

The ASUC and Chancellor Birgeneau endorse student protest initiatives, sponsor student buses for March 1 rally in Sacramento

Berkeley, CA, February 21, 2010 – The University of California Students Association (UCSA) is sponsoring a series of student-led meetings and a rally in Sacramento on March 1st. The ASUC and UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert Birgeneau endorse student initiatives to protest the state's disinvestment from public higher education, and demand for reinstatement of state support.

To facilitate transportation to and from Sacramento for students interested in marching, the Chancellor will fund the rental of two buses, using non-state funds. Buses will depart at 9 a.m. on March 1 and return between 3 and 4 p.m. (times are tentative thus far). To reserve a seat on the bus, or for more information, please contact eavp.ca@gmail.com.

President Yudof, university administrators, and some Regents will be in Sacramento to meet with legislative leaders, although at the request of UCSA, the administration will not take a role in the public rally. Chancellor Birgeneau will travel to Sacramento with campus student leadership on March 10th to advocate for UC funding and for issues that are specific to UC Berkeley.

Additional events organized by a coalition of labor leaders are planned for March 4th as a national day of action and strike in defense of public higher education. Rallies are planned in the Bay Area, throughout the state, and in the capital. The UC Berkeley campus is not planning any official events on this day.

The University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges are planning to lobby jointly in Sacramento on April 27th for state reinvestment of public higher education funding.

To view the Chancellor's op-ed in the Sacramento Bee, "Viewpoints: 'Zero Fees' could hurt neediest students. How should students respond to fee hikes?" visit <http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/story/2541867.html>.

Further information about the University's advocacy activities is available on the Cal Advocacy website, <http://www.ucforcalifornia.org/cal/state/main/?state=CA>.

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About the ASUC

The Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC) are the elected representatives of the UC Berkeley student body. As the collective voice of the students, the ASUC builds student power through leadership development, and through grassroots campaigns and coalitions, the ASUC fights to hold the University, City, State and Nation accountable to student needs. Please visit the ASUC website at <http://www.asuc.org>.