

Democratize the UC Regents!

Organize and Build for the March on March for Public Education in California!

Open public forum exposing the financial dealings of the UC Regents, and building a vibrant movement to defend public education in California.

February 17th, 5:45PM Napa Valley College - Cafeteria Room



Higher Education in California has been gravely compromised by the financial dealings and interests of those who govern California's University System - the UC Regents. Through unregulated investments involving private equity partnerships, the public money of the University of California has been used as a means of generating wealth for private investors. While well connected UC Regents such as Richard Blum and former governor Arnold Schwarzenegger have reaped profits through their own speculative investments, the University and the people of California have been left behind in the midst of back room deals UC had entered into under the misguidance of the UC Investment Committee. The ongoing attack on public education, students, and workers in California has unfortunately not been abated under the leadership of either of the establishment political parties - Democrats or Republicans, or the senior leadership of the trade unions. We need to build an independent and strong challenge to the unruly power of the financiers in California politics and Higher Education. Last year students demonstrated in the tens of thousands on the State Capitol, and also occupied administration buildings at several University Campuses. The UC Regents met in November of last year and voted in favor of increased student tuition of 8% on top of the 32% that went into effect earlier in the year. A massive furlough/ pay cut plan was imposed on thousands of classified employees at the University, as well as hundreds of academic lecturers laid off and classes canceled. California and UC's budget woes must not be burdened on the backs of working people and students! The movement for education justice must continue and involve students, classified employees, academic faculty, and administrative staff at all levels of public education in California.

Featured Speakers:

Peter Byrne - Local investigative reporter and writer of the eight-part series, "The Investors Club: How the University of California Regents Spin Public Money into Private Profit," which was published in September by the journalism Website Spot.us and a consortium of California newsweeklies.

Cindy Sheehan - Anti-war activist, mother, and former candidate for US Congress in 2008 running as independent against Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Open forum for all those in attendance to discuss the movement for public education in California, planning for the March on March at NVC, and more. Associated Student Representative Alex Shantz, Music and Poetry with Ballet Fokloriko and MC Lynx.

Partial list of event endorsers: Solano County Peace and Freedom Party, Associated Students of Napa Valley College, Students for a Democratic Society - NVC, Movement for a Democratic Society - East Bay.

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