



UCGPC

UC Graduate and Professional Council
981 Mission Street, #31, San Francisco, CA 94103

info@ucgpc.org

www.ucgpc501c3.org | www.ucgpc.org

Statement from the Executive Director of the University of California Graduate and Professional Council (UCGPC):

As the Executive Director of the UCGPC, I am deeply troubled and disappointed by recent Supreme Court rulings that impact affirmative action and the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community.

I strongly believe that diversity, equity, and inclusion are essential to education. Thus, the Supreme Court's decision to invalidate the use of race in college admissions, especially in light of the current impact of California's Proposition 209, is concerning. These rulings hinder our ability to address racial disparities and achieve economic mobility for historically marginalized communities.

Regarding the Supreme Court's decision on LGBTQIA+ rights, I express our disapproval and concern. Upholding all individuals' inherent dignity and equal rights, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, is crucial. We fear that this ruling may endorse discrimination and undermine our progress toward equality and the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community, including Queer, Trans, and People of Color (QTPOC).

As an organization, we call upon lawmakers, SCOTUS, and the Biden administration to protect diversity, equity, and inclusion in higher education, economic mobility, and business and consumer protections. Discrimination should never hinder individuals' right to live authentically and access necessary healthcare. Upholding the principles enshrined in the First Amendment and creating a society that respects diversity and inclusion is of utmost importance.

Additionally, we oppose the Supreme Court's decision rejecting President Biden's student loan forgiveness plan. This ruling ignores the immense financial burden that student loan debt places on millions of Americans, including graduate and professional students, who play vital roles in society. The plan aimed to provide economic relief, especially for low-income households, and disregarding its benefits is detrimental.

The UCGPC stands in solidarity with those affected by these rulings and pledges to continue advocating for policies that promote economic relief and educational opportunities for all.

In community,

Pat Ordoñez-Kim
Patricia Ordoñez-Kim

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References: [1] [20-1199 Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and ...](#) [2] [UC statement on SCOTUS decision regarding the use ...](#) [3] [Supreme Court Rejects Affirmative Action at U.S. Colleges](#) [4] [What the Supreme Court's Rejection of Student-Loan ...](#) [5] [Student Loan Forgiveness: Supreme Court Rules 6-3 ...](#) [6] [Student loan pause has benefitted affluent borrowers the ...](#)

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