

## The People's University Encampment Press Statement

Wednesday, April 16th, at approximately 6:15 pm, politically conscious Howard university students put up tents on the Yard. At 6:30 pm, the Dean of Chapel Reverend Dr. Bernard L. Richardson arrived at the scene, announcing that he was in solidarity with student organizers, but the Chapel needed the tents to be removed. He also explained that overnight stays are not permitted by the University and that we should have given three days' notice before launching our Liberation Zone. Lastly, he threatened several students with suspension if we did not comply with orders.

At 6:45 pm, three MPD police officers joined several HUPD officers to surveil students and community members at the Zone. Dean Richardson stated the police were called to remove the tents from the Yard. He claimed they would arrive at 9 pm and our Zone would be swept. The time arrived and there was an increase in police presence. Our copwatch volunteers counted approximately fifteen police vehicles lined along 6th St NW. They circulated the area for multiple hours. No students or community members have been harmed or arrested.

To be clear, the People's University is making three demands to the Howard University administration.

1. We want Howard to be a sanctuary campus for international students. In other words, Howard University must be non compliant to state sanctioned orders against undocumented students.
2. We demand that ICE is banned from campus. No Agents and No Recruiters.
3. We want Howard University to protect ethnic studies program (Africana studies, Women Gender and Sexualities)

The People's University stands for:

- The protection of international students, and their right to be safe and have an education
- The elimination of police officers and ICE agents on campus
- Mutual aid and community care
- Anti capitalism
- Anti colonialism
- Pan Africanism
- Black Queer Feminism
- Anti Ableism
- Abolition
- Anti Imperialism
- Self Determination

We need your support. Please show up. All donations can be coordinated through the Telegram chat: [bit.ly/peoplesuni](https://t.me/bit.ly/peoplesuni)