

## Also Votes to Rescind Ban on Hiring of Reds

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# Also Votes to Rescind Ban on Hiring of Reds

BY KENNETH REICH

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The UCLA faculty voted 551 to 4 Wednesday to rescind its 1950 vote to ban Communists from employment at the University of California.

Moments later, the faculty voted 539 to 12 to condemn the UC Board of Regents for ordering the dismissal of Angela Davis, an assistant philosophy professor, on grounds she is an avowed Communist.

About 1,750 professors were eligible to attend the meeting of the Academic Senate, but Wednesday's turnout was higher than normal.

The votes came on a day during which an emergency meeting of the Board of Regents was called to consider preventing Miss Davis from teaching a course while regular dismissal proceedings go on.

The regents will meet in closed session in San Francisco Friday. Miss Davis is scheduled to begin teaching a course entitled "Recurring Philosophical Themes in Black Literature" on the UCLA campus at 3 p.m. the following Monday.

### Permitted to Teach Course

It was announced Wednesday that if Miss Davis is permitted to go ahead with her course, UCLA's black faculty members will attend the first lecture en masse as a show of solidarity. Miss Davis is black.

The other major development in the Angela Davis case Wednesday was the declaration of UCLA Chancellor Charles E. Young that he joins the faculty in opposition to the dismissal of Miss Davis.

"I have opposed, I do oppose and I will continue to oppose the action taken by the Board of Regents," Young said in a speech that won wide applause at the Academic Senate meeting.

Young gave three reasons for his stand. First, he said, he believes "the very concept of a university demands a freedom of inquiry which is incompatible with the application of political tests."

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# UCLA Faculty Votes to Condemn Regents

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Second, he said, he believes "the regental action is clearly at odds with the law as stated, both by the California and United States Supreme courts at this time."

Third, he said, there are many practical reasons for his opposition to the dismissal, but among the most important is its "potentially detrimental impact on the ability of this campus to make its proper contribution toward the achievement of full racial equality."

"Let me make one point clear," Young said. "I am firmly convinced that the regents' action was in no way racially motivated. However, the action does have racial implications, and to ignore them would be folly."

Young spoke early in the three-hour Academic Senate meeting. The assembled faculty members then proceeded with somewhat greater dispatch than usual in such gatherings to vote approval of several resolutions.

## Other Actions

In addition to the ones rescinding the faculty's endorsement of the Communist ban and condemning the regents, the professors also:

1—Resolved that the action of the regents in the Davis case "critically threatens" efforts to increase minority involvement in the university. The vote on this was 393 to 63.

2—Directed the chairman of the Academic Senate to retain counsel to "institute or to intervene in appropriate legal action" pursuant to the Davis case, and voiced full support for an Angela Davis Fund to help her defray her own legal costs and restore salaries withheld from her.

3—Expressed pleasure that the Angela Davis Defense Committee of students and some faculty has called a campus-wide convocation for Oct. 15 and 17 to discuss the case.

4—Called for help from all other campuses of the university to secure Miss

Davis' rights and protect academic freedom.

5—Resolved to support Chancellor Young in his efforts to oppose any suspension of Miss Davis' right to teach her course beginning Monday, and called upon the regents "to desist from violating commonly accepted rules of due process" in dealing with her.

When the regents instituted dismissal proceedings against the young professor on Sept. 19, Miss Davis was not scheduled to teach in the fall term. But last week the chairman of the philosophy department, Donald Kalish, assigned her to teach a course in place of another professor who had received a research grant at the last moment.

Kalish's action angered regent John E. Canaday, who criticized him for allegedly defying regental authority. Canaday joined regents W. Glenn Campbell, Mrs. Randolph Hearst and Wendell W. Witter Wednesday in calling for Friday's special meeting.

Young has said, however, that no assurances were given the regents that Miss Davis would not teach during the fall term.

When any four regents request a special meeting, the chairman of the board, DeWitt A. Higgs, is required to call one.

## Reports on Kalish

There were reports that some action would be considered against Kalish as well as Miss Davis at the meeting, although UCLA administrators have said he was fully within his rights in giving Miss Davis a teaching assignment.

The regents' order to institute dismissal proceedings against Miss Davis allowed her to request a UCLA faculty committee hearing before being fired. She requested the hearing last Friday and it was set Wednesday for Oct. 17.

The faculty committee recommendation on the case will be advisory only. Regents who have spoken out have strongly expressed the view that regardless of its findings,



Angela Davis  
Times photo

the board will fire Miss Davis.

Wednesday also saw UC President Charles J. issue his first extended public statement on the Davis case. Originally, this was to have been read at the Academic Senate meeting, but for publicly unexplained reasons it was decided not to.

Essentially, Htch called for calm and consultations between the regents and the faculties of the UC campuses.

"We need now to strive again for . . . fruitful cooperation," he said. "Our endeavor should be to talk over the problems caused by differences in understanding . . ."

"I shall seek to get the mechanism established to start the talks," he promised. "Let us deal with our problems by consultation, not by oratory and denunciations which can only arouse resentment and make losers of us all."

Chancellor Young, in his talk, devoted a section to an attempt to explain the regents' position, even though he said he disagreed with it.

"Many of them believe,

for reasons which have been often stated, that their policy (against employing Communists), whether currently constitutionally valid or not, is a sound one," he said.

"Many take a contrary view to that I have expressed regarding the constitutionality of the policy. All, or nearly all, believe that in the current public climate, failure to enforce their policy would bring great harm to the university."

## Won't Dispute

Young said he could not quarrel with this assessment of public attitudes.

"The gap between the academic community and the general public is growing ever wider," he said. "The general attitude regarding the formerly revered principle of academic freedom has become one of contempt."

Young said he believed the academic community "bears great responsibility for the development of that state of affairs."

"We have allowed people to believe, by lack of precision in what we say and do, that this basic freedom means the freedom to pursue the truth as long as we like it, the freedom for students to learn as long as we like what they are learning."

"We have given reason to believe that we respect the right to speak as long as we agree with the speaker, rather than making it clear that it is not what we like, or agree with, that is important, but the freedom itself."

The faculty's action rescinding the 1950 vote endorsing the regental policy for banning Communists at the University came after only brief debate.

In 1950, when the vote was taken, UCLA professors formed the great part of the overwhelmingly af-

firmative vote in the southern part of the state on the question. That vote, which also included professors from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, was 301 for the Communist ban, 65 against and 8 abstaining.

No one raised his hand to abstain from the 551-to-4 vote Wednesday rescinding the previous vote.

The conditions of the vote count were strange. After a voice vote, those voting no were asked to stand.

Four professors did so, one quite angrily. Only a moment later it was decided, in the interest of orderly procedure, to count the aye votes.

At one point later in the meeting, one professor in the rear rose to say he believed some persons not eligible to vote were voting on the resolutions. The chairman of the meeting, Lowell S. Paige, said he thought so too, and asked them to stop.