

United Faculty

NORTH ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
CYPRESS COLLEGE · FULLERTON COLLEGE · NORTH ORANGE CONTINUING EDUCATION



Dear Colleagues,

As we have stated in multiple emails over the last week, some of our colleagues have become the targets of racist and sexist attacks and harassment. It did not take long after the release of the viral video before we started getting these reports. We immediately conveyed these concerns to Cypress College's leadership. The initial response from Cypress College, and the silence that followed, have only made things worse. Faculty have already conveyed, publicly and privately, fears of retaliation from the District and a chilling effect on their academic freedom and ability to teach their classes as they see fit.

At this point, the District's delay is simply a strategy to ignore this important issue until the semester is over. Cypress College's leadership has made it clear that one of the first things that they did was get in touch with a media consultant to help them manage the media attention. It was also explicitly stated to us that their media consultant advised them to ignore it until it goes away and that "things will get worse before they get better." This approach can only come from a privileged position, as there has been an unmistakable disproportionate impact on our colleagues that are women, Arab, Muslim, or belong to other minoritized groups.

Fortunately, a student coalition from NOCCCD decided to speak up and make their voices heard tomorrow at the Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 11th, 2021 at 4:30 pm at the NOCCCD Anaheim campus Free Speech Area. Please see the attached agenda and the flier that our students created. We encourage you to participate in this student-led event. Our students repeatedly showed up for us. It is time we show up for them. We also encourage you to send your written comments via email to the Board of Trustees before 5:00 pm tomorrow, as they will read them during the Public Comments section (Information is in the attached agenda).

The District's handling of this incident is from a place of fear, rather than doing what is right. The District's silence is deeply troubling and is setting a dangerous precedent for potentially similar future incidents concerning academic freedom and our work safety. We hope to see all of you in support of our students and one other.

In Solidarity,

Christie Diep, UF President

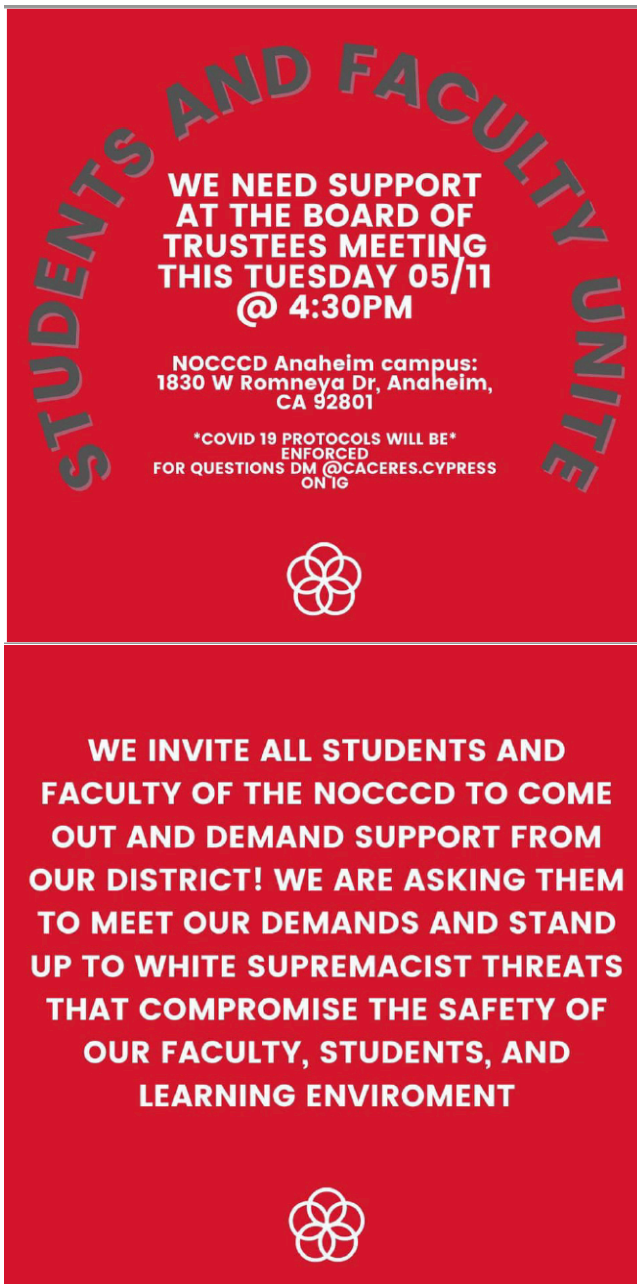


Mohammad M. Abdel Haq, UF Lead negotiator



MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.

Public comments will only be accepted via email. Submissions should be sent to chancellor@nocccd.edu with "Public Comment" noted in the email subject line and must be received by 5:00 p.m. the day of the Board meeting. All submissions received will be read into the record at the Board meeting and must comply with the three-minute time limit.



STUDENTS AND FACULTY UNITE

**WE NEED SUPPORT
AT THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES MEETING
THIS TUESDAY 05/11
@ 4:30PM**

**NOCCCD Anaheim campus:
1830 W Romneya Dr, Anaheim,
CA 92801**

***COVID 19 PROTOCOLS WILL BE*
ENFORCED
FOR QUESTIONS DM @CACERES.CYPRESS
ON IG**



**WE INVITE ALL STUDENTS AND
FACULTY OF THE NOCCCD TO COME
OUT AND DEMAND SUPPORT FROM
OUR DISTRICT! WE ARE ASKING THEM
TO MEET OUR DEMANDS AND STAND
UP TO WHITE SUPREMACIST THREATS
THAT COMPROMISE THE SAFETY OF
OUR FACULTY, STUDENTS, AND
LEARNING ENVIROMENT**

