

UC Santa Cruz

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VOL. II

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

JUNE 2020

JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY & CULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

ON THE COVER

Covering time, capital, technology, and identity, the articles of this volume cover vastly different subjects with one thing tying them all together. The Middle East.

A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

The UCSC Journal of International Society and Culture was created as a space to allow undergraduate students to showcase their exemplary work and unique voices. We are very proud to support an environment in which students are challenged to think critically and thoughtfully about international issues. While this year has certainly been unorthodox, our staff remains committed to the goals of the journal and the creation of an engaging, collaborative, and impactful product. It is our hope that the stories and scholars featured in this issue inspire students, both at our campus and abroad, to remain critically engaged with the world around them.

In this tumultuous time, we would like to acknowledge the international crisis that is the COVID-19 pandemic. All of the papers included in this edition were submitted between June 2019 and December 2020, and therefore make no comment on the global upheaval in which we now find ourselves. We want to thank our healthcare workers, scientists, and public health officials all over the world for the work they are doing to alleviate suffering. We want them to know that their tireless efforts are appreciated.

As an expression of solidarity, we would like to affirm our unwavering support for the COLA movement and the needs of graduate students at our own campus and across the country. Our students work multiple jobs, experience precarious housing, homelessness, and suffer from food insecurity. This situation is untenable. We condemn, in the strongest of words, our university's continued efforts to punish students amidst a global pandemic. At UC Santa Cruz, some of our most vulnerable students—students of color, undocumented students and students from working-class backgrounds—are among those who have been most aggressively targeted by the university's disciplinary apparatus. It is unfathomable that our university, despite its long history of student activism, continues to hold disciplinary hearings—showcasing a blatant disregard for the physical and emotional harm already afflicted on our graduate students. In spite of the callous disregard detailed above, it is our hope that the University of California, Santa Cruz—and the UC system as a whole—emerges from the current crisis with a renewed sense of its mission as a public institution dedicated to social justice.

We would also like to collectively recognize the violence caused by centuries of systematic racism towards black Americans. As a journal we do not condone discrimination of any kind and would like to reaffirm our support of the Black Lives Matter movement and our campus BIPOC community. Our journal was built with the intention of publishing marginalized voices and creating a safe space for UCSC students of all backgrounds. To that end, we want to state clearly that we condemn white supremacy and racial inequality and we urge all leaders around the globe to accelerate their efforts in dismantling systems of oppression and

violence. Furthermore, we stand in solidarity with the demands for police reform and calls for our administration to break their relationship with city police and other agencies that have a demonstrated history of racial discrimination and violence.

We encourage our readers to seek to educate themselves on black struggles, believe black narratives, and donate to organizations fighting for justice.

We are saddened, but committed to remembering the names of:

George Floyd	Frank Smart	Michael Noel
Ahmaud Arbery	Natasha McKenna	Kevin Matthews
Breonna Taylor	Tony Robinson	Bettie Jones
Atatiana Jefferson	Anthony Hill	Keith Childress Jr
Aura Rosser	Mya Hall	Janet Wildon
Stephon Clark	Phillip White	Antronie Scott
Botham Jean	Eric Harris	Wendell Celesting
Philando Castille	Walter Scott	David Joseph
Alton Sterling	William Chapman II	Calin Roquemore
Michelle Cusseaux	Alexia Christian	Dyzhawn Perkins
Freddie Gray	Brendon Glenn	Christopher Davis
Janisha Fonville	Victor Manuel Larosa	Darius Robinson
Eric Garner	Jonathan Sanders	Kevin Hicks
Akai Gurley	Salvado Ellswood	Mary Truxillo
Gabriella Nevarez	Sandra Bland	DeMarcus Semer
Tamir Rice	Albert Joseph Davis	Willie Tillman
Michael Brown	Darrius Stewart	Terrill Thomas
Tanisha Anderson	Bill Ray Davis	Sylville Smith
Trayvon Martin	Samuel Dubose	Terence Crutcher
Dreasjon "Sean" Reed	Michael Sabbie	Paul O'Neal
Ezell Ford	Brian Keith Day	Alteria Woods
Michelle Shirley	Christian Taylor	Jordan Edwards
Redel Jones	Tony Robinson	Aaron Bailey
Kenney Watkins	Asshams Pharoah Manley	Ronell Foster
Laquan McDonald	Felix Kumi	Antwon Rose II
John Crawford III	Keith Harrison McLeod	Pamela Turner
George Mann	Junior Prosper	Dominique Clayton
Remain Brisbon	Alonzo Smith	Christopher Whitfield
Dante Parker	Michael Lee Marshall	Christopher McCorvey
Rumain Brisbon	Jamar Clark	Eric Reason
Jerame Reid	Nathaniel Harris Pickett	Michael Lorenzo Dean
Matthew Ajibade	Miguel Espinal	

who are only a very small fraction of the victims of police violence and structures of racism.

WHAT IS THE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY & CULTURE

Founded in 2018, The Journal of International Society & Culture (JISC) is affiliated with the Santa Cruz Institute for Social Transformation. The intention of this publication is to showcase the excellent work of undergraduate students at UC Santa Cruz. The work it publishes aims to foster debate and further the free exchange of ideas surrounding numerous global topics.

Papers published in the Journal span a wide variety of academic disciplines and reflect the diverse student body at UCSC. In a time of global political and social unrest, the journal seeks to provide a platform for these diverse voices to comment on, analyze, and help solve complicated global issues. These voices are further supported by the partnership that JIS has with numerous professors at UCSC who are among the best and brightest in their fields.

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