

IUPUI leadership plans to establish a task force to address our encampment and practices for protests in the future with all decisions subject to the approval of the university's board of trustees. The university failed to notify or include a single member of our community of the decision to create such a group prior to the mass email. We not only insist, but demand ten positions at the table for this task force. Should we receive no representation, the university will have only demonstrated their bad faith and anti-democratic tendencies once again. We as a community care deeply about this cause and have put our bodies on the line to that effect. Any task force discussing or deciding policy or future action regarding movements like ours cannot hope to equitably or justly make any decision without our voices present.

Regarding broader community support, Indianapolis-Marion County Counselor Jessie Brown of District 13 has expressed his firm and steadfast support for our movement and community and stands in solidarity with our Liberated Zone. Our movement is not only legitimate, but reinforced by elected representatives both here and around the country. Numerous IU alumni have also formed groups dedicated to supporting our encampment. The class of 2024 has also reminded us of their intent to support us long after graduation.

Finally, we emphasize the profound joy each of us have experienced in solidarity with our Palestinian comrades and student demonstrators around the world. Each of our community members have found support, friendship, and mutual aid resulting from our decision to stand for what is right. As one of our members eloquently remarked when discussing the love in our community: "We are building the world we want for ourselves. It's supposed to feel better."

Collectively in Solidarity,  
PSC IUPUI



## Statement in Response to IUPUI Administration's Taskforce



We the united undergraduate and graduate students, workers, alumni, and community members of the Liberated Zone of IUPUI, in response to the university's efforts to pacify and co-opt our peaceful and democratic demonstration, write this statement to reiterate, clarify, and uphold the principles underlying our actions. We stand firm in our convictions, and our demands, including divestment and Whitten's resignation, remain.

Today's email from administration grossly and inaccurately mischaracterizes the events, occurrences, and concerns regarding our encampment and similar encampments. The university claims, as have other inaccurate and disingenuous sources, that outside influencers from the broader community have introduced elements of escalation and unsafety into our demonstration. This is a lie. The "violent outside agitator" narrative not only falsely construes the work and events taking place here, but has deeply racist roots and connotations. This framing equates peaceful Palestinians with violent mobs, which only perpetuates fearmongering and places the safety of our students at risk. This weaponized and insidious rhetoric will not stand. From the earliest stages of our efforts, our movement has been student organized and student led. We the united members reiterate: involvement from our Indianapolis community has only encouraged, protected, and strengthened our movement in a peaceful and non-escalatory manner.

The only instances of escalation in any of our sister demonstrations both in Indiana and around the country have come from reactionary and provocative behaviors by university administration, violent mobs, and police. We remind everyone that the violence at our sister encampment in Bloomington resulted directly from Pamela Whitten's decision to call state police and place snipers with live munitions to attack and instill fear in our fellow IU students. We unequivocally condemn this escalatory, irresponsible, and reckless decision from leadership. To keep our campuses safe, the best way would be to keep violent state actors away from peaceful student demonstrators.

Furthermore, we emphasize that IUPUI campus police have expressed their disinterest in opposing our encampment. Any direct involvement with campus police or other law enforcement agencies will be at the whim of university administration. We reiterate: the only threat of violence or danger comes directly from the decisions of university administration, not our community.