
* PEOPLE for a SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY UNITE!!! *

PEOPLE for a SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY ARE DEMANDING ACADEMIC FREEDOM. The increasing dependance of U.Mass. on D.O.D. funding is transforming U.Mass. into a Weapons Research Facility and the students and faculty into corps of twenty thousand weapons researchers. There is no money for non-military weapons research, even in the sciences. Funds must be redirected from the department of defense to private and public agencies that are not charged solely with developing the technology of death.

NERVE GAS, GERM WARFARE, MISSILE GUIDANCE SYSTEMS RESEARCH, ETC. People for a Socially Responsible University do not make this stuff up. This is research is really going on on this campus, and P.S.R.U. has proof in the form of PENTAGON WORK UNIT SUMMARIES obtained through the freedom of information act.

THE POSSIBILITY OF FINDING PEACEFUL USES BEING DERIVED FROM THE RESULTS OF THIS WAR RESEARCH IS IRRELEVANT. The Mansfield Amendment REQUIRES that all Department of Defense money spent that is spent on research at colleges and universities have SPECIFIC MILITARY APPLICATIONS. It is absurd to try to justify twelve steps backwards with the hope of taking one step forward.

PEOPLE for a SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY are COMMITTED TO NON-VIOLENCE and RESPECT. Not withstanding the protestors who, after being deprived food for twenty hours, "ired" a secretary in Samuel Contie's office by eating a box of donuts, the People for a Socially Responsible University are respectful of the people who work in the offices that are occupied. Having to leave work early is really no big deal compared to global implications of armed, artificially intelligent "autonomous land vehicles," or binary biological weapons.

THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CLOSING OF THE G.R.C. It is in the best interest of the U.Mass. administration to divide and polarize the student body against P.S.R.U., in order to preserve the status quo of weapons research. Without any legitimate logistical or public safety justification, the administration ordered that the Physical Science Library be closed and repeatedly denied the protestor's requests to open the building for student use.

PEOPLE for a SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY ARE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE the implementation of their demands, but not the content. Death research has no place here. In their ongoing efforts to divide and control students, the administration has made some cursory offers to discuss P.S.R.U.'s demands only with a small group of leaders. Fundamentally, the P.S.R.U. make up a collective organization that strives to respect and empower every person equally--they do not want to appoint leaders.

END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR END THE WAR NOW!!

Chapter 8

Turning Point

Student power is the bottom line issue

Independent Actors for Real Revolution

This statement, anonymous, was distributed on May 8th, 1989 in UMASS Whitmore Administration building. Students who had been arrested were arraigned that day, before the Dean of Students. It was clear that the movement against death research was in danger of splitting. Power had been confronted, and was quaking, scared. But many in the movement wanted to back down. Negotiate, let things ride, be quiet and "educate" the presumably uninformed or ignorant student body and community. Lie dead until the fall.

Faculty members on the liberal left were moving with energy to dissipate the occupation drive. No more occupations, they urged at their early morning meetings, attended by any student activists who cared to come. There was very little time until students in their thousands would leave the campus and the authorities could regroup to attack the militants and strategize to deflect further activism.

However, a revolutionary thrust was growing. Many different sectors of the society were expressing autonomous demands, connected more or less directly with the end death research campaign. And most crucial, hundreds of ordinary students, galvanized by the occupations and GRC riot, were anxiously awaiting a opportunity to take a building and face arrest. But the closet leaders were getting exhausted. However, they could not allow others to take initiative, believing as they did that somehow the source of the radical energy was themselves.

This statement repudiates the liberal, conciliatory stance of those closet "leaders" in the movement. Its authors refrained from saying more strongly what they felt because they wanted to avoid division.

In the past two weeks, the administration of this university has condemned us as "intellectual terrorists" and used every trick of the trade to intimidate us into giving up our fight. Given the level of misunderstanding, let us clarify where we stand on a few issues.

What are we after? Quite simply, we believe that the link between our University and the Department of Defense undermines the university's autonomy as well as its purpose as an institution of higher learning. What we want to see on this campus is research for peaceful ends.

Does this mean we want to impose our views on the rest of the campus community? Of course not. We believe the decision ought to be a decision by all students, faculty and staff on this campus. What's being done on this campus concerns every single one of us: every one of us should have an effective say. In fact, we think the real "intellectual terrorists" on this campus are the people who want to prevent students from having any effective input on such matters. The democratic pluralism advocated by the administration is based on the denial of effective student and community input. Isn't that why it sounds so phony?

The fact is that, in this case as for any significant matter on this campus - students simply have no real decision making authority in formulating university policy. Remember the alcohol, the LSD or the sub-station decisions? Was student opinion on these matters ever taken seriously? Even in the more extreme case of the New Africa House take-over: a year has passed and the most significant grievances have yet to be addressed.

That's the crux of the problem. Students can bark all they want, as long as they remain in the established channels where they have no bite. The SGA, GSS and BOG are nothing but such barking arenas akin to bantustan governments. Have you ever wondered why they don't have power over their own trust-fund, or over their own hiring decisions?

So what about military research? Chancellor Duffey was clear on this point: no student control here. Maybe, if we're nice to him, he'll chat with us. Thank you Joe. But what's left for us to do? What other *effective* channels exist to make our voices heard? Write more op-eds to the *Collegian*? Organize more informational meetings? Pass meaningless resolutions at SGA meetings?

As students involved in a serious battle, we have soon learned an age old lesson from history: you do not beg for power, you exert it. We are not taking over buildings because, for some perverse reasons, we love it, but because it's our only recourse. So far, the administration, instead of dealing with the issue and negotiating in good faith, has been escalating its repression of our dissent. It has unnecessarily polarized the situation: by locking everybody out of the GRC building, when we were only occupying Sam Conti's office; by playing "mind games" arbitrarily depriving us of food, access to bathroom while inside; by bringing the state police at every turn; by illegally suspending a number of us without due process.

The administration should not kid itself. These tactics won't deter us. We stand strong and united in our resolve to get things changed on this campus. We are calling on other students to join us, not only to rid this campus of its military leash, but to make sure that policies on this campus won't every be made without students having their fair share of a say.

For everyone's benefit, there are our demands. We hope the administration will take the opportunity to respond to them, before we feel compelled to once again take action.

This statement was distributed on Monday. The next day, Tuesday May 9th, a much more radical occupation of Memorial Hall, known as Memorial II, took place in the middle of a faculty-controlled teach-in, and at the same time as community people were being arrested for occupying Chancellor Duffey's office in Whitmore Administration building. Memorial II was a mass occupation, not under the control of closet leaders. Police were blockaded out. Students controlled access to the total building, which included many computers and photocopy machines as well as documents on military contributions to UMASS in the alumni office, upstairs in Memorial Hall.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 1989

HUNGER STRIKE FOR A UNIVERSITY FREE OF MILITARY RESEARCH

- In Support of Student Protestors Currently Suspended and Charged with 30,000 Dollars in Fines

In the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and the current non-violent movement against military research at UMass, six students have begun a hunger strike and eight have begun to fast in support. There is no place on a university for such research as nerve gas, biological warfare, automated tanks, target and tracking systems and battlefield management. We are in full support of People for a Socially Responsible University's demand to end military research on campus.

Furthermore we abhor Chancellor Duffey's harsh treatment of the campus' protestors. We demand that the administration immediately rescind all suspensions and take no disciplinary action against students currently protesting military research.

We invite all supporters to join us by fasting. Both the strikers and supporters will wear black arm bands and maintain a 24 hour presence outside of the Whitmore Administration Building. The student uprising protests the hunger and destruction wrought in large part by the offensive military equipment produced in part at UMass. In addition, the university's ever increasing ties to the military pits it against students who criticize university policy and the national policy to which it is tied. Joining the fast is an appeal to the university's administration: Students demands to end the university engagement with the military must be taken seriously.

On Monday, May 8th members of the community and students occupied the office of University of Massachusetts Chancellor Duffey.

The occupiers issued this statement:

WE ARE COMMUNITY MEMBERS
JOINING WITH FIVE-COLLEGE
STUDENTS IN DEMONSTRATING
AGAINST MILITARY-RELATED
RESEARCH ON THE UNIVERSITY
OF MASSACHUSETTS CAMPUS.
THIS MATTER IS TOO IMPORTANT
FOR US TO REMAIN UNINVOLVED.

TODAY WE HAVE COME TO MEET
WITH CHANCELLOR DUFFEY TO
EXPRESS OUR CONCERN AND TO
TRY TO BRIDGE THE IMPASSE
THAT NOW EXISTS BETWEEN
ADMINISTRATION AND
STUDENTS.

A miracle happened

Margaret Holt

Margaret Holt is a 77-year old activist who is known for her lively political leaflets, pamphlets and committed letters to editors. She educates on issues of social concern ranging from rights of senior citizens through the Grey Panthers, to the rights of Palestinians to the campaign against military research in public institutions of learning. Margaret Holt wrote "A miracle happened" after being arrested in the first citizen occupation in the 1989 movement against death research at the University of Massachusetts. In solidarity with student protestors, but also very much as an autonomous citizens' action; people from the villages of Wendell, Leverett and the town of Amherst entered UMass Chancellor Duffey's office in Whitmore administration building. They declined to leave the antichamber when office hours ended. They were arrested for trespassing at about 6:30 p.m. of Tuesday May 9th, 1989. The pages I have begin with the following fragment of a diary entry.

"Perhaps if one could simply ACCEPT the idea of LOSS, the idea that everything will disappear, and disappear immediately without delay, perhaps then life could be bearable? It's a matter of perception, a matter of attitude, a matter of struggle or not struggle."

April 30, Sunday 5:30 p.m.

Northfield: "Break forth o beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning"...or the afternoon. What a beauteous spring light for April's last day. Ah me. The sadness of spring in old age is here. The time of renewal is like the time of renewal for the ancient half or more than half dead tree with only a couple of boughs still holding buds. This relic does not, so far as we know, waste its waning energy in lamentation. It simply goes on living as a *diminished thing* (who speaks of that? Robert Frost?) as long as any life remains and then goes on existing as long as wind and weather and decay, and human buzz saw allow it to. So I must do with the Third Eye open and observing the process. The Third Eye is the only Ultimate Human weapon or tool or means for survival, for survival *qua* human being that is.

May 10

The arrest. A miracle happened which I shall not forget. We sat in Duffey's office till 5 and were warned we'd face arrest if we didn't leave. We didn't and we did. A large contingent of police (7) and multiple observers moved in and watched as the process - and processing at great length - took place. I didn't non-cooperate, so my handcuffs were front based - hands in lap in wheel chair, whereas the others who were picked up bodily, had their handcuffs, with hands behind the back which must be very uncomfortable to say the least. We waited for hours in the hall after being interrogated (but not fingerprinted). One very young officer, very tall and with cherubic face and curly hair towered above us on watch, refusing to get involved in any controversial matters though he did chat with some of us. As usual I couldn't hear much of what went on; but he seemed totally ignorant of the issues and determined to remain so. He seemed to me an extremely pertinent example of the good German-American syndrome. Nice, clean and uninvolved. Well, we sat there, the others, hands behind them, mostly standing or crouching on the floor for a couple of hours, then were moved into a hall with no lights. I in my wheelchair, the others standing, for a long time of undetermined duration, but it seemed ages. There was some chanting which I couldn't figure out....

At last the police moved in and moved us. I think I was moved first, but anyway something amazing happened. Suddenly from the long darkness we burst into brilliant light, floodlights, and a crowd of cheering, waving, churning, shouting kids, a warm light beautiful aura of support and love and appreciation. A miracle of affirmation and SOLIDARITY. An *Intifada*. *Intifada* is Arabic for both "awakening" and "uprising." It was not violent but peaceful, so peaceful. So happy, so wonderful. Such a contrast to the darkness, although that was OK, nothing of torture, though that's all one can really think about on such an occasion - of the interrogation in all the hundred countries (including our own to some degree at least) that use "torture as a method of governing."

But the most striking parallel was with the long darkness of the Ptarmigan Tunnel in Glacier National Park which we reached after a long and quite difficult mountain hike over snowy trails. The whole landscape there was beautiful but cold and austere, all completely white and gray and clack, under a grey sky.

Suddenly from this long darkness of the tunnel there opened upon us an enormous utterly fantastic rose-red valley and mountain landscape, something out of myth, not reality, except as it was far beyond anything ever experienced or conceived, a vast *deep* all encompassing basin and valley reaching up to mountains, high, high around its rim. The impact of it after the tunnel was simply stunning, "*stunting*" [as my Appalachian friend said of my paintings], breathtaking, every adjective of surprise, astonishment, of confronting another world undreamed of.... Well, the bursting into the floodlights had the same astonishing joy and beauty and *affirmation*, of solidarity with something much larger than self, much larger and more *embracing*. Embracing is what it was, the embrace of a whole crowd of people, full of JOY. How very queer, how *inappropriate* that this should be brought about by the POLICE, by the arm of the state, the agent of authority - the police who are trained to try to stop the movement, to break up the solidarity and *turn off* the spirit. Instead they turned it on. At this *moment* they were the agents, the conveyors of JOY.

At the jail I was booked again - same old questions, mother's married name etc., my pocketbook and bag taken, my handcuffs left on, but *fortunately* I had the CASA Central America Report in my hand and nobody removed it. So when I was thrust into a cell, with a bright light overhead, I read it, part of it, for two hours or so. Very enlightening and apropos and proving how much time it would take to read thoroughly even *one* of these multiple valuable publications that flood me constantly. The articles are so authentic and so appalling. They stagger the mind; or rather the complicity and tolerance of our government in furthering them are what stagger the mind. Barbarity, Greed, Deceit are human realities and the going along with them is, of course, just an extension, a part of them; but somehow they seem more incredible when they're not accomplished by the Central American on the spot "necessity," but by comfortable agents like the Democrats in the U.S. Congress. ... Well, this is all foolish rumination of the cud of the spectacular events of these days.

TEACH-IN

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RESEARCH ON CAMPUS?

PARTIAL LIST OF SPEAKERS

- Prof. William R. Adrion, Chair of COINS, Univ. of Mass
- Prof. Ronald Archer, Department of Chemistry, Univ. of Mass
- Michael Klare, Peace and World Security Studies, Hampshire Co
- Provost Richard O'Brian, Moderator
- Prof. Robert Paul Wolff, Department of Philosophy, Univ. of M
- Students from People For a Socially Responsible University

MAHAR AUDITORIUM, SBA, UNIV. OF MASSACHUSETTS

TUESDAY MAY 9 8:00PM

Sponsored By Faculty and Staff For Human Rights and a Responsible University



Students
are
ACTIVE.
ACTIVE.

The Administration is
SCARED



Director of PUBLIC
safety Art Hilson
doesn't know why...

**FACULTY/STUDENT
Teach-In.**

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Educators**

**MAY 9th
MAHAR TUESDAY 7 PM
UNIV MA**

Supports move to ban germ warfare research

To the Editor,

On May 9 I was one of eight people — six area community members and two UMass students who, after a discussion with UMass Chancellor Joseph Duffey about defense-related research at UMass were arrested for trespassing. We refused to leave his office because, although we appreciated his willingness to meet with us, we felt that he had failed to confront our basic concern: the two-part issue of human rights.

Part One: The rights of UMass students, presently highlighted by the suspension without hearings of those demonstrating on a matter literally of life and death. (This issue has now been at least partially resolved.)

Part Two: Universal human rights, indeed the rights of all living things, threatened both by ecological disaster like global warming and pollution and by weapons of mass destruction in our age of high technology.

One can understand the awesome kind of spider web in which someone like Chancellor Duffey is caught! Tangled in this web are his financial responsibilities to an institution desperately in need of funds; his responsibility to a vast variety of faculty, students and alumni, and his responsibility to his own personal convictions — not to mention his obligations to the great spider itself who spins the web: our whole system of business-military-commercial-industrial that entangles universities, towns, select boards and citizens alike!

Actually, isn't modern technology — in medicine, communications, space — so "high" as to be out of sight and practically unbelievable to a lot of sensible but technically untrained people? And, unfortunately, aren't those who do have this kind of training likely to be so dependent on their work and/or fascinated by the "miracles" they perform as to be blind to its effects on real people and to the overall direction it's taking (us)?

The U.S. Army's Biological Warfare Defense Research Program, of which anthrax research at UMass is a part, demonstrates to perfection the ominous fascination of work in molecular biology where some of the deadliest known pathogens are being genetically manipulated — with the claim of the need for a worldwide vaccine. If this claim is valid, the project should be civilian, not military. Indeed, the only legal ground for any such experiments would be civilian since they violate both the letter and the spirit of the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention, signed by the U.S. and one hundred other countries.

Fortunately, there are hundreds of highly trained scientists with both long-term vision and functioning human feelings who are sponsoring a pledge against biological warfare research; 85 local physicians signed an ad opposing such research at UMass. If enough ordinary, sensible people are concerned enough about human universal rights to life and about human decency, we can establish Amherst as the first biological-weapons-free zone in our country. This will be an historic act toward changing its direction.

Margaret G. Hoit

1989 THURSDAY, MAY 25.

Chapter 9

Uprising! Memorial II