

# The Stanford Review

VOLUME XXXI, NUMBER 2

ESTABLISHED 1987 : WWW.STANFORDREVIEW.ORG

OCTOBER 15, 2003

## An Investigation of Racism within MEChA

by Christine Boehm  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

They've been called racist and worse. They claim to be a social justice group.

You fund them. They are the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán, or Stanford MEChA.

Co-chair Laura Godinez-Aviña agreed to an interview with the *Review* last Monday in El Centro Chicano to allow elucidation of their guiding principles. Unfortunately, 20 minutes after the scheduled interview time, Godinez-Aviña went back on her word, stating that the request would in fact not be honored. The leadership of MEChA, she and other Co-Chair Francisco Cendejas, decided not to give an interview, even in light of our recommendation that an interview would help present their group in a fair and balanced way. However, an e-mailed general position statement from Cendejas is all that was allowed.

In lieu of this barrier to information, the *Review* attended last Tuesday's weekly MEChA meeting to gain more insight into this organization. Cendejas claims that "each chapter [of MEChA] is completely autonomous." The leadership at the meeting stressed that Stanford MEChA does not necessarily uphold the central canon of the national network.



A scene from a mural inside El Centro Chicano at Stanford. MEChA hosts its meetings at El Centro, which is located in Building 590-F of Old Union

However, the preamble of the National Constitution dictates a centralized structure which makes "every

mechista accountable to its chapter, every chapter accountable to its central...and every state accountable to the

national."

Article III, section 24, part A of the Constitution requires all members of MEChA to be versed in "historical documents of our Movimiento including: El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara, El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán, and the MEChA Position Papers of Philosophy, Constitutions, Relationship to Outside Organizations, and Goals & Objectives."

A senior in MEChA said that prior to her freshman year, Stanford MEChA did not participate in national MEChA activities, but that during her time at Stanford, MEChA has had relations with the national structure, but does not have voting rights.

As much as Stanford MEChA wishes to distance itself from the body of literature mentioned in its constitution and from other branches where convenient, its own guiding document prohibits it from doing so. MEChA is inherently the sum of the whole of MEChA nationwide.

### El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara

The Stanford MEChA website contains El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara, effectively endorsing it. The Plan degrades those who identify as Mexican-American or Hispanic, defining either as "a person who lacks self-respect and pride in one's ethnic and

Please see MEChA, Page 2

## Jackson Condemns Prop. 54, War on Terror

by Ryan Wisnesky  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, October 1, Jesse Jackson spoke to a crowd of several hundred people in White Plaza to protest both the California Recall and Proposition 54. The rally itself was sponsored by the Stanford Coalition to Stop Proposition 54.

Proposition 54, which is also known as the Racial Privacy Initiative, was a very controversial issue in the days prior to the recent election. The proposition would have required that "the state shall not classify any individual by race, ethnicity, color or national origin in the operation of public education, public contracting or public employment." (Proposition 54, section 32A). University of California Regent Ward Connerly sponsored the propo-

sition; Connerly earlier sponsored and helped pass Proposition 209, which ended the use of affirmative action in California's government and school systems. Proposition 54 met with fierce resistance, including a pledge by Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante for \$2 million to fight the initiative.

Following addresses by various students and by Vice Provost for Student Affairs Gene Awakuni, Jackson began his speech amid chants of "no on 54". Rather than speaking directly about Proposition 54 and the California Recall, Jackson chose to frame his speech in the larger context of "a consistent pattern of attacks upon our democracy," referring to the "stealing" of the 2000 Presidential Election by President George W. Bush. Grouping the 2000 Election, the War on Terror, recent tax cuts, the California recall and Proposition 54 together, Jackson

then launched into a tirade decrying what he perceives to be the ideology behind these events.

"The same forces that were against Public accommodations [i.e. integrated busing and drinking fountains] are against this," speculated Jackson. "[they] are using law to torpedo the ship of democracy... [they] never ceased to undercut Bill Clinton."

Sprinkling references to this ideology liberally throughout his remarks, Jackson delivered what could be considered a stump speech. After remarking that "the forces that support Proposition 209 have a pattern of exclusion," Jackson noted that "When Bush took office, fueled by ideology, he launched a tax cut, half of which went to the top 1% - that triggered a budget deficit in every state."

Delving into social and class issues, Jackson asserted that "the poor who

cannot pay tuition go to the war," and that "we [the US] split Europe into old and new... and declared the UN irrelevant." After a few more comments about tuition and the war, Jackson spoke quite briefly about how the recall is an 'us vs. them' issue and about candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger's positions, stating that, "If Mr. Schwarzenegger is on that side [referring to the Republican party], then he will not support organized labor, minimum wage laws... he is a wolf in sheep's clothing."

Jackson did concede that many people would vote for Schwarzenegger simply because they do not approve of current Governor Gray Davis. "If I'm frustrated, I might vote Republican... I'm like a chicken voting for Colonel Sanders [the founder of Kentucky

Please see Jesse Jackson, Page 2

**REFLECTIONS ON ISRAEL**  
Students hold candlelight vigil in  
rememberance of bomb victims

Page 3



**DINING AT STANFORD**  
Students give opinion of  
University Dining

Pages 5-6



# MEChA

*Continued from Page 1*

cultural background."

It also declares that Chicano student groups should all share the same name "to characterize the common struggle of La Raza de Aztlán [the race of Aztlán]."

Stanford MEChA echoes this sentiment of unity. External Representative Diego Martín notes that the group is the "largest Chicano organization in the nation," and that the Stanford group continues to be affiliated because of the "resources, networking, and connections," that the national structure offers.

The Plan links capitalism and non-Hispanics and rejects both "the ethic of profit and competition, of greed... which the Anglo society offers must be replaced by our ancestral communalism and love for beauty and justice."

The Plan condemns blending of cultures because it claims society attempts "to dilute varied cultures into a gray upon gray pseudo-culture of technology and materialism."

Laying out expectations of discrimination, The Plan states that, "one can always expect some retribution or retaliation for gains made by the Chicano, be it in the form of legal cations [sic] or merely economic sanction on campus."

It also advocates its own speech to the extent that university presses "be forced to accept barrio works for publication."

## El Plan de Aztlán

Stanford MEChA denies being influenced by El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán. Cendejas called it "a document of purely historical and academic value." However, its constitution requires members to learn about it - and many other chapters of MEChA, including Cal's, have the document on their website.

El Plan de Aztlán is infamous for

the italicized line "Por La Raza todo. Fuera de La Raza nada." The standard translation is "For the race, everything. For those outside the race, nothing."

Godinez-Aviña, in response to recent media comparisons of MEChA to Nazis, said, "Basically, we're not a Nazi organization."

Nevertheless, other rhetoric in the document is reminiscent of racial supremacist groups, including the proclamation that "we are a bronze people with a bronze culture...before all our brothers in the bronze continent, we

"indigenous unity" with the people of Ixachitzlan, which it defines as "Alaska to Tierra del Fuego." The document also adopts a revolutionary tone, promising "a spirit of unity by comradismo/carnalismo," and exclaiming "Tierra y Libertad [Land and Liberty!]."

Despite the litany of disturbing governing doctrines, MEChA touts certain accomplishments. Cendejas declares, "Our [MEChA's] mission is found in our work." He lists recent accomplishments as "lobbying for the extension of health benefits to agricul-

to counter that wack ass holiday." They have plans to meet with other indigenous groups in the early morning hours to perform indigenous rituals.

The ASSU funds this organization, providing an influx of tuition dollars. Treasurer Susana Esparza told MEChA members "we have a pretty big budget with the university."

According to the ASSU fee refund form, every undergraduate contributes \$2.27 per quarter to MEChA in special fees. Other sources of funding are unclear. Dean of El Centro Chicano Frances Morales would not comment as to the financial nature of the relationship between El Centro Chicano and MEChA except to say that MEChA uses ASSU student fees to help with some programs.

According to Morales, El Centro Chicano does provide "[a] mailbox, access to computer cluster and copier, [and] meeting space" to MEChA.

MEChA's symbol is an Eagle with a macahuitle, a weapon used by the indigenous people in Mexico against the conquistadors, in one talon and a lighted stick of dynamite in the other, with the fuse in its beak.

MEChA's motto is "La union hace la fuerza [in unity, strength]." It's time for Stanford MEChA to rethink with whom it wants to unite.

## Rhetoric in the document is reminiscent of racial supremacist groups...

are a nation...we are *Aztlán*."

With a focus on nationalism that borders on lawlessness, especially regarding the involvement of minors, El Plan states that "for the very young there will no longer be acts of juvenile delinquency, but revolutionary acts." Integrated within a total "revolutionary culture." In doing so, "where we are a majority, we will control," as "La Familia de La Raza [family of the race]."

Ultimately, it declares separatism a goal of "a nation autonomous and free - culturally, socially, economically, and politically."

## Philosophy of MEChA

The Philosophy of MEChA, last revised in 1999, echoes and reaffirms the separatist sentiments of El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán and El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara as "fundamental to the MEChA Philosophy." It notes that "Aztlán belongs to indigenous people, who are sovereign and not subject to a foreign culture...we are a union of free pueblos forming a bronze (Chicana/Chicano) Nation."

The Philosophy mentions claims of

tural workers of Webb Ranch," supporting the anti-war effort in Iraq on campus, and assisting with a Cesar Chavez Commemoration event and the Raza [Race] Day Youth Educational Conference.

MEChA also provides an alternative to Columbus Day. Godinez-Aviña announced at the general meeting that "we celebrate indigenous people's day

## Jesse Jackson

*Continued from Page 1*

Fried Chicken]. Jackson repeated the analogy many times during the remainder of the speech.

Although the rally was intended as a protest against Proposition 54, Mr. Jackson noted that there were many other problems that California is facing at the same time. "While we are focused on Proposition 54, the sky is falling... we should be focusing on Enron, on Halliburton," Jackson stated, before moving on to address some of the other problems currently facing California.

He noted that many of California's - and the nation's - problems stem from inequality of wealth. Although he was careful to note that "most of the poor are white," he repeatedly blamed poverty on "unfair" taxes and remarked that "inheriting is not letting the poor among us have a chance." He asserted that wealth is created "from the bottom up," and urged the government to "invest" in this manner.

Jackson finished his speech by claiming that resistance to Proposition 54 is part of the legacy that civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King created. To encourage students to vote, he also asserted that students' "tuition is at stake" and that "they [the Republican Party] lost the election and want to win on the cheap." Jackson left the podium to chants of "No 54, No Recall."

Student reaction to the speech was somewhat mixed. Many students had a hard time following Jackson, and many others were unsure as to what his point actually was. A few were disappointed that Jackson did not focus more specifically on Proposition 54. Senior Alex Starns expressed a common sentiment: "I'm tired of all politicians."

Student reaction to Proposition 54 itself has been relatively negative. "I've never seen a 'yes on 54 sign,'" noted Junior Kasey Alderete.

In addition to Jackson's speech, the rally was also the site of many other smaller protests. Several students painted their faces white to illustrate the so-called 'whitewashing' of American culture. Others were handing out literature for different candidates, and at least one student was collecting signatures of people that would pledge to vote 'No' on Proposition 54. A pledge to vote no and a signature to that effect was rewarded with a small 'No on 54' shirt pin.

## INSIDE THE REVIEW

### NEWS

#### THE NEWS IN BRIEF

*Shawn M. Sims*

#### Dining Monopoly Gives Back

*Michael T. Hasper*

#### Students Honor Victims with Candlelight Vigil

*Gary J. Raichart*



#### EDITORIAL-- MEChA: Social Justice Group or KKK?

#### THE RAWLS REPORT--Adoption 101: True Pro-Choice

*Alec Rawls*

#### Universities Selling Out to the Marketplace?

*Bob McGrew*

#### TWISB-BISS College Football Rankings

#### Feedback from Dining Patrons Mixed Like Salad

*Ron Gutmark*

Page 3

Page 4

Page 5

Page 6

Page 7

Page 8

Page 4

Page 5



# THE STANFORD REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT PUBLICATION  
ESTABLISHED 1987

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
BUSINESS MANAGER  
MANAGING EDITOR  
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR  
OPINIONS EDITOR  
NEWS EVENTS EDITOR  
INVESTIGATIVE NEWS EDITOR  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER  
WEB DESIGNER  
EDITOR EMERITUS  
EDITOR EMERITUS  
EDITOR EMERITUS

Gary J. Raichart '05  
Mark Zavislak '05  
Christopher Baer '05  
Kyle Duarte '05  
Laura L. Surma '06  
Harrison Y. Osaki '05  
Michael T. Hasper '05  
Ron Gutmark '05  
Stephen Cohen '05  
Joel Gedalius '05  
Bob McGrew GS  
Joe Lonsdale '04  
Piotr H. Kosicki '05

## The News in Brief

by SHAWN M. SIMS  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

### Memorial Concert for Former Reporter

On Thursday, October 9th, the Second Annual Daniel Pearl Music Day Concert was held in Memorial Church, featuring classics, faculty-written pieces, and improvisation. Daniel Pearl, the journalist brutally murdered by Pakistani terrorists in February of 2002, was a 1985 Stanford graduate in Communications with a talent for playing the violin, fiddle, and mandolin. As he traveled the globe as a reporter for the Wall Street Journal, he met people through shared interests in music, including symphonies, bluegrass bands, and chamber ensembles. The Daniel Pearl Foundation hosts musical events centered on the dates surrounding Daniel's birthday that reflect his community approach to music. Influential musicians such as Sir Elton John, Yo-Yo Ma, Mark O'Connor, Itzhak Perlman, Ravi Shankar, and Barbara Streisand sit on an honorary committee presiding over the global concert series, which lasts from Oct. 7-19. The events this year were held in twenty-nine countries and eventually will include each city Pearl visited. Prof. Jennifer Lane opened the concert with Vigil Thompson's operatic "We Cannot Retrace Our Steps." Jazz Prof. Mark Applebaum performed his piano solo "Elegy," and violinist Livia Sohn

played Prof. Jonathan Berger's "Sink or Swim." Professors Shiffman, Lane, and Barth left the audience in complete silence with "Zwei Gesange" by Brahms. The concert elicited a standing ovation.

### Faculty Senate Elects New Chair, Discusses Issues

Tom Wasow, who has been active in the Stanford community since 1974, has been recently appointed Faculty Senate Chair. Wasow has helped construct the Center for the Study of Language and Information and the Symbolic Systems Program, which he has directed since its birth in 1992. He served as Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Associate Dean for the School of Humanities and Sciences, and the Dean of Graduate Policy. This is Wasow's third term in the Senate, and colleagues fully expect him to be an active and competent chair with a talent for facilitating compromise. Wasow does not anticipate heated controversy this year over the issues the Senate



Stanford Alumnus Daniel Pearl was Remembered in Thursday's Concert at Memorial Church

must address, including studies on female faculty, a bioengineering degree program, and new athletic policies. At the opening meeting on Thursday, October 9th, the Senate agreed to support Student Initiated Courses as interdisciplinary tools, though the courses will need more safeguards for instructional quality. The Senate also reluctantly shortened the length of fall quarter for the 2004-2005 academic year by three days because of conflict with Rosh Hashanah.

The *Stanford Review* is an independently run student newspaper published by a voluntary student organization at Stanford University. The *Review* uses the common space provided to all publications by the ASSU Publications Board. The *Stanford Review* is published and distributed without charge to the Stanford community on a weekly basis during the academic year. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the *Stanford Review*.

The *Stanford Review* welcomes letters from its readers on any topic. Submission constitutes testimony to the accuracy and originality of the work. The *Stanford Review* reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. Please include your name, address, and Stanford affiliation. Letters can be e-mailed to editor@stanfordreview.org or delivered to room 205 of the Storke Publications Building.

Editorial: (650) 723-8221  
[www.stanfordreview.org](http://www.stanfordreview.org)

Founded MCMLXXXVII  
Norm Book & Peter Thiel

Editor-in-Chief: editor@stanfordreview.org  
Business Manager: business@stanfordreview.org

### National Science Foundation Promotes Development of Internet

The National Science Foundation recently granted Stanford and seven other institutions \$7.5 million dollars each to investigate new ways to work the Internet. The continually increasing availability of high-speed connections could be bad news since many specialists believe that a high volume of use will overwhelm the electronic infrastructure, which was not set up with high capacity in mind. Researchers are being encouraged to start from the beginning with this grant and to employ innovative ideas. Stanford professors will collaborate with minds from institutions such as Carnegie Mellon, Rice, UC-Berkeley, Fraser Research, Internet2, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, and ATT Research. There is debate over the necessity of such research, but most experts involved with this initiative admit that the Internet was not designed to grow so quickly. Broadband service now enters ten million American homes via copper wire, and the goal of the National Science Foundation is to increase this number to 100 million. The Foundation also plans to equip these homes with fiber optic cables that will send information 100 times faster than DSL now does. Speeding up connections would make high-quality media more accessible, but security risks and the economic feasibility of such a system are questions that will have to be addressed. Diligent research will hopefully result in a system fully equipped to handle the coming years of technological advancement.

orbiting the planet. Since the moons are 40 million times fainter than Uranus, recent photos from the Voyager spacecraft did not register the tiny satellites. S/2003 U 1 is 10 miles across and orbits the planet near the larger, more prominent moons about which Earth scientists have long known. The more mysterious 8 mile-wide S/2003 U 2 resides closer to the planet and within the orbit of Belinda. Twelve other satellites group in close proximity to it, orbiting the inner system on nearly circular pathways. Lissauer asserts that their coexistence is quite improbable, as the larger moons' gravitational pull would theoretically considerably affect the smaller ones. The scientists speculate that the moons broke off of Belinda in a comet collision. Further research may give insight into the formation of moons and the process that follows as well as the pattern of interlocking orbits.

For more information, visit the *Stanford Review's* website at [www.stanfordreview.org](http://www.stanfordreview.org)

### So, you want to get involved?

The *Stanford Review* needs partners like you to keep Stanford's conservative voice strong!

#### 1. Write for the *Review*.

Student writers and artists needed! Gain valuable journalism experience, develop connections with the Hoover Institution and local business leaders, and GET PAID! Send an email to editor@stanfordreview.org to find out how you can get involved.

#### 2. Subscribe to the *Review*.

Stay informed of Stanford's political scene while helping the *Stanford Review* continue its fifteen-year tradition of delivering copies to students on campus free of charge. See the back page for details.

### Stanford Astronomers Find Possible New Moons

On August 25, Stanford astronomer Mark Showalter and NASA scientist Jack Lissauer, using the Hubble Advanced Camera for Surveys to take images of Uranus, found evidence of two previously undiscovered moons



## TWISB-BIIS College Football Rankings

| Rnk. | Team           | Record |
|------|----------------|--------|
| 1.   | Miami          | 6-0    |
| 2.   | Oklahoma       | 6-0    |
| 3.   | Virginia Tech  | 6-0    |
| 4.   | N. Illinois    | 6-0    |
| 5.   | TCU            | 6-0    |
| 6.   | Georgia        | 5-1    |
| 7.   | Ohio State     | 5-1    |
| 8.   | Florida State  | 5-1    |
| 9.   | USC            | 5-1    |
| 10.  | Purdue         | 5-1    |
| 11.  | Iowa           | 5-1    |
| 12.  | Washington St. | 5-1    |
| 13.  | Minnesota      | 6-1    |
| 14.  | LSU            | 5-1    |
| 15.  | Wisconsin      | 6-1    |
| 16.  | Bowling Green  | 5-1    |
| 17.  | Michigan       | 4-2    |
| 18.  | Arkansas       | 4-1    |
| 19.  | Nebraska       | 5-1    |
| 20.  | Texas Tech     | 5-1    |
| 21.  | Oregon State   | 5-1    |
| 22.  | Michigan State | 6-1    |
| 23.  | Missouri       | 5-1    |
| 24.  | Texas          | 4-2    |
| 25.  | Tennessee      | 4-2    |

**Honorable Mention:**  
**Boise State,**  
**Miami (Ohio),**  
**Oklahoma State,**  
**Utah,**  
**Auburn,**  
**Pittsburgh,**  
**Air Force,**  
**Louisville,**  
**Virginia,**  
**Kansas State**

# Dining Monopoly Gives Back

by Michael Hasper  
OPINIONS EDITOR

In recent weeks, Stanford Dining has taken heat from various individuals and publications that portray its meal plans as inflexible, its costs expensive, and its food quality unacceptable. In light of these perceptions, the Review decided to sit down with Mr. Nadeem Siddiqui, Executive Director of Stanford Dining, to gauge his assessment of the current state of the dining program and his vision for future improvements.

One popular complaint raises issue with Meal Plan costs. Siddiqui explained that setting prices for Meal Plans mindfully takes into account many factors. While he states that Meal Plan rates increased 2.75% last year, "we tried extremely hard to keep [costs] as low as possible. Our dining committee understands the challenges and has reviewed Meal Plan rates as being favorable in comparison to national and local markets." In doing so, Stanford Dining absorbed a total cost increase of 4%, "including payroll for unit staff, food costs, utility costs, overhead, and maintenance and repair" without passing this burden along to students.

Siddiqui finds it paramount to keep Meal Plan rates from rising unnecessarily. To accomplish this, Stanford Dining "continues to look for improvements in food costs" by "negotiating different contracts to get a better pricing structure." One of the most noticeable changes was the recent switch in primary food vendors from Cisco to U.S. Foods "to get a little cheaper food." In addition, Siddiqui describes on-going efforts to "make sure we're using our staff efficiently and prepare foods in optimal quantity to reduce waste."

Food quality has been targeted by some as needing substantial improvement. However, Siddiqui insists that Stanford Dining is "most adamant about...upholding a standard of food quality." He says that while it would be very easy to "reduce prices by reducing quality," goals when negotiating contracts and with vendors aim "to see that the same quality product can be bought for a better price...we never reduce the quality of the product." To provide evidence for success in food quality, Siddiqui highlights the Annual Survey by Stanford students that rate Dining Services "4 to 4.5 on a 5 scale, a very positive rating."

Stanford Dining's non-profit approach has periodically been criticized as choking off other vendors from campus and casting meal options in an uninspired light. However, Siddiqui sees Stanford Dining's non-profit aspect as one of the keys in successful dining operations. In being non-profit, he argues that "[we] are here to provide services to students. Our eyes are not on the bottom line. All we make sure to do is balance our books, use the money we get from students properly, and still provide high quality." Fund-



*Scene of a dinner gone awry at Lakeside Dining located at Lagunita*

ing for Dining Services comes completely from meal plans and purchases at vending points around campus.

Siddiqui views the cafes around campus run by Stanford Dining as serving a dual role. They "make revenues that help keep the board rates down" and "bring variety to campus dining." He reveals that new concept cafes such as Olives@160 "have had a popular response from students and faculty alike...that's what you want to provide, a unique market such that people feel good about eating lunch with variety."

Nevertheless, a popular complaint among students is that third-party operations such as nationally-recognized fast-food outlets are disallowed from directly entering the food market on Stanford's campus. However, Siddiqui claims that such desires "really come down to demand and need from students...and how much can be supported by students, because it's their program." He says the process is a slow one, but movements in this direction include introducing Peet's Coffee at the LINX cafe in the new Clark Center, and Subway in the soon-to-be-open Tressider Café. Siddiqui indicates that the fundamental basis is "how much the students will support," and that with more services provided, "we have to be careful what we can afford to provide and what we can't...and have good dialogue with students."

In this regard, Siddiqui states that Stanford Dining steadfastly welcomes student input. At the current time, students can participate in such endeavors as working in their local residential dining hall to participating in marketing groups that "try to gauge student behavioral patterns in dining." He believes such opportunities allow for the sentiments of the student body to translate into tangible change. "We always like to see students working for us, and we would like to see more...since this is the students' program, no

doubt about it."

Such student response has led Stanford Dining to explore innovative programs. Specifically, they started a program last year with Alba farms, a coop of 27 local area farmers, to test organic foods in different locations to try to "work with these farmers to make sure that prices are at a stable level." If successful, organic products that are usually more expensive could be incorporated into dining hall food offerings. On a scaled-down version, herb gardens are being created at each dining hall, along with greater composting and recycling efforts.

Perhaps the greatest change Stanford students will see in the near future is a newly revamped Tressider Café, something Siddiqui describes as "an amazing place." The space will be partitioned to create diverse atmospheres for a wide range of purposes. "We have divided the space. For students who want to study, there's a space. If they want to have coffee and chat, they have a space. If they want to watch TV or a movie, they have a space." Food services will also be varied, with offerings from sushi to tandoori to pizza to Peet's coffee. Continued additions will take into account "students' demand to see what they will support and purchase. We have to be cost sensitive to make sure that students will want what is provided."

Looking towards the future, Siddiqui envisions Stanford Dining as "engaged in change and flexible to change." He sees trends that show that "students' eating habits are changing - more attentive and diverse, stronger palettes." To accommodate change, Siddiqui proclaims Stanford Dining as being committed to this developing process while "being responsible financially to make sure that prices aren't too high...I think the prices we have are fairly strong...and we have to make sure to keep that as tight as possible. And we do."



## Feedback from Dining Patrons Mixed Like Salad



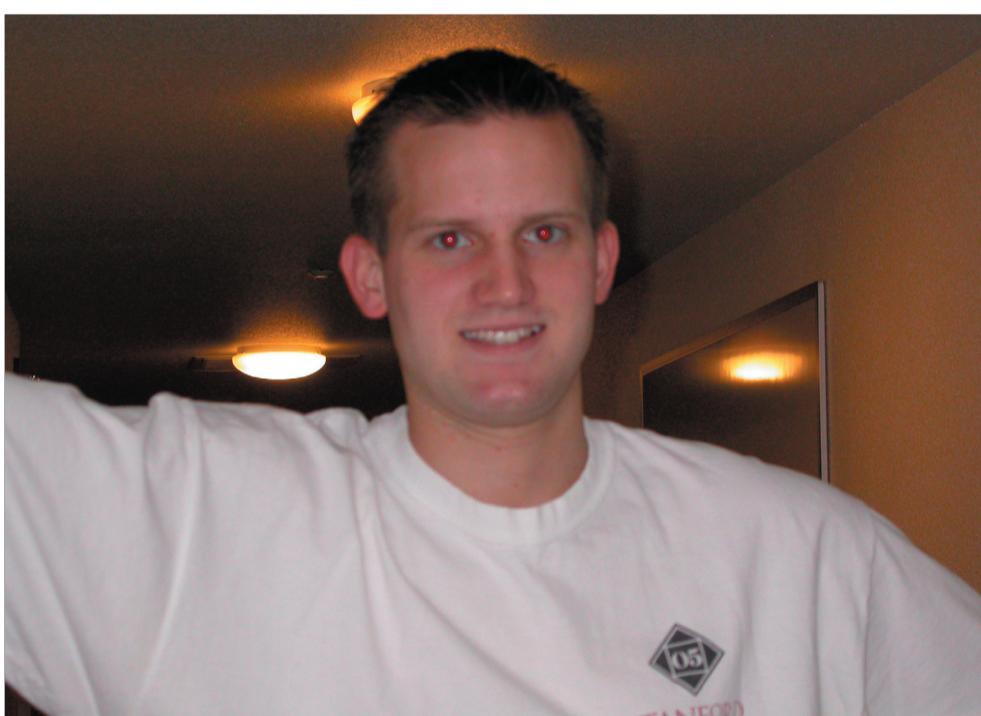
I think the food's good, but the process is confusing.

*Carly P., Undeclared*



I love the fro-yo.

*Jess. B., Undeclared*



I think it's great compared to other colleges because when you talk to your friends who go to other schools, they say they have horrible food.

*Darren M., Economics*

## Students Honor Terror Victims with Candlelight Vigil

The Stanford Israeli Alliance organized a candlelight vigil on October 4, 2003, in memory of the 19 victims of the suicide bombing in Haifa, Israel, which had occurred earlier in the day.

Students gathered around the candles to collectively display their grief for those involved in the terrorist attack. Those who felt the need expressed personal feelings about the tragedy, while others remained in silence.

Participants held Israeli flags in an unbroken arc as a sign of solidarity in support of the existence of Israel. The event took place between Green and Meyer Libraries with a little over a dozen students in attendance.

-by Gary J. Raichart





# MEChA: Social Justice Group or KKK?

So what exactly is MEChA? A social justice group that coordinates efforts in the fight for the rights of the underprivileged and unrepresented? An ethnic identity group that provides Chicanos/Latinos a place to feel welcome and opportunities to fraternize and take pride for who they are? Or a racist organization that advocates revolution and segregation?

In fact, MEChA is all of these things. MEChA is in many ways the modern day Ku Klux Klan of Chicanos. While you may initially believe this statement to be hyperbole, a further examination will lend credence to the comparison. Before proceeding, note that the parallel is between the modern day KKK and MEChA, which is a much different organization than the KKK of the past. We are in no way suggesting that MEChA is an organization that lynches and terrorizes other races in the manner the KKK has in the past, nor has MEChA been the cause of intimidation, pain, and anguish as has the KKK. Where the comparisons are familiar, however, are in the present day ideologies of the organizations.

El Plan de Aztlán, first presented in 1969, is the most heinous fundamental document associated with MEChA. This document is where the statement "Por La Raza todo. Fuera de La Raza nada" ("For those in the race, everything. For those outside the race, nothing") comes from. During the Recall campaign California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante came under much fire for not denouncing this blatantly racist rule. In addition, this plan calls for a revolution to return control of the lands of their forefathers to Chicano control. "Aztlán belongs to those who plant the seeds, water the fields, and gather the crops and not to the foreign Europeans." So, in essence, any actual attempt to adhere to the tenets of this plan would not only be racist, but treasonous (which makes the fact that the Lt. Governor of California refused to denounce it even more frightening).

The sentiments expressed in El Plan de Aztlán are not that different from some of the goals of the modern day KKK. For instance, the Klan calls for recognition that "America was born as an extension of White European heritage." So while the KKK calls for the complete assertion of White European control of America, MEChA calls for the assertion of Chicano control. Both organizations call for segregation of the races, which is something that should have been left far in the past.

To its credit, Stanford MEChA does not recognize El Plan de Aztlán beyond its historical relevance. However, the national organization, with which Stanford's chapter is becoming more involved, still recognizes the plan as "essential to the philosophy of MEChA."

El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara, while not as atrocious as El Plan de Aztlán, is still a revolting document. Moreover, Stanford MEChA, rather than dismissing this Plan as merely historical, actually has this document

on its website. El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara denounces the ideal of America as a melting pot, claiming that Chicanos must resist this dilution of their culture. This sentiment is very similar to that of the KKK, which feels that non-White cultures are polluting American society.

However, what is perhaps the most injurious is the disenfranchisement of Hispanics advocated in El Plan Espiritual de Santa Barbara. As opposed to the Chicano, "The Mexican American or Hispanic is a person who lacks self-respect and pride in one's ethnic and cultural background." Therefore, this Plan does not even recognize Hispanics who choose not to emphasize their differences from other Americans due to race as being part of MEChA. This emphasis on racial pride sounds eerily familiar to one of the mottos of the KKK: "White Pride, World Wide."

Now, because there are similarities between the KKK and MEChA it does not suggest they are the same organizations by any means. The point of the comparisons was to illustrate the similarity concerning ideas about race. Both MEChA and the KKK advocate separatism of the races because they believe their respective races are being contaminated through interracial interaction. The KKK believes America was a White nation founded on White principles, and the influence of all of the other races has led America astray from its illustrious roots. Meanwhile, MEChA believes Aztlán belongs to Chicanos, and America and its capitalist system has stolen Aztlán from its rightful owners and, even worse, is destroying Chicano culture. It is for these reasons that the former Grand Wizard of the California Klan, Tom Metzger, endorsed the candidacy of Cruz Bustamante.

Attributing all of these positions to Stanford MEChA is not fair. Indeed, I would hope the leadership of MEChA at Stanford would officially denounce these racist and segregationist principles on which MEChA was founded.

However, since Stanford MEChA skipped an appointment for an interview with the Review, we cannot say for sure what they would or would not endorse. But when one of the Plans is posted on the Stanford website, and given that MEChA was founded upon these principles, the very existence of MEChA at Stanford lends tacit support for its racist agenda.

The primary purpose of the Stanford MEChA organization, however, is not to promote separatism, according to some members. First and foremost, Stanford MEChA serves as a network of Chicano students

designed to promote social activism for progress in the area of issues affecting the Chicano/Latino community and their education. Besides that, they are typically your normal ethnic liberal social activist group, getting involved in issues such as workers' rights, anti-war protests, and ethnic celebrations.

While we at the Review often disagree in the position MEChA takes on many issues, we do not challenge their right to exist on campus nor do we want them to stop their efforts of social activism. A large majority of Stanford MEChA members probably have no idea that MEChA is anything more than a social activist and cultural identity group, which is why they got involved in the first place. If they knew the history behind their organization, they may think twice about attending the next meeting. But people have a right to express whatever views they wish, and a healthy discourse on issues is something healthy to the Stanford community and much preferable to the predominant apathy on campus. However, these goals of the Stanford MEChA organization could be better accomplished without the baggage that being part of MEChA brings with it.

Stanford MEChA currently receives more than \$40,000 per year in special fees from Stanford students through the ASSU. We wonder what percentage of the student body that voted MEChA special fees knew of the racism embedded within its founding documents. The purpose of our investigation into MEChA was to expose the true nature of the organization so that students can make an informed decision on whether to support it in the future. What we found was that Stanford MEChA's goals do not coincide with the separatist goals of the national organization, yet there's a hesitance to denounce these policies on the leadership's part of Stanford MEChA. We call for the leadership of Stanford MEChA to renounce its affiliation with the national organization,

rather than continuing to increase affiliation. This bold move would make a firm statement against racism and for racial reconciliation, and would grant more respectability to their social justice activities. If such an expurgation is not possible, then we call on the leadership of Stanford MEChA to officially denounce these policies of the national MEChA organization which do nothing but spread and worsen the hateful racism that so many people and organizations have fought so hard against for so many years. Take a progressive step, MEChA leadership. Renounce racism.

*Information on special fees can be found at <http://elections.stanford.edu/specialFeesIndex.htm>.*

*This is the majority opinion of the Editorial Board of the Stanford Review. All attributed columns are the opinion of the author and not necessarily that of the Stanford Review.*

## Student Groups Receiving Most Special Fees from ASSU

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. ASSU Speakers Bureau     | \$ 149,042 |
| 2. ASSU Legal Counseling    | \$ 102,260 |
| 3. Stanford Concert Network | \$ 95,168  |
| 4. KZSU                     | \$ 94,202  |
| 5. Stanford Band            | \$ 78,190  |
| 6. News Readership Program  | \$ 64,150  |
| 7. The Stanford Daily       | \$ 50,200  |
| 8. MEChA                    | \$ 40,536  |
| 9. SOCA                     | \$ 39,258  |
| 10. Stanford Film Society   | \$ 39,028  |

Sweden Norway Costa Rica Scotland Ghana  
Thailand Spain Japan Denmark Czech Republic  
Ghana Italy New Zealand Chile Thailand Sri Lanka  
Tech Republic Australia Ireland France Malaysia  
Costa Rica Scotland Ghana Italy New Zealand Spain  
Spain Japan Brazil Czech Republic Australia  
New Zealand Chile Thailand Spain Japan  
Australia Ireland France Malta England Chile  
Chile Thailand Spain Japan Denmark Czech Republic  
Australia Ireland France Malta England Chile  
Scotland Ghana Italy New Zealand Chile Thailand

Learning has never taken you this far...

University Studies Abroad Consortium

**Where will it take you?** Through USAC, a consortium of U.S. universities, you can choose from 31 programs in 21 countries. With 20 years of experience, you can be sure that you have someone to turn to throughout your educational adventures.

- Month, summer, semester & year-long programs
- Wide range of academic courses • Internships

- Field trips & tours
- Language classes at all levels
- Small classes
- University credit
- Scholarships
- Housing

UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM **USAC**

HTTP://USAC.UNR.EDU 775-784-6569

Your Gateway to the World



# Abortion 101: True Pro-Choice

*Alec Rawls examines the lack of choice in “pro-choice” rhetoric*

by Alec Rawls  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Dozens of Stanford co-eds will get pregnant this year. Most or all of them will have abortions. Why? In an age of supposed “choice” for women, why are almost all of the most educated young women choosing what most of them will regret for the rest of their lives?

Walk through it. There are many thousands of couples ready to raise a family, but who find themselves unable to make their own babies. They would gladly take the baby of a Stanford girl and raise it with all the love and care that the Stanford girl’s own parents lavished on her. Now, look at your classmates. Your baby (whether you would be the mother or the father) could be him, or him, or her. As a gift to others, what could match this gift of life?

Then there are the benefits to self. Unless demographic trends suddenly alter drastically, a very substantial pro-

portion of the women who have abortions in college will devote themselves to careers and not find themselves in a position to raise a family until they are into their thirties. Many of them, by this time, will have fertility problems. The previous generation is crammed full of women who had abortions, then never succeeded in having the families they hoped for.

Part of this is direct causality. The most important thing for reproductive health is to have a baby. For instance, about ten percent of American women will eventually develop the infertility causing condition called endometriosis, with most of these being women who delay childbearing, making the conditional probability for women who have abortions maybe one in five.

Endometriosis occurs when cells from inside the womb somehow migrate out. They continue to act as if they are in the womb, growing and shedding each month in accordance with a woman’s hormonal cycle. Pregnancy transforms these cells to

a benign condition and usually cures that episode of the disease. In effect, pregnancy resets the system with a clean bill of health.

Most important is moral and psychological well-being. Compare the following alternative stories. One woman advances in her career, wondering whether she will be able to have the family she wants, knowing that the child she gave up for adoption is five, ten, fifteen years old, loved, miserable, prospering. Another woman follows the same path, wondering if she’ll succeed in creating a family, knowing some couple once wanted to raise her child but she chose to abort it instead. Which is the happier condition?

Look at you Stanford girls. You can take fifteen class units while doing research at the medical center, or playing a sport and doing volunteer work. You don’t think you can have a baby? My sister had a baby at your age and never slowed down until she walked into the delivery room.

Ten years or fifteen years from now it will be hard to have a baby, especially a healthy baby, particularly if you haven’t had one before. There will never be an easier or more convenient time in your life for you to have a baby than now. So why are almost no students carrying their pregnancies to term?

An obvious reason is the terrible influence of the anti-choice “pro-choice” movement. Take a close look at Planned Parenthood. It began as a population control group, with the explicit goal of lowering birth rates. Their slogan, “every child a wanted child,” is a call for abortion whenever the birth mother is not able to raise the child. They refuse to acknowledge that an adopted child is a wanted child because that would go against their anti-population ideology.

The cult of anti-population was greatly inflated by Stanford’s own Doctor Death, the Biology Department’s insect professor Paul Ehrlich, a wildly successful quack who managed to convince three decades of America’s and Europe’s educated elite that reproduction is bad and they should have at most two children. His pitch is that people are destroying the Earth, with prosperous people being the worst, since they consume more than others. No one has ever been more fabulously or more tragically wrong.

For a given level of technology, yes,

an increase in population would move us out along society’s production function, causing diminishing returns to labor input. We would all get poorer, including in terms of the health of the environment. But technology is not constant. In particular, well raised children of intelligent parents are creating advances in science and technology that are raising society’s production function at a terrific rate. (So, on average, are the worst raised children of the most ordinary parents.)

It is simply a fact that the marginal impact of child-bearing, especially amongst the most educated, is to make us rapidly wealthier, including in terms of the health of the environment. Concern for the environment is a luxury good. The richer we get, the more priority we are able to give it. Wealth comes from innovation, and innovation comes from people. The best thing that most Stanford girls will ever have a chance to do for the environment is have a baby.

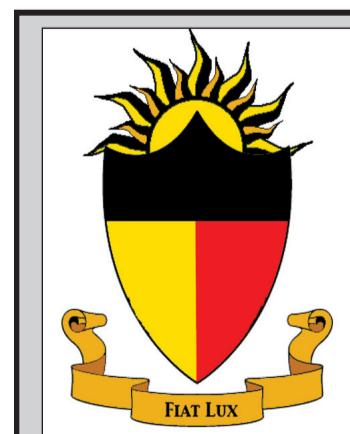
Since the economic and environmental underpinnings of our anti-choice “pro-choice” movement are utterly bogus, that just leaves the feminist ideology that childbearing is the great enemy of women. Wrong again. It is excellent for physical health. (Just eat right, or the baby will cannibalize your body.) And because it is good for the world it is good for a woman’s mental health. It is a positive thing, which should free women to embrace their biological urge to reproduce.

There is nothing necessary or permanent about these calculations. If somehow people stopped wanting to adopt then having a baby you couldn’t raise would become a much more ambiguous proposition. But in current circumstances, with a great many lovingly prepared empty nests, it is horribly perverse that almost all the pregnant Stanford girls are having abortions.

“Where did I come from mommy?” “A stork delivered you.” No one wants to be a stork?

Embrace your freedom of choice girls. Be the first in your class to walk around campus with a big belly. No need to worry about P. C. anti-choice peer pressure either. You’ll be carrying the reason with you 24/7.

*Alec Rawls is a Contributing Editor of The Stanford Review. Contact alec@rawls.org or visit www.rawls.org.*



Visit The Review  
ONLINE!

[www.StanfordReview.org](http://www.StanfordReview.org)  
Find full-text archives for the last eight volumes, subscribe to the Review, and more!

## Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, October 15th**

*Reagan: A Life in Letters*  
by Kiron Skinner (unable to attend),  
Annelise Anderson, Martin Anderson  
Stanford Bookstore Art Alcove  
7:00 PM

**Thursday, October 16th- Sunday, October 19th**

Reunion/Homecoming 2003  
Registration at Ford Center

**Saturday, October 18th**

Stanford vs. Washington State Football Game  
Stanford Stadium  
2:00 PM Kickoff

**Saturday, October 18th**

Celebration Reunion/Homecoming Concert  
Featuring all 8 Stanford A Cappella Groups  
Memorial Auditorium  
8:00 PM

**Sunday, October 19th**

Drop Deadline for Classes

**Monday, October 20th**

“The Threat of Radical Islam”  
Dr. Daniel Pipes  
Tressider Union Oak Lounge  
7:30 PM

**Tuesday, October 21st**

“Comparing Development in East and West Germany”  
Victor Grossman  
Author of *A Memoir of the American Left, the Cold War, and Life in East Germany*  
Bldg. 40, Rm. 41 J  
12:00 PM



# Universities Selling Out to the Marketplace?

*Review of "Universities in the Marketplace" and "The Future of the Public University in America"*

by Bob McGrew  
EDITOR EMERITUS

Every day, hundreds of students attend class in the Hewlett-Packard auditorium, then walk across the hall to use the computer cluster in the Mitsubishi Electric Corporation classroom. Upstairs in the Bill Gates building, their professors supplement their salaries by consulting for corporations on Fridays or sell the results of their publicly-funded research to investors in an IPO. Thanks to Nike's lucrative sponsorship, student-athletes wear the swoosh on their uniforms; their exertions on the playing fields netting the university around \$50 million in revenues. Critics say the desert bazaar is replacing the ivory tower: everything is available for a price.

Yet if the university has intruded into the marketplace, it is clear that the marketplace has also intruded on the university. Universities are ranked like sports cars by *US News*, while for-profit universities and distance-learning centers force universities to compete for students in ways that they never did before. Student activists deride the university as a corporate behemoth that exploits its workers, while presidents ache for the direct control that a CEO has over his employees.

The two scenarios spin different tales of the future of the university. In one, money and advertising corrupt the university into losing its focus on teaching and research. In the other, market forces compel the university to become nimbler and more responsive to society. They erase the anachronistic constraints that have prevented it from focusing strategically on its core markets.

Two recently published books each explore one of these possible futures. *Universities in the Marketplace*, by Derek Bok, the former president of Harvard, argues that commercialization threatens the values of higher education and provides an agenda to contain it. *The Future of the Public University in America*, by James Duder-

stadt and Farris Womack, respectively president and CFO of the University of Michigan, argues that the forces of the market are challenging presidents to transform their universities to better fulfill their values.

Both books are written by a president of a university who, unlike a CEO, is as much a facilitator as a leader. A president cannot act without first building consensus for the change from the faculty, the trustees, and even alumni.

It is a characteristic of the job, then, that university presidents are charged with making statesmanlike pronouncements that necessarily have little content. Unfortunately, these college presidents have, true to form, written books that, while readable and useful, lack the boldness that would make them interesting.

In *Universities in the Marketplace*, Derek Bok surveys the landscape of commercial activities in universities, from corporate-funded research to joint ventures with Internet distance-learning companies to advertising in the classroom and intercollegiate athletics. One of his best chapters is about the pitfalls for universities with big-time athletics and the compromises they will make with athletes' educations to keep the teams winning. Given that most athletes will make their living after college by their degrees rather than by their sport, it is in the interests of the students for the university to prevent athletics from destroying their coursework. Certainly, it's possible for varsity athletes to graduate with honors, but the more serious the athlete, the more likely he will graduate with a half-hearted degree in Communications and four quarters of EDGE.

Yet except for a few bright spots, *Universities in the Marketplace* is a case study in how a lucid and readable book

can fail to be engaging. Bok strives to be even-handed throughout, almost to the point of shtick: companies do X, critics say Y, and the best policy lies somewhere in the middle. His agenda lacks the kind of boldness that justifies writing a book, and he hesitates to condemn any activities he was a part of at Harvard, reserving his boldest attacks for programs like athletics, in which Harvard is a bit player. And Bok is

oddly repetitive in such a small book (233 pages), repeating his favorite examples in chapter after chapter. *Universities in the Marketplace* repays reading for college presidents, but Bok fails to convince

the reader that the commercialization of universities is worth worrying about for anyone else.

In contrast, Duderstadt and Womack do not strive to be so even-handed – they even call for a “transformation” of the university in order to meet the pressures of market forces, declining public support, and rising competition for faculty. The book is packed with lessons about university governance, power struggles between administrators and faculty, sunshine laws, and competition among universities. In a book that seems partly written during the Internet bubble, they predict that distance education and lifelong learning will soon fundamentally reshape the university. While they occasionally pine for a return to generous state funding, they often hardheaded extoll the inevitability that market forces will force universities to adapt to a changing world.

Yet their agenda for transformation is surprisingly vague, dealing mostly with a call for leadership and a set of reforms to strengthen the college president against the faculty and the board of trustees. The two clearly wish that presidents had the kind of power over

their institutions that CEOs have. It would be much easier for a president to issue orders rather than make changes through the kind of consensus-building and bribery that happens now. It's too bad that the book (also short at 236 pages) devotes so much time to vague calls for change and less time to practical examples of their time at Michigan. The few nuggets of experience they offer are always illuminating, even if one doesn't agree with their goals or methods.

So, to return to the scenarios posed at the beginning, does commercialization threaten the integrity of the university? Can market forces make the university run like a lean, nimble corporation? Would that be a good thing? Well, probably not. No university, especially Stanford, will turn into a money-making factory – universities simply are not that kind of thing. Advertising and corporate sponsorships will lurk at the edges of the universities, but it's hard to argue that they do any serious harm to the integrity of teaching or research that can't be fixed with a few obvious safeguards. And while college presidents may wish they were CEOs instead, the interlocking processes of shared faculty and administrative governance will keep change slow and incremental, as it ought to be.

After all, despite rhetoric of “today's changing world,” the university is an ancient institution with traditions that have developed over decades to safeguard its unique values, such as academic freedom. Top-down governance could lead to the hiring of underqualified candidates to fit political goals or force faculty members to pursue new knowledge only in politically popular fields.

If anything, the sheer modesty of the two books' recommendations argues for a lack of either concern or excitement about market forces in the university. Sometimes hide-bound tradition mixed with a little pragmatism works – and if it works, don't fix it.

*Bob McGrew is a second-year Ph.D. student in computer science and a strong believer in hide-bound tradition. More frequent commentary can be found at cardinalcollective.blogspot.com.*

## SUPPORT STANFORD'S CONSERVATIVE VOICE

Contributions from individual Stanford alumni and friends keep *The Stanford Review* on the presses.

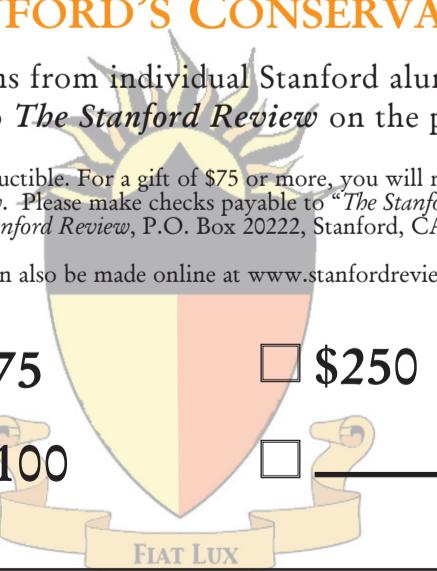
Donations are tax-deductible. For a gift of \$75 or more, you will receive one year of *The Stanford Review*. Please make checks payable to “*The Stanford Review*” and mail to: *The Stanford Review*, P.O. Box 20222, Stanford, CA, 94309.

Donations can also be made online at [www.stanfordreview.org](http://www.stanfordreview.org).

\$75       \$250

\$100       \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_



*The Stanford Review*  
P.O. Box 20222  
Stanford, CA 94309

First Class Prst.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 5283  
San Jose, CA

*The Stanford Review* is written by a voluntary student organization of the Associated Students of Stanford University, 205 Tresidder Memorial Union, Stanford, CA 94305.