RESOLUTION 1920-012
A RESOLUTION CONDEMNIGN THE INJUSTICES AGAINST THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND COLUMBUS PROTESTORS BY THE COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT
Authors: Stephen Post (.144), President; Jack Brandl (.8), Chief of Staff
Sponsor: Executive Committee

WHEREAS the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled at The Ohio State University as established by Article II.I of the CGS Constitution; and

WHEREAS the Council or its appointed representative(s) have the power to sit as an advisory agent on behalf of graduate students on all matters brought before personnel, committees, or agencies of The Ohio State University involving the interest of graduate students as established in Article III Section 3 of the CGS Constitution; and

WHEREAS the Executive Committee transacts the business of the Council between its meetings and all actions taken by the Committee shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting as established in Article V Section 1 Subsection A.i.; and

WHEREAS graduate students have been engaged in peaceful demonstrations in Columbus to express outrage at the police murder of George Floyd and highlight the need for drastic reform of police institutions; and

WHEREAS those exercising their first amendment right to demonstrate peacefully in Columbus, including Ohio State students, have been met with violent force and aggression in the form of tear-gas, pepper-spray\(^1\), rubber bullets, wooden bullets, and physical force by the Columbus Police Department; and

WHEREAS the violent behavior of Columbus Police Department officers toward peaceful demonstrators has been well documented\(^2\); and

WHEREAS undercover Columbus Police Department officers killed 23-year-old Black Columbus resident Henry Green\(^3\) in 2016; and

WHEREAS then Deputy Chief and now Chief of the Columbus Police Department Thomas Quinlan wrote a report clearing the officers involved in Henry Green’s death of any wrongdoing\(^4\); and

WHEREAS Columbus Police Department officers killed 13-year-old Black Columbus resident Tyre King in 2016 by shooting him multiple times in the back as he ran from police\(^5\); and

WHEREAS the officer that killed Tyre King was cleared of wrongdoing and resumed work in another area within the city of Columbus\(^6\); and

\(^1\) https://www.thelantern.com/2020/06/lantern-journalists-targeted-by-police-pepper-sprayed/
\(^2\) https://whodoyouserve.org/
\(^4\) https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/sep/19/tyre-king-shooting-columbus-police-examiner
WHEREAS undercover Columbus Police Department officers killed 16-year-old Black Columbus resident Julius Tate, Jr. in 2018⁶; and

WHEREAS the officers involved in killing Julius Tate Jr. were cleared of any wrongdoing and instead wrongfully charged the 16-year-old girlfriend of Tate, Masonique Saunders, with involuntary manslaughter and a three-year prison sentence⁷; and

WHEREAS the Columbus Police Department is a contracted partner of the Ohio State University; and

WHEREAS the Columbus Police Department officers have used chemical agents and force against peaceful Ohio State University students including student journalists⁸; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students voices solidarity with peaceful demonstrations against police brutality in Columbus and around the nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students formally recognizes that “Black Lives Matter” despite a national and institutional history of racism.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students desires the Ohio State University to identify and implement alternative means of protecting the safety of students outside of current partnerships with the Columbus Police Department with the input of both students and faculty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students recognizes and supports, as a means of initiating critical conversation and engagement with the Ohio State University administration, the statement put out on June 1, 2020 by the presidents of the student governments.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students directs its President, Vice President, and Chief of Staff to distribute this resolution to all proper leadership and authorities of The Ohio State University and its partners.

Approved: Yes/No

Date: __6/12/20__

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Stephen J. Post, President

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