

Statement from PSAC – June 3, 2020

The Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) is a University-wide committee that focuses on the relationship between our community and the UC Irvine Police Department (UCIPD). PSAC is committed to understanding and improving policing in the UCI community. Recent events, both on campus and in our nation, underscore this responsibility.

We remain concerned by, and focused on, the arrest of a UCI alumni on our campus on February 20, 2020.

To increase transparency between the UCIPD and our community, we have sought information to share about the University's efforts to understand and investigate this unfortunate incident. Although we are working collaboratively with the University at this time, PSAC, as an advisory committee, is not legally entitled to this information. We are committed to learning more about the policing involved in this incident and to communicate that information to the community.

Due to legal constraints, and in part based on the requests of all parties involved, we are in a holding pattern with respect to the February arrest. Although we recognize the deeply unsatisfying nature of this statement, we believe it is important for us to communicate that our silence is not due to a lack of interest, compassion, or determination.

According to a public name search on the Orange County Superior Court website, it appears that, as of the writing of this statement (06/03/2020), no criminal charges have been filed by the Orange County District Attorney's Office.

We support and aim to respond to nationwide calls to examine policing practices, use of force policies, and racial biases on and around our campus. We are taking the following actions to examine the policing of our UCI community:

1. We are requesting all legally available documentation regarding the arrest of the UCI alumni.
2. We are developing Public Record Act requests to examine past instances of alleged officer misconduct on our campus.
3. We will examine the racial breakdown of stop and arrest data over the past 3 years to ensure our policing is conducted in a non-discriminatory manner.
4. We will be conducting a systematic study of the UCI community's experience with UCIPD.

We take our responsibilities as part of a Minority Serving Institution (MSI) seriously. We must strive to diligently provide a fair, equitable, and culturally sensitive in and out of class environment and experience. We recognize the variety of backgrounds and experiences minority populations bring to our community, especially those of our black students. One of those paradigms may include a wariness and distrust of police and PSAC. We will do everything in our power to be a conduit of transparency, understanding, and action between students,

faculty, and staff of color, and the UCIPD. We remain committed to increasing transparency in policing and developing sustainable practices to enhance effective and anti-racist policing.

If you have a question or concern that you would like to raise with PSAC, please email us at psac@uci.edu.

PSAC Committee Members

Carroll Seron, Chair - Professor Emerita, School of Social Ecology

Katie Tinto, Chair Elect - Clinical Professor of Law, School of Law

Adisa Ajamu - Director, UCI Center for Black Cultures, Resources, and Research

Karen Andrews - Director, Disability Services Center

Davidian Bishop - Director, LGBT Resource Center

Gwendolyn Black - Director of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action, UCI Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity

Joe Brothman - Director, EH&S, UCI Medical Center

Angela Chen - Director, UCI Dreamers Resource Center

Olga Dunaevsky - Department Administrator, Anthropology, UCI School of Social Sciences

Reginald Gardner - Associated Graduate Students

Megan Morrison - Residence Life Coordinator, Student Housing

Hobart Taylor - Chairperson, Homeowner Representative Board (HRB), University Hills

Randy Yan - President, Associated Students UCI