Memorandum Regarding the Situation at the University of Missouri, “Mizzou”

52 years ago, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr stood before the nation and the world and spoke about a dream he had. His dream was that, one day, the racial strife and struggles that faced our great nation would cease to exist. His dream was that one day, our nation would live up to the promises it made upon its founding: that we would make sure the world knew that all men are created equal. His dream was that our nation’s people will be judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

Since he gave that speech, we have made many great strides towards his dream, but various recent events have shown us that we still have a long way to go. Protests in Ferguson, Missouri, Baltimore, Maryland, and other areas have come to a head at the University of Missouri, “Mizzou,” where students and faculty are being threatened with violence because of the color of their skin. Despite the etiology, violence and threats of violence have no place in this day and age, especially on college campuses. Institutions of higher education are places for learning, the free flow of information, ideas, and worldviews, and places of support for the various members of the community… all members of the community.

Nobody should ever feel threatened for wanting an education. Mizzou lists on its website that it has a core value of Respect.¹ It’s time for the students of that great University to live up to that value. We, the University of Texas at San Antonio Student Government Association stand by our brothers, sisters, and friends at Mizzou and wish them the best with resolving this difficult issue on their campus.

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¹ http://missouri.edu/about/statement-of-values.php