral history, Schuyler Hadley Bassett explained how the idea of rallying for the anteater mascot took shape, with fellow students Pat Glasco and Bob Ernst and members of the water polo team. Hadley Bassett recounts the UCI administration's desire for a "respectable" mascot and the students' steadfastness to elect a mascot that uniquely set Irvine apart.



13. **PETR THE ANTEATR STICKERS, 2018–2022.**

Petr the Anteatr Sticker Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The Petr the Anteatr collection includes Original Petr, Spooky Petr, Thankful Petr, Jolly Petr, and New Year Petr. The other nine stickers are Community Petr stickers.

14. **CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF PETR THE ANTEATR.**

*New University*, June 3, 2022.

*New University* reflected on the legacy of Petr when announcing the discontinuation of Original Petr. The last Original Petr drop occurred on February 22, 2022.

15. **THE QUIET REVOLUTION AT UCI...**

*Orange County Register*. Jan. 16, 1966.

A 1966 newspaper cartoon depicting the anteater mascot walking along a wall of framed university mascots insinuates that the choice of mascot for UCI was unconventional.

## EARLY STUDENT ORGANIZING

**PRIOR TO THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (EOP) BEING INSTITUTED IN 1968**, UCI had enrolled only two Black students.<sup>1</sup> In 1971, that number increased to 600. The momentous enrollment increase of historically underrepresented groups in the early 1970s resulted in a critical need for authentic spaces on campus. By establishing student-led organizations, students were able to convene outside of lectures and academic obligations. These groups demonstrated collective care and established community through meetings, planned cultural celebrations, and programs as well as provided forums where students could voice their concerns.

### BLACK STUDENT UNION (1971– )

The Black Student Union (at times also known as the African American Student Union and Afrikan Student Union) was established in 1971 at UCI in response to the reorganization of the Equal Opportunities Program (EOP) and to address affirmative action and race relation issues. The BSU's mission is to create and promote a supportive and inclusive community while intellectually challenging the Black students on the UCI campus. Established specifically for political reasons, the organization works for a more humane and culturally relevant college experience for UCI students. The BSU strives to provide educational, cultural, and social programs that inspire the community to take action through activism and outreach on and off campus. Over the years, the BSU has hosted programs and used alternative publishing platforms to provide more equitable media representation on campus for the Black community.

#### 16. THE BLACK EXPERIENCE AT UCI: A GUIDE TO ORGANIZATIONS.

1979. Black Student Union Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A pamphlet put out by the BSU provided information on various organizations for Black students at UCI in 1979, including Mrs. Ebony (an organization promoting academic, emotional, and social welfare for Black women), Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Black Students in Sciences Organization (BSSO), Brothers and Sisters in Christ, and The Gentlemen (an organization promoting mental, academic, and social welfare for Black men).

#### 17. BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT FLYER.

1982. Black Student Union Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The BSU distributed a calendar of events and programs for Black History Month at UCI.

1. "Black Students Union Report: A Visit to the University of California Irvine," 1971, Black Student Union Records, UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives

18. **SOUL FOOD NITE EVENT FLYER.**

May 23, 1978. Black Student Union Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The BSU sponsored a Soul Food Nite event on May 23, 1978.

19. **BLACK STUDENT UNION MEETING FLYER.**

Apr. 19, 1978. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The first meeting of UCI's Black Student Union in 1978 was held at the Cross Cultural Center.

20. **THE BLADE: THE CUTTING EDGE OF CHANGE.**

Winter 1988. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Founded by the ASUCI in 1975, the alternative paper *The Blade* sought to link UCI's "Third World" communities and "fuse together" Black, Latino, and Asian American students "into a single general minority students' voice." In September 1979, former staff members of *The Blade* changed the newspaper's focus to Black students. This issue highlights the 12th Annual Black Awards Banquet in 1988.

21. **THE BLADE COVERS BLACK STUDENT ISSUES.**

*Irvine World News*, Feb. 25, 1988.

A 1988 news article discussed some of the racism that Black faculty and students experienced at UCI. It also argued that *The Blade* provided a critical forum for making these issues more transparent in the campus community through alternative press.

22. **BLACK AWARDS BANQUET PROGRAM INVITATIONS.**

1980s. Black Student Union Records. Special UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The BSU's Black Awards Banquet honors and celebrates outstanding students, faculty, and staff at UCI.

23. **BLACK AWARDS BANQUET ATTENDEES.**

1984. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Attendees celebrating during the 1984 Black Awards Banquet.



24. **UCI CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS BAKE SALE.**

n.d. Black Student Union Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students selling sweet potato pie slices on Ring Road.

25. **EBONY KALEIDOSCOPE.**

Reginald Brown documentary. 1975. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In a short documentary, Reginald Brown documented Black student life and culture at UCI in 1975. Brown (1952–2019) was a writer and director who taught at the UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television as a lecturer and visiting assistant professor between the late 1990s and 2014. He received his bachelor's in drama from UCI and his master's in film from San Francisco State University. Brown was also a member of the Writers Guild of America West, the Directors Guild of America (DGA), and the former cochair of the DGA's African American Steering Committee.



26. **THE 2%: NAVIGATING UCI AS A BLACK STUDENT.**

Iyanna Blackburn documentary. Apr. 8, 2020. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Iyanna Blackburn (BA '22) directed and produced a documentary that focuses on the perspectives of Black students at UCI. Students share personal experiences about what it is like to navigate the campus given that Black students make up less than 2% of the student body. The documentary was produced while Blackburn was a third-year double major in film and media studies and African American studies at UCI and an intern at Anteatr TV.



## **AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION (1974)**

The American Indian Student Association (AISA) was founded in 1974 to support Native American people and issues, share cultural heritage, and promote awareness within the UCI campus community. The group, originally known as the American Indian Council (AIC), distributed brochures, posters, and pamphlets that speak to some of the grassroots initiatives and work it did to provide authentic space for Native Americans at UCI as well as cultural learning exchange for the campus community and residents of Orange County.

### **27. AIC MEMBERSHIP, 1990–1991.**

American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The AIC student organization regained momentum during the 1990–1991 academic year after being fairly inactive for a number of years.

### **28. AMERICAN INDIAN COUNCIL: HISTORY OF EVENTS.**

n.d. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Several UCI students and faculty advisor Billie Masters (Cherokee, Office of Teacher Education) were instrumental in gaining momentum for the council's revival in 1990. Connecting at the UCI Leadership Conference, the students began planning the first event that would revive the AIC. According to this report, "Chief Phil Stevens would come and speak on Sioux Territory Rights and the struggle to recover the Black Hills of South Dakota on 11/5/1990, and the AIC would be started after all."

### **29. CONTACT LIST FOR NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (NAS-UC).**

1990. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The UCI Students of Color Conference, held in November 1990, provided a forum and space for Native American students from all UC campuses to gather and network. The conference resulted in the formation of the NAS-UC (Native American Students of University of California).

30. **CHIEF PHIL STEVENS TALK ON SIOUX TERRITORY RIGHTS.**

Nov. 5, 1990. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Although Chief Phil Stevens had a positive impact on campus during the 1990s, tribal members from Sioux Territory have conflicting views on Stevens' political involvement and activist efforts. *Los Angeles Times*<sup>2</sup> and *Washington Post*<sup>3</sup> articles from this time provide historical context into the complexities of his involvement within these communities.

31. **INVITATION TO ATTEND CHIEF PHIL STEVENS' TALK ON SIOUX TERRITORY RIGHTS.**

Oct. 31, 1990. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

American Indian students at UCI were invited to attend Chief Phil Stevens' talk and learn more about getting involved with the AIC. Stevens' talk focused on how the entire Black Hills (over 1 million acres of land in South Dakota) was wrongfully taken by the US federal government at the discovery of gold.<sup>4</sup>

32. **MINORITY PROGRAMS COMMITTEE PROGRAM EVALUATION.**

Nov. 5, 1990. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

An evaluation of Chief Phil Stevens' talk indicates that UCI students signed petitions and became interested in the struggle of Sioux Indians.

33. **AMERICAN INDIANS SEEK UCI'S ASSISTANCE.**

By Danielle Goodwin. *New University*, Nov. 11, 1990.

According to a *New University* article, Chief Stevens' presentation at UCI included a slideshow on the history of the Sioux, living conditions of the reservation, and other statistics.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1988-03-26-mn-274-story.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/lifestyle/1988/03/24/the-sioux-and-the-soil-the-black-hills-battle/95b5d356-8257-4961-9876-11d73551037f/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1988-03-26-mn-274-story.html>

34. **9TH ANNUAL POW WOW BOOKLET.**

May 22–23, 2009. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The booklet produced for the 9th Annual Pow Wow included an overview of Pow Wow terms (such as gourd dance, southern drum, blanket dance, and honor song) and a contextual overview of the history of the Pow Wow.

35. **10TH ANNUAL POW WOW BOOKLET.**

Nov. 12–13, 2010. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In addition to a detailed overview and schedule of events, the 10th Annual Pow Wow booklet included information about UCI's two-week residential American Indian Summer Institutes in Earth System Science (AISESS), which sought to address the critical need within Tribal communities for Earth and environmental science professionals, where Native Americans remain severely underrepresented.

36. **7TH ANNUAL POW WOW DANCERS.**

June 2, 2008. YouTube.

In spring 2008, the AISA held its 7th Annual Pow Wow on UCI's Mesa Lawn. This video footage is from Saturday, May 31, 2008.



37. **AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE DAYS.**

Nov. 13–17, 1995. American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The program for UCI's American Indian Culture Days in November 1995 included a film series and speakers.

38. **PERFORMERS DURING 2001 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH.**

American Indian Student Association Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI's 2001 Native American Heritage Month included musical performers.



## **MOVIMIENTO ESTUDIANTIL CHICANO DE AZTLÁN (MEChA)**

MEChA de UC Irvine is a multifaceted Chicana organization that concentrates on political, educational, cultural, and social issues that impact several identities. MEChA pledges to build community while bringing campus awareness to issues affecting the greater Chicana community. MEChA de UC Irvine absorbed the United Mexican American Students (UMAS), an earlier organization with similar goals in 1969–1970. Along with the Black Student Union (BSU), Asian Pacific Student Association (APSA), American Indian Student Association (AISA), and Alyansa Ng Mga Kababayan (Filipino/Filipino-American umbrella organization), it was one of the founders of UCI's Cross Cultural Center.

39. **LETTER TO DANIEL G. ALDRICH FROM UMAS.**

Feb. 19, 1969. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A letter to Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich from the United Mexican American Students (UMAS) advocated for an expansion of the Equal Opportunities Program (EOP) at UCI. UMAS also advocates for more recruitment of Chicana students, admittance of these students under special action, financial assistance, counseling, and tutorial assistance.

40. **CHICANO EXPERIENCE SYMPOSIUM EVENT FLYER.**

Apr. 19, 1973. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Through programming like the Chicano Experience Symposium, MEChA provided authentic space on campus for students to discuss issues outside of academia. This symposium focused on political and economic implications of the Chicana experience and immigration issues and asked crucial questions about the role assigned to Mexican workers by the US economy.

41. **MEChA CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION FLYER.**

1975. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In 1975, MEChA invited UCI students to attend a Cinco de Mayo celebration that included a dance contest and live bands.

42. **MEChA CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION POSTER.**

n.d. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Cinco de Mayo celebration at UCI poster advertises live dancers and music as well as speakers and workshops.

43. **MEChA CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION EVENT PHOTOS.**  
1980s. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.  
Cinco de Mayo celebrations were held at UCI in the 1980s.

44. **1ST ANNUAL AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CONFERENCE.**  
May 24–25, 1975. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In the 1960s and 1970s, affirmative action required universities to comply with concrete measures to ensure minority students and students from lower-income areas were given opportunities and support to obtain higher education.<sup>5</sup> The structure of affirmative action programming created administrative barriers and complexities for many students. This poster calls for UC campuses to attend the 1st Annual Affirmative Action Conference at UC Berkeley where attendees would learn about legal, organizational, and strategic applications.

45. **COALITION TO SAVE THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM FLYER.**  
n.d. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A protest flyer circulated by the Coalition to Save EOP discussed issues with the reorganization of affirmative action and the EOP. The restructuring was seen as weakening the program and thus destroying the unity it was meant to provide minority students.

46. **NUUESTRA COSA UC RIVERSIDE NEWSPAPER.**  
Nov. 1973. MEChA Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Student-run newspapers became critical alternatives to mainstream media narratives in the 1960s and 1970s, and the most influential Chicana/x student newspapers were established in California.<sup>6</sup> The November 1973 issue of *Nuestra Cosa* (*Our Thing*, founded in 1972), a student newspaper based out of UC Riverside, highlights MEChA members from all UC campuses who attended a three-day conference at UC Riverside.

<sup>5</sup> Scholar Anthony M. Platt quotes Judith Butler's 1996 article "An Affirmative Review" in his article "End Game: The Rise and Fall of Affirmative Action in Higher Education," *Social Justice*, Vol. 24, No. 2, Summer 1997, p. 109

<sup>6</sup> Simón Salazar, H.L., "Movimiento Voices on Campus: The Newspapers of the Chicana/o Student Movement," *Journal of Alternative & Community Media*, Volume 4, Number 3, 1 October 2019, pp. 61, <https://doi.org/10.1386/joacm.00058.1>

## **EXPANDING IDENTITY: ESTABLISHING CENTERS ON CAMPUS (1970s–1990s)**

**AS STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUED ENGAGING IN ACTIVISM**, students, staff, and faculty also advocated for more formal administrative support and resources to meet the needs of historically underrepresented populations on campus. Through persistent work and collaboration among different campus groups, several centers were established in the 1970s–1990s to support students' intersectional (interconnected and overlapping) identities beyond academics.

### **CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER (1974)**

The Cross-Cultural Center (CCC) at UCI, also known as the “the Cross,” was the first multicultural center established on a UC campus. It was founded on October 16, 1974 by UCI faculty, staff, and student groups who advocated for programs and services to support the specific needs of UCI's historically underrepresented student populations.

47. **CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER.**

1974. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The BSU, MEChA, Native Americans, and United Asians were the original student organizations to have had offices in UCI's Cross-Cultural Center.

48. **CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER BROCHURES.**

1986–1991. Cross-Cultural Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The Cross-Cultural Center offered programs and resources, such as the Rainbow Festival and Conference, Reaffirming Ethnic Awareness and Community Harmony (R.E.A.C.H.), and mentorship opportunities.

49. **CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER.**

1989. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

On April 18, 1989, a newly renovated center opened on Ring Mall across from Aldrich Hall. This large, permanent space included a lounge, administrative offices, a small library, conference rooms, and a student workroom.

50. **STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER.**

1993. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI students hung out at tables outside the center in the 1990s.

## **WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER (1977)**

In 1973, the Women's Center was created as the umbrella organization for all women's programs at UCI. A few years later in September 1977, the Women's Resource Center (WRC) was established to house all the women's programs, including the original Women's Center, as well as provide a physical location in Gateway Commons for offices, a library, reference services, and meeting spaces for students.

The WRC underwent some name changes in the 1990s and early 2000s and then was suspended in 2006 due to a lack of funding.<sup>7</sup> A decade later, Cross-Cultural Center (CCC) staff identified a need to support womxn<sup>8</sup> coming to the center. In Fall 2016, the collective effort of alumni, students, faculty, and staff culminated in reestablishing the Womxn's Hub in a renovated space within the CCC. In 2021 the Womxn's Hub was renamed the Womxn's Center for Success and moved to the fourth floor of the Student Center. Now with a central space on campus and more permanent funding, the Womxn's Center for Success continues to support students, foster community, and advance gender equity.

### **51. WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER STAIRWELL.**

1981. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

People sitting and chatting next to the stairwell mural leading up to the early WRC space.

### **52. WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER MEETING.**

1981. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students gathering in the WRC to have a meeting in 1981.

### **53. WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER BROCHURES.**

1980–1990. Women's Resource Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In the 1980s and 1990s, the WRC produced brochures about its programs and services, which included peer counseling, guest speaker events, and a library of books, pamphlets, and periodicals.

### **54. WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER.**

1991. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The entrance to the WRC in Gateway Commons.

<sup>7</sup> "Herstory Timeline of Services and Space, 1973–2022," UCI Womxn's Center for Success, <https://womxnscenter.uci.edu/about/about-us/herstory/>

<sup>8</sup> "Why Womxn with an X," UCI Womxn's Center for Success, 2021, <https://womxnscenter.uci.edu/why-womxn-with-a-x/>



## **LGBT RESOURCE CENTER (1995)**

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center opened on the first floor of Gateway Commons in the spring of 1995. Prior to its opening, various student organizations, including the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Student Union (GLBSU), provided space and support for the LGBT community on campus. Not only did the new center add resources, safety, and visibility, but it also lessened the burden placed on student groups.

### **55. HATE CRIME POLICE REPORT.**

1993. Christine Browning Files. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A police report documents a homophobic threat written on the Student Center office door for the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Student Union (GLBSU). The hate crime occurred the year before the establishment of the LGBT Resource Center was announced.

### **56. GAYS ENDURE PREJUDICE.**

*New University*. Sep. 19, 1994. LGBT Resource Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

According to a *New University* article, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Lesbian and Gay Issues underwent nine years of negotiation before gaining approval to establish the LGBT Resource Center.

### **57. A CENTER OF ONE'S OWN.**

*New University*. Nov. 20, 1995.

The permanent LGBT Resource Center provided administrative support. At the center, student groups could gather and operate, and all students in the community had a place to "just hang out."

### **58. PRIDE: SILENCE TO CELEBRATION SOUVENIR PROGRAM.**

1995. LGBT Resource Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Orange County's 7th Annual Lesbian and Gay Parade and Festival was hosted at UCI in 1995, the same year the LGBT Resource Center opened.

59. **PRIDE: SILENCE TO CELEBRATION FESTIVAL MAP.**

1995. LGBT Resource Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The festival grounds map shows how Aldrich Park was transformed into a pride celebration event for the entire community.

60. **ORANGE COUNTY PRIDE FEATURES DISNEY, CECE PENISTON.**

*Update.* Aug. 23, 1995.

More than 10,000 people attended the Orange County's 7th Annual Lesbian and Gay Parade on Campus Drive.

## STUDENT-LED PROTESTS AND STRIKES IN THE 1990s

**CAMPUS ACTIVISM IN THE 1990S** reveals the concerted efforts of UCI students, staff, and faculty fighting for rights on campus. A few notable protests as well as the persistent, long-term work of campus groups centered core student concerns, including housing, academics, affirmative action, and tuition. The partnerships between campus organizations highlight the collaborative nature of activism and how students' intersectional identities shaped campus culture to reflect their whole selves. Students' methods of protest ranged from expressing ideas through placards and protest signs to bold actions like hunger strikes and sleeping in cardboard dwellings.

### SHANTYTOWN PROTESTS

In the 1980s, unmarried couples did not qualify for family housing under California law. Same-sex marriage was not yet legal in California, and UCI's family housing policy did not include LGBT couples in domestic partnerships. After a lesbian couple's application to Verano Place was denied in 1987, faculty, staff, and students in the LGBT community and allies on campus demanded revisions to UCI's housing policies. The Shantytown Protest was formed to draw attention to campus housing issues, advocate for housing equality, and educate the UCI community. Protestors also submitted a list of demands to Chancellor Peltason. Although complete benefits for same-sex couples would not be realized for another decade,<sup>9</sup> the Shantytown Protests were significant in the fight for LGBT rights on campus.

61. **EMERGENCY MEETING FLYER.**

1988. Christine Browning Files. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Tensions rose in the LGBT and campus communities over the denial of campus housing for people in domestic partnerships.

62. **SHANTYTOWN PROTESTERS.**

1990. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Protesters demanded changes to campus housing policies for domestic partnerships, which they believed to be housing discrimination and a violation of the UCI's Nondiscrimination Statement.

<sup>9</sup> E. Lewinnek, T. Vo Dang, G. Arellano, "UC Irvine Student Housing Fight Makes Inroads in LGBTQ Rights," KCET, June 7, 2022, <https://www.kcet.org/shows/lost-la/uc-irvine-student-housing-fight-makes-inroads-in-lgbtq-rights>

63. **SHANTYTOWN RALLY AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE.**

1990. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Shantytown protesters rallied outside the administration building and the chancellor's office.

64. **SHANTYTOWN DWELLINGS.**

1990. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

On February 5, 1990, 150 demonstrators set up a "shantytown," living inside cardboard boxes to draw attention to campus housing issues.

65. **AND HOUSING FOR ALL PROTEST BUTTON.**

1990. UCI Realia Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Shantytown protestors wore buttons to advocate for housing equality.



## ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

The Department of Asian American Studies was founded after years of student-led protests from the Asian American community and other supportive groups. Students called for faculty, a major, and a minor at UCI, which had a large and growing population of Asian American students. These protests revealed students' need for representation on campus as well as a strong desire to uncover complex histories and experiences that could otherwise be absent without a formal study program. Asian American studies became a minor in 1996 and a major in 1997.

66. **STATUS OF ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES FLYER.**

c. 1993. Cross Cultural Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In the 1990s, Asian American students made up about 34% of UCI's student population, which is similar to the percentage today. Unlike other UC campuses at the time, UCI offered only two classes on Asian American studies.

67. **ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES NOW! PERFORMANCES.**

1993. Cross Cultural Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The Asian American Studies protest during Asian Heritage Week in 1995 was held near Aldrich Hall. Students performed cultural dances to protest the lack of curricula reflecting their ethnicities.

68. **RICE PAPER STUDENT NEWSPAPER.**

Spring 1992. Beginnings of Activism for the Department of Asian American Studies (BADAAS) at UCI Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

From 1991–1997, the Rice Paper was a student run newspaper that focused on Asian American issues<sup>10</sup> through articles, letters, poetry, and art. The spring 1992 edition alludes to the demand for Asian American Studies and features protest imagery and language.

69. **ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROTESTS.**

1993. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students crowded in Aldrich Hall to make their demands known to Chancellor Wilkening.

10 J. Trinh, "The Beginnings of Activism for the Department of Asian American Studies at UCI," UCI Libraries, July, 17 2017, <https://special.lib.uci.edu/blog/2017/07/beginnings-activism-department-asian-american-studies-uci>

70. **"WORLD CLASS MY ASS" PROTEST PHOTOS.**

1993. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Protesters held signs to demand the addition of a formal Asian American Studies program at UCI.

71. **ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROTEST VIDEO.**

1993. Asian American Studies protest video, part 1. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Video footage shows protesters holding signs and repeating chants to demand "Asian American Studies Now!"



72. **ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROTEST PLACARDS.**

c. 1993. BADAAS at UCI Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Protesters wore placards to draw attention to the Asian American Studies effort.

73. **KABABAYAN AND MECHA SUPPORT ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES.**

c. 1993. Cross Cultural Center Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI student organizations MEChA and Kababayan offered intersectional support for the establishment of Asian American Studies.

## AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

On July 20, 1995, the UC Regents voted 15-10 to eliminate affirmative action. In this historic and controversial vote, the UC became the first university system to scale back affirmative action programs.<sup>11</sup> At UCI, protestors against the decision to end affirmative action set up tents outside the administration building and organized hunger strikes to make their voices heard.

74. **UCI POLICE CLOSE CAMP, ARREST HUNGER STRIKERS.**

*Los Angeles Times*. Oct. 30, 1995.

Cesar Cruz was arrested by UCI police after resisting attempts to the dismantle tents outside of the administration building. Protesters were dispersed after a 13-day liquids-only hunger strike.

75. **VOTING TO PRESS THEIR DEMANDS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DESPITE ARRESTS AND DECISION OF ONE TO DROP OUT... STRIKERS ENDURE.**

*Los Angeles Times*. Nov. 1, 1995.

The UC Irvine students' hunger strike on campus extended to the California State Capitol.

11 D. Leshner, "UC Regents, in Historic Vote, Wipe Out Affirmative Action: Diversity: Decision signals end of California's national leadership in opening top universities to minorities. Jesse Jackson, who led protest against rollback at meeting, says it casts a 'long shadow,'" *Los Angeles Times*, July 21, 1995, <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1995-07-21-mn-26379-story.html>

## **RISING TUITION AND STUDENT FEES**

In 1993, students gathered on Ring Road to advocate for reduced student fees, protest fee increases, and distribute flyers. Their efforts continued into the 2000s with more student-driven protests and pamphlets distributed to educate peers and express their concerns to the university.

76. **STUDENT PROTEST SIGNS.**

1993. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students protested around Ring Road and administration buildings, holding signs stating "Fees are Going up \$995 Already! How 'Bout \$1,000 More!" and "No More Fee Hikes!"

77. **FIND OUT WHO IS RAISING YOUR TUITION TEACH-IN.**

1993. Gateway Plaza Literature Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students distributed flyers at the Gateway Plaza advertising a teach-in in front of the administrative building to inform peers about rising student fees and tuition.

78. **TAKE A STAND! OPPOSE FEE INCREASES.**

2003–2004. ASUCI Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

ASUCI sanctioned a pamphlet educating students about fee increases, how ASUCI was standing up for its students, and how students could help with the efforts.

79. **DISORIENTATION GUIDE.**

2009. ASUCI Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Compiled and written by students, the 2009 Disorientation Guide illustrates issues about campus budgets and fee hikes, emphasizing administration salaries in relation to the total legislative money given to UCs, among other campus and broader Orange County issues.

80. **PROTEST SIGNAGE.**

April 14, 2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Student protest signs included a graph comparing UC allocated funds with administrative salaries and the slogan "Fire Them First." Another sign stated, "If I wanted to go to a private school, I would have been born into a Rich Family."



## WAYZGOOSE

**ONE OF UCI'S OLDEST TRADITIONS, WAYZGOOSE BEGAN IN APRIL 1971.** Accompanying the annual open house event, Celebrate UCI, the Wayzgoose student-run festival adopted Renaissance Faire lore on the UCI grounds. Students dressed up in medieval gear and jousted. While it was a source of entertainment and fun, students' persistence to voice their concerns launched its role as a contesting ground for change. In 1991, 200 protestors from the Ethnic Students Coalition Against Prejudicial Education (ESCAPE) marched on Wayzgoose demanding Ethnic Studies curricula such as African American, Chicano/Latino, Asian American, and Native American Studies. Although 2016 was Wayzgoose's final run, it is remembered as a showcase of a unique UCI campus culture.

Did you know? Wayzgoose was originally a traditional summer dinner or outing hosted by printing houses for their employees in the mid-18th century.<sup>12</sup> At UCI, the celebration of Renaissance era traditions is evident in the Lord of the Rings themed dorm, Middle Earth, showing the university's affinity for medieval lore.

### 81. **2ND ANNUAL WAYZGOOSE.**

1972. ASUCI Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The 1972 Wayzgoose flyer was handed out to students by ASUCI. In addition to event details and times, the flyer includes concert details and a goose character with a II on its collar signifying the event's second year.

### 82. **WAYZGOOSE T-SHIRT.**

2003. Student Government and Student Media Collection of Student Affairs Events. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The Wayzgoose T-shirt handed out to student attendees in 2003 featured a goose and anteater dressed as Lord of the Rings characters.

### 83. **WAYZGOOSE PHOTOBOOTH.**

April 1986. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Attendees at the Wayzgoose festival in 1986 could pose in a photo stand featuring a knight and a princess.

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803121430452>

84. **KNIGHT FIGHT PERFORMANCE FOR CELEBRATE UCI, WAYZGOOSE, AND THE RAINBOW FESTIVAL.**

1981–1985. UCI Communications Photographs. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students gathered to watch a fight between two students in medieval armor in Aldrich Park.

85. **MEDIEVAL COSTUME AND DESIGN.**

1972. ASUCI Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In 1972, the UCI Student Activities Department produced a pamphlet highlighting ways students could create their own medieval attire, accessories, and booth decorations for the Wayzgoose Festival.

86. **ESCAPE WAYZGOOSE PROTEST.**

1991. BADAAS at UCI Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

At the 25th Anniversary Wayzgoose Festival, students held up signs and protested for the Ethnic Students Coalition Against Prejudicial Education (ESCAPE).

87. **CELEBRATE UCI FAILS TO SHOWCASE UNIQUE CAMPUS CULTURE.**

*New University*. May 16, 2017.

A public opinion article in *New University* expressed disappointment about the cancellation of Wayzgoose after 2016 and described the stand-alone Celebrate UCI in 2017 as a “deflated version” of prior campus events.

## ESTABLISHING WELLNESS CENTERS THROUGH STUDENT-DRIVEN REFERENDUMS

**IN 2011, STUDENTS CAMPAIGNED TO ESTABLISH** the Student Outreach and Retention (SOAR) Center through an ASUCI ballot referendum. While the referendum received 66% support, it failed to pass quorum. Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Thomas Parham allocated soft funds for three years (2011–2014) to establish the center. A 2014 referendum secured funding for SOAR for the next 30 years.

Fulfilling a SOAR campaign promise, the SOAR Food Pantry for students experiencing food insecurity was then established. Shortly after, students rallied for a separate space on campus. In the spring 2016, the Food Pantry Initiative, a referendum that allocated \$3 of quarterly student fees, passed with nearly 86% approval. FRESH Basic Needs opened in the summer 2017.

88. **VOTE YES SOAR REFERENDUM.**

2013–2014. SOAR Office.

Campaign postcards provided information about the SOAR student referendum.

89. **SOAR STUDENT LEADER SPEAKING ABOUT THE SOAR REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN.**

2013–2014. SOAR Office.

Parshan Khosravi (pictured) and Julie Yoo were the two student campaign leads for the SOAR referendum.

90. **SUSTAINABLE SUSTENANCE.**

*UCI News*. Oct. 20, 2016.

Prior to establishing FRESH Basic Needs, SOAR partnered with the Second Harvest Food Bank of OC to offer a free farmers market on campus.

91. **FREE FARMERS MARKET ON UCI CAMPUS.**

Oct. 24, 2016. UCI Widen Collective.

Two students pick organic produce at a free farmers market on the UCI campus.

92. **A SOUPED-UP PANTRY.**

*UCI News*. Oct. 2, 2017.

FRESH Basic Needs was the UC's largest food bank for students in need when it opened in 2017.

93. **FRESH BASIC NEEDS RIBBON CUTTING.**

2017. UCI Widen Collective.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Thomas Parham and FRESH Basic Needs staff cut the ribbon at the center's opening.

94. **FRESH BASIC NEEDS HUB STUDENT VIDEO.**

Winter 2021. UCI School of Social Ecology Pandemic Histories Archive Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI student Maddie Tran created a YouTube video explaining how UCI helped students during the COVID-19 pandemic and discussing issues related to food insecurity.



## **RING ROAD: HUB OF CAMPUS LIFE AND LIVING (1967-PRESENT)**

**RING ROAD, A UNIQUE SIGNATURE OF UCI**, was imagined as the connection that unites the campus. Not just a physical walkway to and from classes, Ring Road is used by students as a platform to showcase ideas and highlight the many facets of the anteatier culture. Frank Cancian, who spent two years observing Ring Road in the 2000s, expressed that “it becomes ‘Main Street’ when the pedestrian road that passes through it is linked with canopies and tables of itinerant merchants, advocates of causes and religions, and dozens of student organizations, all with diverse goals they pursue in many ways.” Students’ tabling and advertising continues a tradition of promoting their cultures, causes, and events.

95. **MAP OF UCI CAMPUS AND SURROUNDING AREA.**

c. 1967. Photographs and Renderings of Campus Buildings. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI map from 1967 shows a partial Ring Road surrounding “Campus Park.”

96. **STUDENT PETITION PAMPHLET AND STICKER TO “X PAND” STUDENT CENTER.**

2001. ASUCI Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Pamphlets and stickers were distributed in 2001 supporting a student petition to raise fees to fund a renovation of the Student Center near Ring Road.

97. **GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR NEW STUDENT CENTER.**

2007. ASUCI Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

ASUCI published a paper folder during the 2007–2008 school year marking the Grand Opening Celebration for the renovated Student Center.

98. **UCI REAL FOOD CHALLENGE PAMPHLETS.**

2009. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI Real Food Challenge pamphlets document students advocating for more sustainable food options on campus.



99. **REAL FOOD CHALLENGE INFORMATION TABLE ON RING MALL.**

April 14, 2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UCI students set up information tables on Ring Road near the Langson Library to educate peers about the UCI Real Food Challenge.

100. **STUDENT PROTEST MARCH ON RING ROAD.**

Nov. 24, 2009. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In 2009, students and community members protested on Ring Road against a 32% fee increase by the UC system. A large "Workers & Students Unite" banner lists the student organizations that supported the march.

101. **TO THE UCI GENERAL CAMPUS: REAL PAIN REAL ACTION.**

2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A pamphlet circulated on campus highlights the issues across all UC campuses with a list of demands, including comprehensive financial aid, contract transparency, and Ethnic Studies curricula.

102. **CHINESE ASSOCIATION NIGHT MARKET.**

2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The Chinese Association of UCI (CAUCI) hosted a night market in the Social Science Plaza. In addition to listing the event activities, the flyer explains how the proceeds raised will be used.

103. **CHINESE ASSOCIATION EVENT TABLE ON RING MALL.**

April 21, 2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Students set up information tables near the Cross Cultural Center to promote and sell tickets for events hosted by the Chinese Association of UCI (CAUCI) including the Night Market, Clubbing, and Juicy Pack.

104. **DELTA GAMMA AND KAPPA SIGMA RODEO INVITATION.**

2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

The Kappa Sigma and Delta Gamma sororities hosted a Rodeo event in the UCI Student Center. The event flyer explains that "All Proceeds Benefit the Orange County Food Bank."

105. **KAPPA SIGMA AND DELTA GAMMA SORORITY MEMBERS AT A RODEO EVENT INFORMATION TABLE.**

April 15, 2010. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

To promote and sell tickets to their Rodeo event, the Kappa Sigma and Delta Gamma sororities set up information tables on Ring Road.

## **STUDENT IDENTITIES TODAY (2010-PRESENT): IRVINE 11 AND "BLACK WEDNESDAY"**

**DURING THE 2010S**, UCI students sought to engage in issues related to identity politics on campus and express their rights to freedom of speech and civil disobedience. Three events that occurred between 2010 and 2012 particularly illustrate student activism during this time: the Irvine 11 (the second group in UCI student history known as the Irvine 11), "Black Wednesday," and the subsequent rise of the Black Lives Matter movement.

### **IRVINE 11**

**ON FEBRUARY 8, 2010, MICHAEL OREN**, the US ambassador to Israel, was invited to speak at UCI. Eleven students (eight from UCI and three from UC Riverside) disrupted Oren's speech and were arrested and charged with misdemeanors. All eight UCI students were academically disciplined. The Muslim Student Union was also suspended for one year (later reduced to one quarter) and placed on probation for the following year, although there was contradictory reporting on the extent of MSU's involvement in organizing the protest. Orange County District Attorney Tony Rackauckas brought criminal charges against each of the Irvine 11: two counts for conspiracy to disturb a meeting and disturbing a meeting. In September 2011, 10 of the students were convicted, sentenced to 56 hours of community service and three-years of probation, and ordered to pay a fine. (The 11th student took a plea bargain for a lesser sentence.)

#### **106. 11 MUSLIM STUDENTS FACE CHARGES IN UCI PROTEST.**

*Orange County Register*. Feb. 5, 2011.

UCI students, local Muslims, and supporters rallied outside the Orange County District Attorney's office on February 1, 2011 to protest criminal charges against UCI MSU members arrested after disrupting a speech by the US ambassador to Israel.

107. **IRVINE 11 DOCUMENTARY.**

Produced by Alternative Focus. Aug. 27, 2012. YouTube.

A short documentary about the 2010 Irvine 11 incident was narrated by Osama Shabaik, one of the Irvine 11 (class of 2010).



108. **CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE NOTICE.**

May 11, 2011. Frank Cancian Photographs for Main Street UCI. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A sign posted on the UCI campus inside the fenced-in speaker area warns against disruption of the event and threatens removal and/or arrest at the Muslim Student Union spring event.

109. **DEFENDING STUDENT ACTIVISM.**

*New University.* Oct. 25, 2011.

The ASUCI Legislative Council voted in favor of a bill that supported the Irvine 11's right to protest, demonstrating the overall support from students on campus for the Irvine 11. The bill stated, "ASUCI opposes the criminalization of peaceful student protestors" and that "ASUCI commits to protect the rights of students and their rights to express an opinion, political or otherwise, even though these opinions may be controversial."

110. **COMPETING CIVILITIES: TESTING THE BOUNDARIES OF FREE SPEECH AT UCI.**

2010. Civility Project.

"The [Irvine 11] incident evokes discussions over freedom of speech, campus community, and how, or whether civility should, be maintained amidst the most controversial topics."

## **“BLACK WEDNESDAY” AND RISE OF BLACK LIVES MATTER**

In the 2010s, UC campuses experienced a surge in student dialogue about police brutality, anti-Blackness, Black identity and visibility, and institutional support for Black students. In February 2010, an off-campus event known as the “Compton Cookout” was hosted by several UCSD students. The party was intended to mock and ridicule Black History Month, and attendees were invited to wear costumes that stereotyped underrepresented communities, particularly African Americans. This and a related event involving a noose and a Ku Klux Klan hood found on campus spurred UC students to organize protests, including “Black Wednesday” at UCI.

The rise of the Black Lives Matter movement across the nation in 2014 after the death of Michael Brown led to two significant periods of Black Lives Matter activism documented on campus, including in 2014–2016 and in 2020 after the death of George Floyd.

### **111. BLACK WEDNESDAY AT UCI.**

2010. UCI Widen Collective.

During a Black Wednesday protest held by the Black Student Union (BSU), UCI students lined up and linked arms, back-to-back near the entrance of the Student Center courtyard. During the silent protest, which lasted nearly an hour, others read off a list of demands.

### **112. BLACK WEDNESDAY STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS.**

2010. UCI Widen Collective.

To demonstrate an Act of Silence, TeKeyia Armstrong, a fourth-year African American Studies major and co-chair of the BSU, links arms with Indar Smith, a fourth-year biological sciences student, among other peers.

### **113. UCI BSU ASKS, DO UC RACISM?**

*New University*. Mar. 9, 2010.

A *New University* article about the Black Wednesday protest explains that following the silent protest, the students “dropped to the ground, playing dead as a symbol of their suffering.”

114. **BLACK STUDENT ACTIVISM @ UCI ZINE.**

By Jasmine Adams. 2017. UCI Collection of Zines. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A zine created by BSU member Jasmine Adams includes an interview with the BSU chair discussing topics such as student activism, a section on BSU's Demands Team initiative (Jungle Pussy) that worked to improve anti-Black violence on campus, and a demands list drafted in 2016 to abolish police presence on campus.

115. **DEMONSTRATORS SPEAK AT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE BLACK LIVES MATTER RALLY.**

June 2020. School of Medicine Leadership Education to Advance Diversity-African, Black, and Caribbean (LEAD-ABC) Program Records. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

Medical professionals speak at a Black Lives Matter rally held at the School of Medicine.

116. **DEMONSTRATORS KNEEL AT BLACK LIVES MATTER RALLY.**

*New University*. Mar. 9, 2010.

A *New University* article about the Black Wednesday protest explains that following the silent protest, the students "dropped to the ground, playing dead as a symbol of their suffering." Student Identities Today (2010–Present): Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Student Wellness



## STUDENT IDENTITIES TODAY (2010–PRESENT): IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON STUDENT WELLNESS

**EARLY IN 2020**, UCI students mobilized in solidarity with students at UC Santa Cruz who had been organizing for a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) since September 2019. The group's demands intersect with issues important to students today including anti-Blackness, cost of living and wages, homelessness, and in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, providing *mutual aid* (or creating care networks to provide basic needs) to students.

The impact of the pandemic on students is still being felt as we transition to a "new normal." Between Fall 2020 and Winter 2022, the School of Social Ecology offered students an opportunity to document their pandemic experiences. The resulting archive consists of firsthand accounts of student stressors during this time, first responders, and reflections on anti-Black violence and anti-Asian hate crimes.

117. **UCI4COLA SICK-OUT FLYER.**

Mar. 2, 2020. UCI4COLA website.

In an action organized by UCI4COLA, graduate students collectively took one of two of their contractually provided sick days at the same time.

118. **UC-WIDE COLA CAMPAIGN FLYER.**

Mar. 27, 2020. UCI4COLA website.

A meeting of campuses across the UC system united in the COLA movement.

119. **UCI4COLA SOCIAL WELFARE STRIKE DIGITAL FLYER.**

Mar. 30, 2020. UCI4COLA website.

A little under two weeks into the COVID-19 lockdown, the UCI4COLA group pivoted to providing mutual aid to students and workers.

120. **COLA ANTEATER GRAPHIC.**

c. 2020. UCI4COLA website.

A black and white Peter the Anteater graphic wearing a COLA vest.

121. **UCI4COLA STATEMENT ON THE UCI RALLY AND MARCH IN SOLIDARITY WITH UCSC AND UC'S RESPONSE.**

Feb. 24, 2020. UCI4COLA website.

On February 20, 2020, the UCI Black Student Union and United Students Against Sweatshops marched in solidarity with UC Santa Cruz graduate students, which prompted a 48-hour lockdown of Aldrich Hall. During the incident, UCI Police used force on Shikera Chamndany, a Black alumna unaffiliated with the action who was attempting to retrieve a transcript at Aldrich Hall.

122. **UCI ALUMNA ARRESTED BY UCIPD DURING COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT RALLY FOR UC SANTA CRUZ GRADUATE STUDENTS.**

*New University.* Feb. 29, 2020.

The Black Student Union and United Students Against Sweatshops rallied in support of Shikera Chamndany and created a petition demanding accountability from the UCI community. The petition demands support from the UCI community for Chamndany's legal fees, psychological well-being, accountability for the officer involved in her arrest, abolishment of the UCI Police Department, and direct solidarity support from the graduate students who participated in the protest.

123. **PANDEMIC HISTORIES DIGITAL ART SERIES.**

By Berenice Cortez. Feb. 2022. School of Social Ecology Pandemic Histories Archive Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In this digital art series, Berenice Cortez explores the challenges her family has experienced during the pandemic including navigating social distancing measures with an autistic sibling, parental caretaking while COVID positive, being a first-generation college student during the pandemic, and student debt.

124. **"CONNECTION" DIGITAL MINI ART BOOK.**

School of Social Ecology Pandemic Histories Archive Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

In this digital mini book, the artist tries to capture the common emotions, experiences, and thoughts people have experienced throughout the pandemic. The artist's statement explains, "I hope that viewers can sense the emotions in the artwork and find themselves interpreting these pieces as it relates to their experience during this COVID-19 pandemic. The final piece is based on my emotions and experiences during the pandemic... I drew inspiration from the colors black, blue, purple, green and yellow, focusing on the emotions 'lost,' 'confused,' and 'scared,' as well as the keywords 'self-discovery' and 'rebirth.'"

125. **CREATING DURING COVID: RECIPES AND REFLECTIONS... 2020.**

School of Social Ecology Pandemic Histories Archive Collection. UCI Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

A digital zine created by Ruby Nuñez details significant milestones achieved in Nuñez's life like turning 21 and voting for the first time in a presidential election, all while living under COVID lockdown. These moments are captured while Nuñez shares recipes for her favorite dishes.