

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Dylan Martin, CCR Communications Director dmartin@cacollegegop.com April 20th, 2018

<u>16 CA College Republican Chapters Defend UC Merced Republicans as their Peers Reveal</u> <u>Personal Details About Them in "White Supremacy Timeline"</u>

On April 16th, the California College Republicans distributed a press release detailing the statements made by the UC Merced Administration and the legislative branch of the Associated Students of UC Merced (ASUCM). The statements, which condemned and sought to defund the College Republicans at UC Merced (CRUCM) for attending the state CCR convention, and for promoting I.C.E. and that there are only two biological genders, reasoned that the beliefs held by the conservative students were "hateful" and "violent."

The California College Republicans are proud to announce that 16 chapters of our organization from across the state have released statements in an unprecedented show of support, pressuring UC Merced to back down on defunding the chapter. These chapters include Berkeley, UCSD, UCSB, Stanford, UCI, UCR, UCSC, SDSU, College of Sequoias, Orange Coast College, Cal Maritime, UC Hastings, Santa Clara University, Chico State, Sacramento State, and CSU Stanislaus. While administrators have remained silent despite increasing negative press, students - and even faculty - have responded by protesting the "fascist" College Republicans and defacing their signs. Students in conjunction with professors are creating and passing out a "White Supremacy Timeline" flier that demands the administration condemn the CR chapter at a press conference by April 30th or face consequences. The flier calls the CCR chapters that supported CRUCM and Campus Reform "alt-right groups" with "white nationalist audiences," says I.C.E "constitutes a terrorist threat," is filled with allegations of inappropriate conduct, and contains personal details of members of CRUCM.

"The pamphlets they're distributing are directly targeting individuals in the club. This absolutely does not establish an inclusive environment when specific students are targeted for holding beliefs that are different than those of the majority. They are slandering us, fabricating events, stalking us, all in an extreme, pathetic and almost humorous overreaction towards the irrational fear of discourse and ideas that contradict their own. As someone who is being personally targeted by these students, I am ashamed that my administration would allow this type of bullying to occur just because I am a Republican. But it doesn't bother me, because I have the truth and College Republicans across the state on my side." UC Merced Republicans member Harry Duran said.

The California College Republicans are committed to assisting the College Republicans at UC Merced fight back against the discriminatory and authoritarian actions of the students and faculty at UC Merced. The slander and destruction of property that have taken place are inexcusable, and we are not afraid to pursue legal avenues to maintain the rights of conservative students at UC Merced and elsewhere. While our organization-wide stance is to be always open to debate, destruction of property and publication of personal information with malicious intent crosses the line from civil discourse to hostile engagement. We will work diligently to ensure that respect for differing ideas is restored at universities like UC Merced so productive debate can resume in the future.