

## Examples of Antisemitic Activity at the University of California Since 2001

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In 2001, at UC Irvine, the Muslim Student Union invited a Washington DC-based imam named Mohammed al Asi, an unapologetic supporter of the Iranian regime in Teheran, who stated in front of an outdoor audience, "You can take the Jew out of the ghetto, but you cannot take the ghetto out of the Jew."<sup>1</sup>

In subsequent years, various UC Muslim Student Association groups have invited an Oakland-based imam named Amir Abdel Malik Ali to several UC campuses to spout anti-Jewish venom in outdoor and indoors arenas. Ali has not only expressed a hatred for Israel, but a hatred for Jews as well. One of his favorite rhetorical lines is to accuse various individuals, such as Rupert Murdoch, of being "Zionist Jews."<sup>2</sup> In other appearances, Ali has laid the label of "Zionist Jew" on former UC President Mark Yudof, Rahm Emanuel, David Axelrod, and many others.

In May 2010 at UC Irvine, Ali told the Jewish people in his audience that they were the "new Nazis," and openly admitted his support for Hamas, Hizbollah and Palestinian Islamic Jihad.<sup>3</sup> The next week, UCI Chancellor Michael Drake condemned Ali's words in a message to the campus community, yet did not mention Ali's name, what he said, what the event was, who the sponsors of his speech were, or who the offended group was.<sup>4</sup>

Four years prior to that incident, in 2006, as a result of complaints of anti-Semitism and harassment at UC Irvine, the Orange County Independent Task Force on Anti-Semitism was formed. After their investigation, they issued a report.<sup>5</sup>

In addition, the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education investigated the allegations during the same period. They eventually concluded that the charges were not sustainable because too much time had passed from the alleged incidents and Jews were not a protected group under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. In short, the investigation fizzled out, and the problems continued.

In 2008, as part of the MSU mock Apartheid Wall set up every May at UC Irvine, a caricature of Ariel Sharon in the style reminiscent of the Nazi anti-Jewish weekly *Der Stuermer* was posted.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.investigativeproject.org/239/muhammad-al-asi-ghetto-jews>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtuCk6BDZSU>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLvfX\\_SGcAA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLvfX_SGcAA)

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.jewishjournal.com/community/article/uci\\_chancellor\\_denounces\\_speakers\\_endorsement\\_of\\_terrorism\\_20100518](http://www.jewishjournal.com/community/article/uci_chancellor_denounces_speakers_endorsement_of_terrorism_20100518)

<sup>5</sup> <https://octaskforce.files.wordpress.com/2008/02/orange-county-task-force-report-on-anti-semitism-at-uci.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://garyfouse.blogspot.com/2014/06/anti-semitic-art-on-display-at.html>

In 2010, conservative activist David Horowitz spoke at UC San Diego. During the question and answer session, a Muslim Student Association member told Horowitz that she supported a call by the leader of Hezbollah that all Jews should gather in Israel so that the task of killing them all could be easier. That story only lasted a few days at UCSD when the student "clarified" her statement and was absolved by the administration. Contrast that with the so-called "Compton Cookout" and the library noose controversies at UCSD the same year-to this day still swathed in mystery. That sparked a campus-wide outrage that featured the then chancellor and vice chancellor leading a demonstration rightfully telling black students that they were, indeed, welcome at UCSD. What similar demonstration was held on behalf of Jewish students?

Also, the same year, after swastikas were discovered scrawled on bathroom stalls at UC Berkeley, Jewish students held a peaceful protest on campus. They were countered by a UCB professor who gave them the finger and heckled them.<sup>7</sup>

In May 2010, in the wake of the disruption of the speech by the Israeli ambassador to the US at UC Irvine in February and coinciding with the annual week of anti-Israel events on campus, some 60 Jewish faculty members at UCI signed a letter speaking out against antisemitism on the UCI campus. The letter had little or no effect.<sup>8</sup>

A year later, then UC President Mark Yudof set up a commission to study the problem of antisemitism on UC campuses, which resulted in a report being submitted to Yudof with specific recommendations.<sup>9</sup> Unfortunately, Yudof failed to implement the recommendations, just as he refused to implement recommendations to remedy the problem suggested in a California Legislative resolution in 2012.<sup>10</sup>

Then, last year at UCLA, campus activists led a drive to keep Jewish students known to support Israel from serving on the student government. That caused President Napolitano<sup>11</sup> and UCLA Chancellor Gene Block<sup>12</sup> to issue statements that such actions were improper. Yet the problem clearly persists.

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<sup>7</sup> <http://garyfouse.blogspot.com/2010/05/uc-berkeley-professor-objects-to.html>

<sup>8</sup> <https://octaskforce.wordpress.com/2010/05/10/some-community-members-students-and-faculty-indeed-feel-intimidated-and-at-times-even-unsafe/>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.amchainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/jewish-climate-fact-finding-report-july-2012-final.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201120120HR35](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201120120HR35)

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/napolitano-statement-civil-discourse-ucla>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.amchainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Chancellor-Blocks-statement-to-UCLA-community.pdf>