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| |  | | --- | | UCSB Seal | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |  | | --- | | December 4, 2015  Dear UC Santa Barbara students,  About a week ago, we began receiving reports from concerned community members about a Facebook page that claimed to be for an organization called the “UCSB White Student Union.” At the time, we became aware that similar pages had cropped up on other campuses, including at other UC campuses, and we had reason to believe it was part of a larger effort orchestrated outside our community. We immediately began to investigate. We have confirmed that there is no such registered student organization at UCSB, and no UCSB student or affiliate has acknowledged any connection to such an organization. We attempted to find out where the page originated, but we could not get that information. When we reached out to the organizers behind the page to offer to meet, we did not receive a reply, although they complied with our insistence that they remove the University logo and seal from the page.  To the extent that such organizers are trying to make light of the serious commitment and dedicated efforts to create a diverse and inclusive campus at UCSB, we denounce their attempt to undermine the culture of inclusivity that we strive to attain. Although we respect and uphold First Amendment rights and freedom of expression, we are very concerned by any actions that might be perceived to create a hostile climate at our University. It is possible to express different points of view and debate issues without being divisive and causing distress and upset in our community. We cannot control the actions of those outside of the University, but we can reaffirm our own commitment to civil discourse and reject any efforts that undermine our sense of community and common purpose.  We invite any interested students to join us on Saturday, December 5, from 3-4:30 p.m. in Corwin Pavilion, UCEN, to talk, get support, or express their feelings. We know that students are busy with exams at this time. If you are unable to attend this gathering, we are providing a list of resources you can access for support and/or opportunities for involvement:   * Student Commission on Racial Equality (SCORE)   <https://score.as.ucsb.edu/> * AS EVPLA <https://www.facebook.com/evplaucsb/> * Multicultural Center   <http://mcc.sa.ucsb.edu/students/resources> * Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)  <http://caps.sa.ucsb.edu/> * Just Communities: <http://www.just-communities.org/>   Sincerely, | |  |  | | --- | |  | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Margaret                                                           Klawunn                                                           (signature) |   **Margaret Klawunn** Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs | | | |  | | |
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