



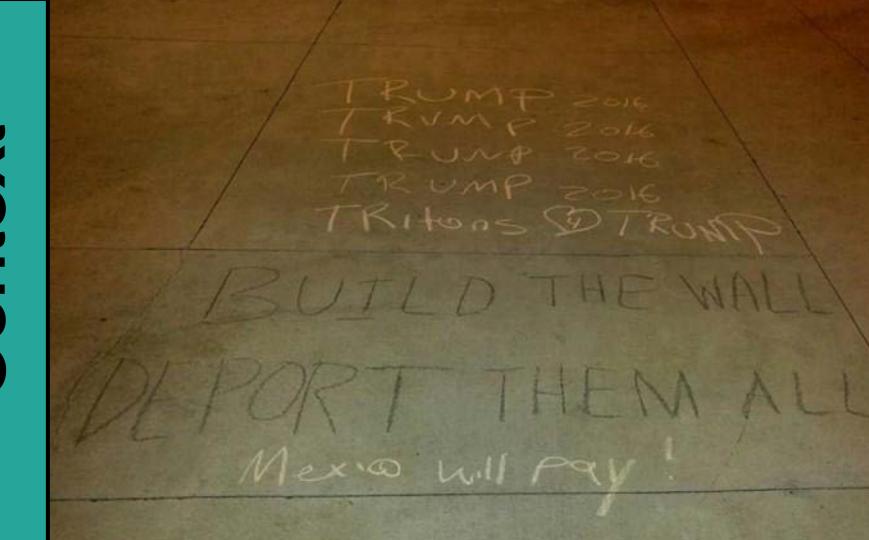


## Tell Us How UC It:

A Living Archive

https://library.ucsd.edu/tellushowucit/

Cristela Garcia-Spitz, Tamara Rhodes, and Gayatri Singh UC San Diego Library







## listory I

## 1960s – 1980s

\*This timeline consists entirely of direct quotations. Full citations are available at https://library.ucsd.edu/tellushowucit/

November 18



## **UCSD Officially Established**

A handful had dreamed of attending the University of California, La Jolia, the name given this new campus by the Board of Regents in 1959. Eighteen months later, after listening to commu debate, the Regents voted to scrap UCLJ for the more inclusive UCSD (Morgan, 2004).

"La Jolla was a place that banned land ownership by Jews or minorities," (former Revelle Collec Provost F. Thomas Bond] said. "Putting that together [with] a university system that was largely liberal made for some interesting times" (Nguyen, 2006).

## Turbulent world events spark campus actions ...

May 6

UCSD'S FIRST DEMONSTRATION

In one of UCSD's historic morsests a collection of twenty-five freshmen, graduate students. and faculty mornbers joined in a demonstration against U.S. military intervention in the Dominican Republic. UCSD's "Advocacy and One Discussion Area" on the upper compan was first per into service an hour or so before soon. Thursday, May 6,

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April 5

## UCSD Mourns Death of Dr. King

The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King had a deep and profound effect upon members of the UCSD academic community.

Chancellor Galbraith held an official commemorative service on the grassy knoll behind the library\* at noon. This was followed later in the day by a march into La Jolla and a demonstration at City Hall in San Diego, where a series of recommendations were presented





# **Perspectives**





They try to place me in a box They try to tell me their thoughts They try to get me to see it their way They try to tell me what to say They try to make me less than, But not by words, but by Passive aggressive acts, man. They scream Trump this, Trump that Trying to go back to wearing KKK hats They don't want brown They don't want black They don't want anything that's not ... Never mind, scratch that. They remind me that I am not like them, They write it in chalk as if I actually care about, them.

Black, Brown, Yellow, Green

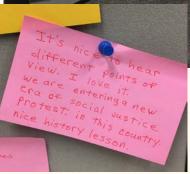
You can try to be passive You can try to make me quit But we ARE the majority



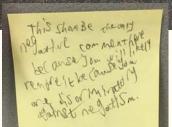


I am part of the General

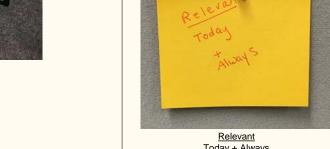
I am part of the General Public, and have been coming here for 6 yrs to use the computer. But understand this, if you call me a racist, you will be taken to count to prove it. You're not getting by with a pass!



It's nice to hear different points of view. I love it. We are entering a new era of social justice protest in this country. Nice history lesson.



This shall be the only negative comment here because you will likely remove it because you are discriminatory against negatism [sic].



Today + Always

Glad we're engaging in these conversations. This exhibit needs more visibility. Love to all & have a great day - ur local chicana

# Compton Cookout







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## 1960s-1980s



After Setting Himself Afire

George Winne Jr., 23, a senior at UCSD, died early yesterday of borns, 10 boors after he set himself on fire in opposition to the war in Southeast Asia. Winne died at 2.05 a.m. in Service Managerial Manageria

his body.

Wiene doused himself with kerzone on Reveile Plans about 4 pm. Senday and ignited it. He carried a sign reading "In the name of God, end the war."

Friends said Winne was withdrawn and upoet after receiving his draft satiot a few weeks

"he would see us in Heaven."
"He was a spiritual, highly
opinionated person who acted on
his principles," said Patrick
Crampton, 24, who had known
Winne several years and was a
student with him at UCSD. Crampton said Winne told him t the hospital that he did not sant to be made a political mar-

## 1990s



**Chancellor Complies With Two** 

Demands After I-5 is Occupied

## **UCSD Students Protest Verdict In Police Beating**

■ Action against acquittal takes demonstrations into the streets

By Eric Schmidt and Sheryl Wolcott

An integrated group of UCSD students and faculty gathered at several errorisonally charged rallies and proteins for three days following the the acquittal of four police of ficers charged in the bearing of motorist Rodocy King last week. Protests included the obstruction of Interstate

5 and a La Jolla intersection, a murch to the Sar Diego Federal Building on Saturday and railin on the Main Gyes steps Thursday and Friday. Protests began with a Thursday moon rally a Course the LICSD police station and Charvelles Richard Addinson's office.

Students blocked traffic at the La Jolla Village Drive-Villa La Jolla intersection for nearly two hours in present after a meeting of the

INSIDE... Loss of Focus The acquittal of four Los Angeles police officers accused of using excessive force against Rodney King was outrageous, but

no more outrageous than the violence which followed. People ndienation at this verdict. Indeed, truely outraged have been slowly sponday, Now, as the flames die

2016-



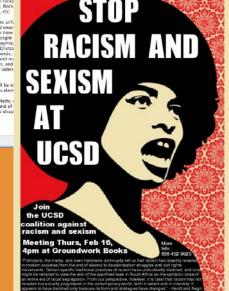
## 2010s

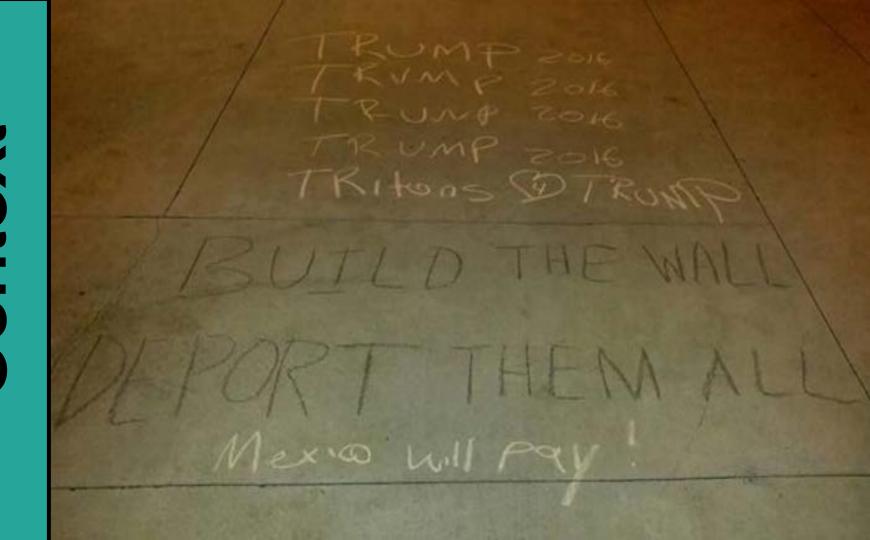


and expensive couture. They also have in bad colors, such as purple or bright They look and act similar to Shenaynay waving their finger in your face. Chetto make up for it, by forming new words, using other types of vulgarities, and ma making other angry noises,grunts, and The objective is for all you lovely ladies qualities throughout the day.

Several of the regents condos will be to house and experience the various elem

We will be serving 40's, Kegs of Natty, color purple, chicken, coolade, and of self before we break ya self, keep strap remembered- or not







# Context

May 2016, Comm Playground pop-up installation



November 2016, Screenshot from 10News



# Context



November 2016, positive chalk messages









January 2017, Protest and march against the "Muslim ban" executive order

# Process

"Archival records appear no longer as impartial or neutral carriers of facts. The archival record is complex, problematic. It represents power relationships in society, both in the events, persons, and ideas memorialized in the documents themselves and in the process of how they are selected for preservation and validation within archival repositories."

-Randall C. Jimerson, Archives Power (2009)



Wenjia Shen, "United," Tell Us How UC It: A Living Archive, https://library.ucsd.edu/tellushowucit/items/show/2104.



## Not all stories are being told. What is your story?

Activity - Discuss in small groups & write on post-it note:

• What would you want future students to know about how you are experiencing this current political era?

Allie Pai, "Reach," *Tell Us How UC It: A Living Archive* https://library.ucsd.edu/tellushowucit/items/show/1953.



## Thank you. Questions?

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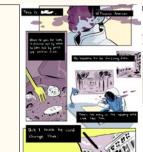
Tamara Rhodes tlrhodes@ucsd.edu

Gayatri Singh gasingh@ucsd.edu

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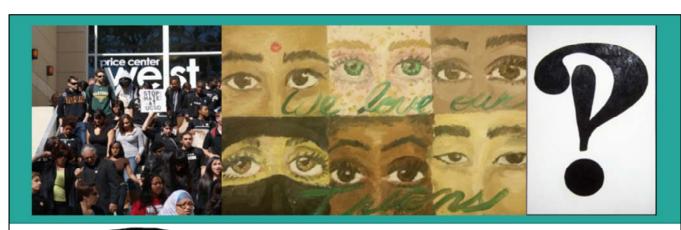














## Tell Us How UC It:

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Cristela Garcia-Spitz, Tamara Rhodes, and Gayatri Singh UC San Diego Library

Thank you for inviting us to your classroom.

We'll introduce ourselves in a second, but we wanted to start by talking about the classroom space today. The class is called Race & Racism, so you probably already has this conversation at the beginning of the quarter! We wanted to remind everyone to help us create a respectful and inclusive environment. Lean into your discomfort. Your voice and experiences are valued, so if you normally don't speak a lot in class, find the courage to speak. And if you tend to speak a lot in class, try to practice active listening a little more.

Now we'd like to introduce ourselves not only to share a little bit of ourselves with you but to also provide a little context to why these issues and this project are important to us.

My name is Gayatr Singh. I'm indian-american. My parents immigrated here in the late 60s/early 70s from India, so I was born in San Diego, and we are settlers on this land. I went to a community college before transferring to UC Irvine and getting my degree in history and women studies. I went out to North Carolina to get my graduate degree, and then came back to California where I worked in the libraries at UC Irvine, UC Riverside, before coming back to San Diego. I've been at UCSD for about 10 years. I help manage our research services, so you might have seen me at one of the desks in Geisel, and I'm also the librarian that supports the Communication Department.

I'm Cristela Garcia-Spitz and I'm Mexican-American. My mother's side was from Germany and immigrated here in the late 1800s. My father's side was from Mexico and came here in

the 1930s. I was born and raised in South Texas. I went to a magnet high school in the Rio Grande Valley which provided a path to College. I did my undergraduate degree in Anthropology at Tulane University in New Orleans, and my graduate degree at the University of Pittsburgh in Library & Information Science. I've worked at Carnegie Mellon University and Princeton University as a Librarian and Archivist before coming here to UC San Diego to work in the Digital Library Development Program. I collaborate across areas of the library, campus, and community to create content for our Digital Collections website. I also recently became Curator of our Melanesian Archive, which consists of collections primarily from Anthropologists that work in the Pacific Islands.

I'm Tamara Rhodes. I am Black. American. I grew up in a military family, so I've lived all over the US, but primarily in the South. I went to high school in a place that had the underground nickname of Colonial "Whites", I got my Bachelor's in Sociology from an all women's private school where I was one of few people of color, then I got my Master's in Library Science from an HBCU where my degree was paid for with scholarships trying to increase the number of minorities in librarianship. I have been a librarian for 4 years, 2 in NC and coming up on 2 years here at UCSD, where I am currently the only Black librarian. I am a subject librarian for Psychology, cognitive science, human development, and linguistics.

Today we're going to discuss our project "Tell Us How UC It: A Living Archive" and share our experience with the project and the subject matter of racist and discriminatory events that have happened on this campus and what that means

- 1. Compton Cookout
- 2. Past events
- 3. Trump Chalkings
- 4. Archiving these events and how to find information
- 5. Going forward



Images: https://www.facebook.com/events/509510175906322/

In April 2016, right in the middle of the presidential campaign, like many other campuses, a number of Trump Chalkings appeared on the UCSD campus in multiple places, one of them near Raza Resource Centro, our Chicano campus community center.

As a response, the Black Graduate Student Association and the Graduate Student Association co-hosted a Race Relations Town Hall, which got us thinking about how we can support our community in this moment.

## Living Archive idea:

 Published paper referencing The New School and their Occupy Wall Street living archive

Rhodes, T. (2014). A living, breathing revolution: How libraries can use 'living archives' to support, engage, and document social movements. *IFLA*, *40*(1), 5-10

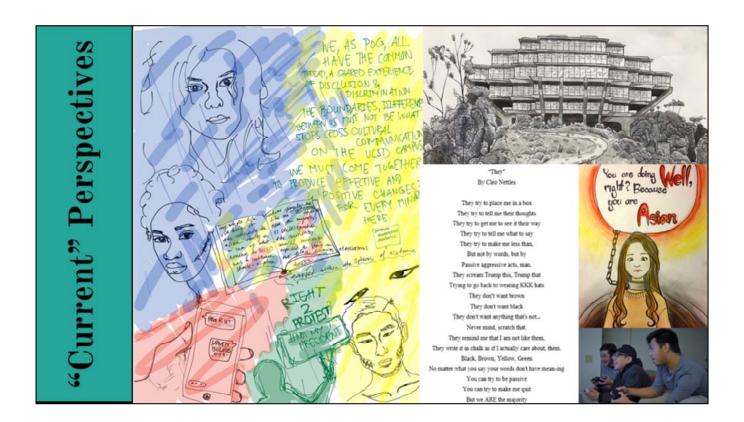


- Purpose: use The New School format for the inclusion of past and historical narratives with present sentiment in the form of creative expression, and then capture up-to-the-minute feedback and commentary. A way for libraries to bridge formats to where all is collected and presented together to establish a particular narrative.
  - A history
  - Student Perspectives
  - Real-time feedback
- Perfect for UCSD's climate: forgotten history, live current sentiment due to ongoing present events that related to the forgotten history



## 1. A history

- a. Scope: by decades beginning when UCSD was formed in 1960
- b. How was it collected process
  - i. Asked around about key moments and a natural narrative formed around student activism cycle was revealed
  - ii. Made decision to only use direct quotes
  - iii. Tried to establish balance between changes that happened as a result of activism students and university



## 1. "Current" perspectives

- a. Scope
  - i. "Campus climate at UCSD" had to discuss and manage language used for the topic
  - ii. How they were collected
    - 1. Submission process
      - a. Jotform- submits to dropbox
      - b. License agreements
      - c. Marketing where solicited submissions
        - i. Community centers (newsletters and paper flvers)
        - ii. Residence halls for all 6 colleges; transfer residence hall
        - iii. Library homepage and physical signs
        - iv. BGSA
      - d. Class collaboration



## 1. Real-time feedback

- a. Scope
  - i. As long as it was related to the exhibit, no censoring
- b. How it was collected
  - i. Range of comments positive and want a wider reach for exhibit, sparked conversations and educated; negative comment regarding idea of racism; negative toward assumption that university will censor any negative comments
  - ii. Took pictures of all post-its and put up online with transcriptions



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ho4o9lb90Os



## 1. A history

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Since the beginning, race has played a role in University's history.

- Location: in La Jolla, far from certain communities in San Diego
- First protests on U.S. Military intervention in other countries
- Height of the Civil Rights movement, death of Martin Luther King, through the Reagan Era
- Locally, naming of Third College, student proposed Lumumba-Zapata, rejected and later became Thurgood Marshall College

## 90s

- Race institutionalized: ending of Affirmative Action in admission and hiring practices
- Also see creation of Cross-Cultural Center and Women's Center

Cyclical: start to see patterns, e.g. demonstration 1992 after Rodney King verdict students walked out onto Interstate 5, also saw this again after Ferguson verdict in 2014 and after the election last year; points of conflict and how that then become policy or manifests in memorials, murals or centers on campus



Going back to the Trump chalkings we mentioned earlier. I want you to take a minute and try and think back to April 2016. Does anyone remember coming across the messages? If not, here's an example one. Take a minute to think about your reaction. Now find someone sitting next to you and share your thoughts-- think about the message, your reaction, the reaction of the campus community, etc. Regroup-- does anyone want to share with the whole class

There were various reactions. The campus administration reaffirmed its commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion. There were discussions about what constitutes free speech.

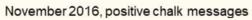


One of the advantages to being faculty/staff is that we are on campus for longer than 4-5 year chunks. Sometimes that helps us see patterns emerging over long periods. Earlier we talked about the Compton Cookout and the activism it inspired. We also wanted to highlight some of the reactions that may have been inspired by the chalkings, or at least by the current climate...

- a. May 2016-- Comm Playground-- created a popup, collective installation about howUCracism both on campus and beyond.
- b. November 2016-- Students protested the night of the election and marched out to the freeway

## Context







November 2016 -- reclaiming space, positive chalk messages

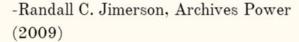


January 2017-- students, including the Muslim Student Association, organized a protest against the executive order that essentially was banning muslims from traveling to this country

Noticing coalition building --- message goes beyond focusing on one group, but looking at broader issues. If the government comes after one of us, they come after all of us.

# Process of Archiving

"Archival records appear no longer as impartial or neutral carriers of facts. The archival record is complex, problematic. It represents power relationships in society, both in the events, persons, and ideas memorialized in the documents themselves and in the process of how they are selected for preservation and validation within archival repositories."





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Jimerson, Randall C. 2009. *Archives power: memory, accountability, and social justice*. Chicago: Society of American Archivists. p212.

Process of archiving is not neutral. Make choices about what is kept and what becomes historic record.

This project doesn't offer entire narrative. We made an effort to survey the past. Primarily used news sources and some of the documents in the Library's Special Collections & Archives. And we had to make choices and we're limited by

Not necessarily all the stories of all people – ex: Japanese students that were attacked, one line and nothing else; lack of information about certain populations

## Not all stories are being told. What is your story?

Activity - Discuss in small groups & write on post-it note:

 What would you want future students to know about how you are experiencing this current political era? Allie Pai, "Reach," Tell Us How UC It: A Living Archive https://library.ucsd.edu/tellushowucit/items/show/1953.



If time, discuss

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