

APPENDIX A3

Public Hearing Transcript

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3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
4 THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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7 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS OF
8 PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL MEETING
9 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW HEARING

10
11 June 28, 2007, 6:00 p.m.
12 Gordon Lau Elementary School
13 950 Clay Street
14 San Francisco, California
15

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17 Reported by: KAREN A. FRIEDMAN, CSR 5425
18 (Job # 397249)
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1 APPEARANCES
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3 TRUSTEES:

4 Dr. Anita Grier, Chairman
5 Dr. Phil Day, Chancellor and Moderator
6 John Rizzo
7 Dr. Natalie Berg
8 Julio Ramos
9 Rodel Rodis
10 Lawrence Wong
11 Milton Marks
12 Diane Munoz-Villaneuva, Student Trustee

13 OTHER PANELISTS:

14 Michael F. Rice, EIP Associates, Project Director
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 TRUSTEE GRIER: Good evening. We are here
3 tonight to have a public hearing on the Draft
4 Environmental Impact Review, or better known as the
5 DEIR.

6 Roll call, please.

7 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Rizzo.

8 TRUSTEE RIZZO: Here.

9 CHANCELLOR DAY: Diana Munoz.

10 MS. MUNOZ: Here.

11 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Berg.

12 TRUSTEE BERG: Present.

13 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Grier.

14 TRUSTEE GRIER: Here.

15 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Ramos.

16 TRUSTEE RAMOS: Here.

17 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Rodis.

18 TRUSTEE RODIS: Here.

19 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Marks.

20 TRUSTEE MARKS: Here.

21 CHANCELLOR DAY: Trustee Wong.

22 TRUSTEE WONG: Present.

23 TRUSTEE GRIER: Thank you. I would like to
24 welcome all of you this evening on behalf of the Board
25 of Trustees and the college administration. I would

1 like to welcome you to the draft environmental impact
2 review hearing for the Chinatown/North Beach campus of
3 City College of San Francisco.

4 As a reminder, my colleagues, the board, will
5 be observing the presentation led by Michael Rice and
6 associates and will not be taking questions or hosting a
7 discussion at this time. The purpose of the meeting is
8 to allow EIP to present the substance of the DEIR to
9 members of the community. Mr. Rice's statements will be
10 translated for those individuals who have limited
11 English skills and are non-English speaking at the
12 hearing. This is to ensure that all attendees will
13 understand the key findings and conclusions of the DEIR.

14 TRUSTEE GRIER: The summary of the DEIR has
15 been translated into Chinese and will be available to
16 those individuals who are interested in obtaining a
17 copy. The audience will be informed that they can
18 submit comments on the DEIR in writing before July 16,
19 2007, or in person tonight, to the Board of Trustees.

20 Please also note that we have both Chinese and
21 Italian translation available for tonight's hearing.
22 For those individuals seeking Italian translation, the
23 translator is where, please?

24 Over there, thank you.

25 And please take a seat nearest that translator

1 if you need Italian translations.

2 If you need Chinese translations, we have
3 someone here. Okay. That will be where you would need
4 to go in order to get Chinese translations.

5 Thank you for taking time out of your schedules
6 to be here tonight. I will now turn the meeting over to
7 Mr. Rice, but before I do, I just want to remind the
8 speakers to make sure that you have completed a
9 speaker's card and, once you get up to the podium, that
10 you say your name and you spell your name for the
11 record.

12 Now, Mr. Rice.

13 CHANCELLOR DAY: While he's getting to the
14 podium, let me just clarify. Mr. Rice will not be
15 making a extensive presentation this evening, because we
16 have been doing that in a variety of other venues. He
17 is going to basically have some introductory remarks,
18 which will be self-explanatory, and then we're going to
19 be opening it up to the public because, in the business
20 of the public hearing -- and we have a large number of
21 cards.

22 I will be keeping track of the time, and we
23 have a huge number of people who want to speak, and we
24 have to limit everybody to a maximum of three minutes,
25 but we'd appreciate you using that, even less time than

1 that, if you could.

2 So, Mr. Rice.

3 MR. RICE: Thank you, Dr. Day, and Board of
4 Trustees.

5 I will just note that it is not the purpose of
6 the meeting tonight to present a summary of the Draft
7 EIR. The Draft EIR was published on May 16th, and
8 notices of its availability and copies of the Draft EIR
9 were sent to an extensive mailing list of agencies and
10 members of the community.

11 The purpose of tonight's meeting is to take
12 public comments on the draft EIR. These comments are
13 being recorded by a court reporter, and then, at the
14 close of the public comments, members of the board will
15 also have an opportunity to comment on the EIR, if they
16 wish.

17 This meeting is intended to take comments on
18 the accuracy and completeness of the Draft EIR.

19 It is not a hearing on the merits of the
20 project, for or against, or for a different version of
21 the project, and we respectfully ask speakers to address
22 their comments only to the EIR.

23 Thank you. Comments made at the hearing will
24 be recorded in a transcript, and they will be responded
25 to in writing, in a document to be brought back to the

1 Board.

2 It is not the purpose of the hearing to have
3 questions and answers, with the public or with the
4 Board, on the EIR.

5 The responses will be brought back to the Board
6 and if the Board finds that the Draft EIR, together with
7 the comments and responses, is adequate and complete,
8 the Board will then certify the final EIR.

9 Only after certification will the Board
10 consider the merits of the project or a decision on the
11 project itself.

12 In addition to the public hearing tonight, the
13 public review period continues until Monday, July 16th,
14 and anyone can submit written comments on the Draft EIR
15 to the district by the close of business on July 16th,
16 2007.

17 That concludes my comments, but I will
18 respectfully mention again that we hope that people, we
19 would like people to focus their comments on the
20 completeness and accuracy of the EIR. Thank you very
21 much.

22 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, Mr. Rice. Our first
23 speaker is Mr. Phil Ting

24 MR. TING: Thank you, Dr. Day, honorable
25 trustees. I'm Phil Ting, assessor reporter for the City

1 and County of San Francisco. It's a distinct honor to
2 be here and really talk about what is really one of the
3 most important buildings for the Chinese-American
4 community and for the Chinatown/North Beach community,
5 and it's something we have been waiting for for
6 20-something years. And I'm very happy to see that we
7 are moving closer and closer every day to seeing this
8 building built and become an actual reality.

9 In terms of the EIR that's offered, I think I
10 just wanted to throw out some of the values that I hope
11 that the university can stand by.

12 First, in that it's most paramount, is, this is
13 an educational building, and that it continues to meet
14 all the educational needs of the students who are
15 currently enrolled in the Chinatown/North Beach campus,
16 as well as including the hundreds of students who
17 continue to wait for classes and wait to be enrolled in
18 classes.

19 I think it's imperative that education and the
20 educational services is paramount, that it comes first;
21 that service to these students and to the future
22 students of this institution is really the first and
23 foremost concern of the trustees, as well as to Dr. Day.

24 I think secondly -- thank you.

25 Secondly, because we have been waiting for so

1 many years, I hope that the Board and City College will
 2 continue to move with haste and that there's no further
 3 delays in seeing this campus built. In fact, if you
 4 look at your own website, it says this building was
 5 supposed to have been up as of last year.

6 Thank you. And thirdly, that this process
 7 remain transparent. Thank you very much for coming to
 8 Chinatown, for being in Chinatown, holding this hearing
 9 not at the Phelan campus or at Gough Street, but for
 10 being here, actually in the community and taking public
 11 inputs. I very much appreciate your efforts to make
 12 this a very inclusive and transparent process.

13 And lastly, I would lend my own personal
 14 support to any project that City College, this Board of
 15 Trustees, Dr. Day, deems to have fully met the needs of
 16 the students of this Chinatown/North Beach campus, that
 17 deems to have fulfilled the requirements of the hundreds
 18 of students that continue to wait for classes. And
 19 whether that is the 16-story project in the EIR or
 20 whatever, that this City College deems will meet those
 21 needs, I will 100 percent support all your efforts.

22 So I thank you and very much applaud you for
 23 all the hard work. We very much look forward to being
 24 here in a few months and actually approving some sort of
 25 plan down the road.

1 So again, thank you so much for allowing me to
 2 speak, and thank you again for being in Chinatown.

3 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you very much. Mr. Barry
 4 Chang.

5 So that everybody knows, when the translation
 6 is being translated, I am shutting the time clock off,
 7 so we're still holding to the three minutes.

8 MR. CHANG: Good evening, honorable Board,
 9 honorable President Grier, and also Dr. Day. Thank you
 10 very much for hosting this hearing in Chinatown to show
 11 that you care about the community. My name is Barry
 12 Chang, B-a-r-r-y, C-h-a-n-g. I came all the way from
 13 Cupertino. I was serving two terms on the Cupertino
 14 board, school board, one of the best elementary schools
 15 in California.

16 I'm coming over here to support the 16-story of
 17 the satellite building in Chinatown. I already passed a
 18 couple of them to this side. I haven't got a chance to
 19 this-side board member, I'll pass on. It was quite a
 20 few support from South Bay: Mayor of Cupertino, Chris
 21 Wang, sign it, and Mayor of Sunnyvale, Otto Lee, and
 22 also our county board of supervisors, business, and
 23 quite a few. I don't want to name all of them. I'll
 24 give you a copy. So there's a lot of strong support in
 25 South Bay, even though we're not close, in San

1 Francisco, but close enough.

2 And then when we heard this project, we have a
3 volunteer to get the co-sign, sign up for this one; we
4 get like 2000 names in like two weekends. So there's
5 strong support around the Bay Area for this project
6 here.

7 China's quotation say, "If you plan for ten
8 years, plant trees; if you plan for hundred years,
9 education." So this campus, now it will benefit 7,000
10 newcomers here; it will be years and years to go, maybe
11 years after all of us gone.

12 This is crucial, crucial for the development
13 and the prosperity of Chinatown, and also for those new
14 immigrants to San Francisco area here.

15 And I heard about the EIR, some people, few
16 people object to it because a shadow passed on the
17 Portsmouth Square. Sixteen-story, I look at the
18 location, is about, I look at the location, is now right
19 across, right next to the park, the square. It take
20 about an hour in, early in the morning. And I look at
21 Hilton building, 32 stories, which is twice higher than
22 this one. And if they care about the shadow cast on the
23 park, they should go back and ask the Hilton to cut it
24 to eight stories.

25 Chinese has also another quotation: "You want

1 to be a good neighbor." American also say that. If
2 Hilton want to play bad, don't forget about they right
3 next to Chinatown. Okay. We can do a lot of thing to
4 them if they want to play bad. Okay. So that's one
5 thing. I'm not threatening.

6 Okay. Finish in one sentence. In the business
7 I was serving on the board, the most important is
8 customer service.

9 Okay, you are doing the right thing to have
10 this satellite campus right in Cupertino -- okay, not
11 Cupertino, right in Chinatown. That's for the newly
12 immigrants. That's the right thing to do.
13 Sixteen-story will be just fine. Eight-story I don't
14 think will make it. The cost will be too high. Thank
15 you very much. Appreciate it.

16 CHANCELLOR DAY: Sarah Keller.

17 MS. KELLER: Hi, my name is Sarah Keller,
18 S-a-r-a-h, K-e-l-l-e-r. I'm a City College alumna, and
19 I'm concerned about the direction this administration is
20 taking concerning spending of these bond funds. When I
21 went to City College a few years ago, my classes were
22 mainly in the arts and arts extension buildings on the
23 main campus, and my professors' offices are in Batmal
24 Hall. The arts and arts extensions are dark, stuffy,
25 leaky, moldy. When it rains during the winter, all the

1 water leaks in. It's horrible.

2 So I'm wondering why you guys are insisting on
3 building this huge tower when you can build something
4 cheaper, just as good, and meet the same program needs
5 for the students, which we all agree is necessary.

6 I voted for both the 2001 and 2005 bonds, and
7 I'm very disappointed at how this money is being spent.

8 Regarding the EIR, I'm a bit concerned about
9 earthquake safety in this. I noticed, in reading
10 through the EIR last night, that this 16-story campus is
11 being built on landfill. Makes me wonder in case of an
12 earthquake, how are you going to evacuate students from
13 17 stories, or 16 stories, as it were. So I just think
14 that should be studied a little bit more. And -- thank
15 you.

16 I have one more comment.

17 CHANCELLOR DAY: That's not appropriate. Please.
18 Please. You don't need to respond to that.

19 MS. KELLER: That's okay. I have one other
20 comment. Regarding, the architect was quoted in Ming
21 Tau as saying that the three-story library in the new
22 campus would be, I guess, not centralized enough. But
23 if you go to the main campus, we have a beautiful
24 Rosenberg library that you enter on the fourth floor,
25 and the stacks are on the third and the fifth, which

1 works just great.

2 So I'm not quite understanding what the problem
3 is, because you have a great library. Thank you.

4 CHANCELLOR DAY: I would please request that
5 everybody in this audience give everybody the right to
6 come here and state their point of view at the podium,
7 to get their comments on the record. To do otherwise
8 would be highly inappropriate, and we need to maintain a
9 high degree of decorum if we're going to fill our goal
10 of having a high-quality public meeting. So let's be
11 respectful, let's let people talk, and let's not have
12 any noise or booing, of making people feel they've done
13 anything inappropriate.

14 Mr. Ling Chi Wang.

15 MR. WANG: I'm Ling Chi Wang, L-i-n-g, C-h-i,
16 W-a-n-g, from University of California Berkeley.

17 I have three comments that I want to make about
18 the EIR. First, the significance of the proposed
19 project and its location, the need to address the
20 potential and future classroom needs, and lastly, the
21 importance of restoring the auditorium and other
22 education-related facilities.

23 As we all know, this is probably the most
24 important public investment in Chinatown since the
25 beginning of its history. It is also the most important

1 and far reaching investment in human capital. It's just
 2 as important it is the first significant outward and
 3 modern expansion of Chinatown since the steady post-war
 4 encroachment of Chinatown and Manilatown that once
 5 occupied parts of Kearny and Montgomery streets.

6 Anyone with the slightest knowledge of history
 7 of Chinatown will know that Chinatown is the most
 8 visible manifestation or relic of institutional racism.
 9 Arbitrary and racist laws, zoning ordinances, planning
 10 codes, urban design guidelines, and social practices
 11 fenced in residents, and Chinatown's building heights
 12 were capped. In short, no expansion horizontally or
 13 vertically.

14 Thank God, after World War II, social progress
 15 enabled Chinese-Americans to move out of the ghetto, but
 16 the historic low-rise buildings along Montgomery and
 17 Kearny also became the immediate targets of the
 18 expansionist financial district, as the poor and elderly
 19 Chinese and Filipino-Americans by the thousands were
 20 evicted and their gloomy houses demolished to give way
 21 to the high-rises we now see on Montgomery Street and on
 22 the east side of Kearny Street, including the 30-story
 23 Hilton Hotel across the street from which this proposed
 24 location is going to be.

25 The protected struggle against the eviction and

1 demolition of the International Hotel signaled the
 2 community's determination to stop this encroachment.
 3 The rebuilding of the I-Hotel after 40 years of struggle
 4 was the first concrete project to reclaim the lost
 5 territory of Chinatown/Manilatown.

6 The buildings of the Chinatown campus, and,
 7 hopefully, soon, the St. Mary's Chinese school on the
 8 same block, are further steps to recover, to rebuild,
 9 expand, and modernize Chinatown. It is against this
 10 broader vision of history, environment, and development
 11 we must view the proposed campus and understand the
 12 racist opposition masquerading as legitimate
 13 environmentalism and historic racism.

14 My other two points has to do with the
 15 potential -- because of the location of the new school,
 16 it's going to be, you are going to be drawing a lot more
 17 students than you projected in your EIR report. In
 18 addition, there are going to be City College courses
 19 that are going to be offered there, and also, as I say,
 20 the AP courses from Galileo School can also be offered.
 21 Right now, their students are traveling all the way from
 22 Ocean Avenue for that.

23 My last point is, no campus is complete without
 24 for edible facilities for administration, faculty, and
 25 students. The Draft EIR mentions some of these reports,

1 some with footage, others with reduced footage, and
 2 still others with no footage whatsoever. And
 3 especially, the most conspicuous absence is, of course,
 4 the auditorium, which must be restored because the only
 5 auditorium in Chinatown, which is located in the Hilton
 6 Hotel, the third floor, the third-floor Chinese cultural
 7 Center, in fact has been seized by the Hilton Hotel, and
 8 now the community is without that.

9 So we see this as the opportunity to reinstate
 10 that.

11 So I urge you not to let arbitrary height
 12 limits prevent you from building this first-class,
 13 comprehensive community college facility in Chinatown.

14 Thank you.

15 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Warren Mar.

16 The next speaker is Mock King Wu, so if you
 17 would make your way to the front so you can be available
 18 to succeed Mr. Mar. Thank you.

19 MR. MAR: My name is Warren Mar, M-a-r, and I'm
 20 a faculty member at City College, so obviously I'm not
 21 neutral. But I think that one of the things I would
 22 like to say is, I was also a student at the City
 23 College, in the non-credit program in the cook's school
 24 at City College in Chinatown, which no longer exists.

25 So if a lot of people want to talk about, "We

1 want the programs and we want to limit the height," it's
 2 not going to happen. Because we haven't had a cook's
 3 program, we haven't had a culinary program in Chinatown
 4 for over ten years, since we lost that leased space from
 5 which we used to rent from the Salvation Army.

6 I just wanted to say this one very important
 7 thing. If we look at this EIR, you cannot have all the
 8 programs and all the space that the college needs in our
 9 community and try to limit the size of the building.

10 Another thing that already Professor Wang from
 11 Berkeley also spoke about is the reclaiming of some
 12 public space in Chinatown, and I think that's a very
 13 important point. And a lot of people forget. He
 14 mentioned the Hilton Hotel, which was formerly the
 15 Holiday Inn. That was formerly public space, and
 16 actually, I fought -- I was pretty young then, but I
 17 fought against the Holiday Inn being built, because that
 18 was public space. That was actually the first fight. I
 19 was on barricades of the International Hotel, but that
 20 was the second fight. The first fight was against the
 21 Holiday Inn. That used to be the former Hall of Justice
 22 in this city. That was public property.

23 Many people in the community, in Chinatown,
 24 thought that that whole building should have been ours,
 25 not that one floor that you call the Chinese Cultural

1 Center, now that the Hilton has taken it back and put a
 2 gate, locked gate in front of the park so none of our
 3 old people can walk across to the so-called "their"
 4 cultural center. That whole building was supposed to be
 5 ours. And the City gave it away to that private
 6 property.

7 The I-Hotel was the second fight, and even
 8 though the hotel was torn down, a lot of us stuck with
 9 it, and it was rebuilt 20 years later.

10 So I just want to say Professor Wang is
 11 absolutely right. It's about time Chinatown took back a
 12 little bit of public space. Thank you.

13 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you. Next speaker is Mock
 14 King Wu. The speaker after that is Calvin Wong, and the
 15 speaker after that is Philip Choy. If you could be
 16 ready to speak, we would appreciate it.

17 MR. WU: To all members: We definitely support
 18 the 16-story building for the new, community City
 19 College new site. And we will definitely fight if any
 20 people who's not supporting it, against, 'til the end.
 21 We like the idea of the 16-story building. It will help
 22 us a lot.

23 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Calvin Wong.

24 MR. WONG: My name is Calvin Wong, C-a-l-v-i-n,
 25 W-o-n-g. I was a former member of the Chinese Cultural

1 Union of San Francisco. Our union was established in
 2 1916 and consists of 30-some churches of over 10,000
 3 members. Our board voted unanimously to pass a
 4 resolution on June 19 urging and supporting the
 5 immediate construction of City College, a 16-story in
 6 Chinatown/North Beach district.

7 A letter has been sent to Chancellor Ng, and to
 8 the president.

9 For the past 30 years, the people of Chinatown
 10 has run the communities has longed for a different
 11 college campus. Now the money lend and a 16-story plan
 12 are available. What are we waiting for?

13 The public -- yet our report indicates there is
 14 no significant impact for the neighborhood. The City
 15 College plan is supported by over 100 organizations in
 16 the City of San Francisco. Even three mayors of the
 17 South Bay, and many, many organizations in the East and
 18 South Bay, express their support for the project.

19 The alternative plan suggested by the Education
 20 Coalition for Responsible Development is unacceptable.
 21 First, there is no EIR report or architectural
 22 appropriateness, improvements for the plan proposed by
 23 the Education Coalition for Responsible Development.

24 Second, experts have criticized the plan by
 25 saying that it has many, many thousands wounds and a

1 hundred holes. That means that many, many problems and
 2 will result in more expansive shadows and more negative
 3 environmental impacts in the surrounding neighborhoods.
 4 Third, that the cost of two buildings would be
 5 \$2.7 billion more if they include the cost of two
 6 separate heating and ventilation systems, more
 7 elevators, and other infrastructure costs.
 8 Four, the eight-story building is in violation
 9 of a legal agreement that clearly prohibits a building
 10 of that height.
 11 Fifth, there has been no -- there has been a
 12 high-rise -- there has been no concrete building
 13 submitted in all community colleges.
 14 Six, funding will be gone if we do not build
 15 the building now.
 16 For the sake of the students, for the sake of
 17 Chinatown, please build the school now.
 18 CHANCELLOR DAY: You have exceeded your time.
 19 MR. WONG: I will translate myself.
 20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Philip Choy, and the next
 21 speaker is Scott Dickey, and the next speaker after that
 22 is Neil Malloch.
 23 Mr. Choy?
 24 TRUSTEE RAMOS: Dr. Day, if I may ask you, how
 25 many speaker cards do we have?

1 CHANCELLOR DAY: Why don't I count them while
 2 he's speaking.
 3 TRUSTEE RAMOS: My suggestion would be, if
 4 you're going down that road, if you can get people lined
 5 up here.
 6 CHANCELLOR DAY: I'm trying.
 7 TRUSTEE RAMOS: If they can physically stand
 8 in line, it would help.
 9 MR. CHOY: I'm speaking Chinese. Sorry. I am
 10 so sorry.
 11 Mr. Choy, he is a regular resident, and he
 12 definitely supports the 16-story building. The
 13 strategies support that the building is for educational
 14 purposes, and all the friends of the Educational
 15 Opportunity for Chinatown supports the idea.
 16 Basically, from the three, pick one choice
 17 newspaper. He's saying it's not equal opportunity, and
 18 then they have waited for so many years, and time has
 19 fly, and nothing has been -- the money, the land, it's
 20 all invested.
 21 That Tsing Tao newspaper, it talks basically
 22 about the environmental issues, the specialists'
 23 comments, and Nelson's opinions, and I support the
 24 16-story building of the City College new campus. And I
 25 hope that it could be in reality as soon as possible.

1 Thank you, Mayor Wong.

2 CHANCELLOR DAY: The next speaker is Neil
3 Malloch, and let me just announce the next speaker and I
4 would like to have them line up on the sides. The next
5 speakers are Kia Lee, Craig Fosella, Ania Nakasalla,
6 Audrey Lohse, and Chi Sen Chen.

7 MR. MALLOCH: Thank you. My name is Neil
8 Malloch, M-a-l-l-o-c-h. I'm past historian with San
9 Francisco Beautiful, an organization founded by Friedel
10 Klussman, who saved the cable cars, and I'm currently
11 historian with the California Heritage Council. But I'm
12 not speaking on their behalf. I'm speaking as a private
13 individual because I didn't know about this meeting
14 until today.

15 I have four brief points to make. Number one,
16 I've lived most of my life, almost all of my life, in
17 this greater North Beach/Telegraph Hill area, since
18 1935. In the 1940s and '50s I walked at least, on an
19 average, twice a week through the streets of Manilatown,
20 Kearny Street, so I'm quite familiar with this area, and
21 I might say historically that this early San Francisco
22 City Hall and Hall of Justice were all located within
23 half a block or a block of this proposed site for the
24 first 25 years of San Francisco history, and then the
25 Hall of Justice was where the Hilton Hotel is right now,

1 until 1964. So it's very much the heart of traditional
2 San Francisco.

3 Third point, or fourth point: Manilatown, and
4 I remember the Manilatown and I-Hotel period also, I
5 want to mention that.

6 Now, where I stand on this issue. I'm entirely
7 in favor of this building. I feel that if the community
8 college district and the Chinatown community have
9 determined that this is the best solution, and I have no
10 idea, I haven't gone into the technicalities and the
11 feasibility of the proposal, but if this is what they
12 feel is what they want, I'm all for it. And I have
13 determined also that no great loss of sunlight nor loss
14 of views is entailed in this matter, either from
15 Portsmouth Plaza or from Telegraph Hill, or any other
16 hill.

17 If you look from Russian hill you have a
18 high-rise building between Kearny Street and the
19 waterfront, and that's the appraisers' building. I'm
20 all for this. And I want to say, finally, if the
21 community anywhere in this city or country avidly wants
22 an education, for God's sake let them have it and do it
23 the way they want it.

24 CHANCELLOR DAY: Ms. Kia Lee.

25 MS. LEE: Good evening. I'm an Asian-American

1 community member of Chinatown and North Beach.

2 I do support a college campus in Chinatown but
3 do not, I do not support a tower. And I'm here to voice
4 my concerns about the building of a 16-story college. I
5 fear this massive building will cause overcrowding, less
6 parking, and most importantly, safety issues for young
7 children and elderly like yourself.

8 Perhaps City College should consider more
9 parking in a skyway to walk safely across Kearny in
10 their plan. So you and us, the decision maker, please
11 ask yourself if it's necessary for a 16-story without
12 proper safety plans in the EIR, and 100 percent approval
13 from us and all of us taxpayers of the community. So I
14 say yes to a college but no to a tower. Thank you.

15 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Craig Fosella. And could
16 you spell your last name.

17 MR. FOSELLA: Craig Fosella, F-o-s-s-e-l-l-a.

18 I want to first thank you for giving me this
19 opportunity to speak. We've heard a lot tonight about
20 how great the college is going to be and the multitude
21 of students that are going to be serviced by it, but
22 since we're here to talk about the EIR, I just have to
23 ask two questions.

24 Where are they going to park, and how are they
25 going to get there? I work in the community. I own a

1 small business right next to where the proposed college
2 is going to go. I'm not here speaking to you from
3 Cupertino. I actually am in the community. And there
4 is a problem with parking. We all know it. There's a
5 problem now.

6 According to the EIR, there's going to be much
7 more of a problem parking; there's going to be the
8 impact of thousands of faculty, staff, and then, of
9 course, the students.

10 Without parking, small businesses in the area
11 like mine can't survive.

12 Also, according to the EIR, the Muni is going
13 to be overwhelmed. Currently there's only two bus stops
14 that go around that Kearny/Washington area; the 9 AX and
15 the BX, which only run during peak commuter hours. So I
16 ask that the college addresses, in plans going forward,
17 parking, traffic, and also commuter issues, as many of
18 the students would obviously be commuters. Thank you
19 for your time.

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you. Ania Mankowskallard.
21 Spell that for us.

22 MS. MANKOWSKALLARD: Sure. A-n-i-a,
23 M-a-n-k-o-w-s-k-a-l-l-a-r-d.

24 First of all, I want to let everybody know that
25 I'm not against City College. I'm not against

1 education. I believe that there should be a building
2 built in the Chinatown neighborhood.

3 However, I work at a business half a block away
4 from the proposed building, and I take, I depend on Muni
5 to get to work every single day. I take bus number 1,
6 which right now, technically, should take me about six
7 or seven minutes to get to work.

8 It can take anything between fifteen and twenty
9 minutes on the bus itself and usually takes me, actually
10 to get on the bus, it takes about five buses to pass by
11 the bus stop not even stopping, because they're so full.

12 So I can only imagine how many buses there are
13 going to be needed to actually get all the people --
14 there's a very big community, Chinese community, living
15 in the south side of Richmond. I can only think how
16 many buses it's going to take to take all the people
17 downtown to the Chinatown area to drop them off at
18 school. And obviously there are not going to be new
19 streets, we have to rely on what's really already here.
20 And I don't think in the current state we can expect to
21 fit more people on the Chinatown buses and on the bus
22 that I personally take.

23 I think the tall building is going to intensify
24 traffic congestion in the area. There's no parking.
25 It's difficult to park as it is right now, and the

1 clients of my business are already complaining, and I
2 think it's going to influence the building that -- it's
3 going to influence my business.

4 I also think that the EIR draft is not really
5 looking into the unique character of the area, which is
6 one of San Francisco's most historic neighborhoods. It
7 attracts people, hundreds of thousands of tourists,
8 every year, every day, and I think they are not looking
9 into it.

10 The original proposal was to construct two
11 low-rise buildings, which had pro community support. In
12 contrast, the new proposed tower would be one of the
13 tallest, if not the tallest, academic buildings on the
14 West Coast. Basically, it's not aimed at education;
15 it's more aimed at just building a tall building.

16 I think it's going to negatively affect the
17 area. It's not going to match the character and culture
18 of the Chinatown neighborhood.

19 It's also going to fail to meet the City's
20 requirement of height for this area, which are currently
21 much lower than the proposed 16- or 17-story building.
22 It also violates the ordinance that restricts buildings
23 from creating shadows on open spaces and would block the
24 light on Portsmouth Square. Thank you.

25 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you. Before I introduce

1 the next speaker, the speakers after this, in this
2 order: Chi Sen Chen, Peter Ng, Janice Wood, Steven Lee,
3 and Ronnie Rhoe.

4 So if you could get yourselves lined up in the
5 aisle in that order, we will call you, and our current
6 speaker is Audrey Lohse. You might want to spell it for
7 the record.

8 MS. LOHSE: Audrey, A-u-d-r-e-y, Lohse,
9 L-o-h-s-e. As has been said, I'm definitely all for
10 education and for the college. Much more in support of
11 a shorter building. I live in North Beach and work on
12 the same block as the proposed building and am very
13 concerned with some of the negative aspects as far as
14 this plan goes, such as travel to meetings and safety
15 concerns. Taking the bus to and from work is already
16 very chaotic in this area, and adding approximately
17 8,000 more people to this traffic is going to overwhelm
18 the Muni, especially during commuting hours, which is
19 going to cause more overcrowding to this already very
20 condensed area. Parking for our customers is very
21 difficult as it is. Adding new commuters is going to
22 take away from many of the small businesses, all of the
23 small businesses in that area, as far as their current
24 customers are concerned, as parking is terrible.

25 As far as the plan goes, parking hasn't been

1 taken into consideration at all, especially considering
2 the lack of parking already, and it's going to hurt many
3 small businesses there.

4 As for the EIR earthquake plan, there's safety
5 concerns, and as it says on page 3E3, that an earthquake
6 along the Hayward Fault would, quote, "cause heavy
7 structural damage in the vicinity of the project site."
8 That has been addressed a few times, but in an
9 earthquake it would take a lot longer to get, obviously,
10 a 16-story building full of people and students out than
11 it would the possible alternatives. The safety impacts
12 of this should definitely be looked at when alternatives
13 are considered.

14 In an emergency, the elevators would be shut
15 off for students, and many of the students are going to
16 be ages 55 or older, which is already going to cause
17 difficulties. Stairs are going to be very crowded, if
18 necessary to rescue disabled or injured people.

19 Building the shorter buildings would help with
20 the safety concerns of students and college employees to
21 get out faster. I would think a shorter building or
22 possible building, would be cheaper since it wouldn't
23 need as many elevators or space for the elevators or
24 stairways. And it would definitely help save lives in
25 the event of an emergency or earthquake, any type of

1 natural disaster in that area. And just help with
 2 injuries by having a shorter building that would be
 3 easier to evacuate. Thank you.

4 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Zhao Zinxeng.

5 MR. ZINXENG: My name is Zhao Zinxeng, and I'm
 6 with students that are at the Chinatown committee. I'm
 7 also a new immigrant. I'm a student at City College in
 8 Chinatown. Before I came to the United States I notice
 9 that people living in the United States are very
 10 supportive of education. There are many famous
 11 universities and colleges here in the United States.
 12 For example, Harvard, Yale, and MIT.

13 So immigrants such as I myself, Asian born, who
 14 want to get into the mainstream society of the United
 15 States, we need to receive a quality education; not only
 16 in English but also to receive job skills and other
 17 skills. But now the Chinatown campus is not big enough
 18 to provide for our needs. So myself and my friends and
 19 also my family members, we all are looking for a new
 20 campus center to be built in Chinatown, which is large
 21 enough that it accommodate all the programs.

22 So this is a great opportunity, and we should not
 23 let it go. Of course, we have also had some opposition
 24 to this plan. I'm not going to argue with them. I'm
 25 sure that the people who reason with that are

1 (inaudible).

2 And I'm sure the members of Board of Trustees are
 3 smart enough to tell the center which side is better.
 4 So I urge the board as the decision maker, and also
 5 united officials that you should listen to the voices
 6 and the opinions of the community.

7 (Loss of electrical power. Off the record.)

8 CHANCELLOR DAY: We've got a very, very long
 9 evening ahead of us. We've got a lot more cards. What
 10 we would like to try to do, if it's at all possible,
 11 there are a number of people who are here that want to
 12 provide, within the timelimits that we've got,
 13 substantive input and comments on the EIR itself.

14 We also have quite a few people, as evidenced
 15 in what's taken place, who are simply showing up and
 16 expressing their support for the project or the campus.
 17 And we're trying to expedite this in such a way that we
 18 can allow both to occur without being rude or cutting
 19 people off.

20 But if a lot of people are here to talk just
 21 about their support to the project, it seems to us that
 22 that could be done in a lot more efficient and
 23 expeditious manner. So I'm going to suggest what we do
 24 is ask folks who are here, maybe, who would -- where is
 25 Michael Rice? Well, if you're here to just express

1 support, try to do that in a more timely and efficient
2 way.

3 If you've got substantive comments on the EIR,
4 then we will respect you and allow you the full three
5 minutes. But we really need to try to move this meeting
6 along.

7 Next, Mr. Chi Sen Chen.

8 MR. CHEN: I came from South Bay, and I was
9 also the president here to launch a signature campaign
10 today at South Bay.

11 I came from Taiwan 37 years ago, and I used to
12 work at a college in Taiwan.

13 I was also an officer of Family Association in
14 San Francisco, here.

15 I was also the person in charge, or assistant
16 to the Trustee, of some of his South Bay organizers.

17 So when I first came here 37 years ago, I
18 attended here at San Jose Community College, and as an
19 immigrant, I know what they want and what they need.

20 Well, this is a dream, and this is a great
21 opportunity center for the immigrants that live in San
22 Francisco.

23 And it's also a very important center happening
24 today in Chinatown, in this century.

25 So if the 16-story campus is going to be built

1 in Chinatown, so that it will create an educational
2 atmosphere in the community. Some people have mentioned
3 that the 16-story building will create safety issues,
4 and also a traffic problem. I think that's too much.

5 I'm confident that the technology of today can
6 make sure that this building, given a 30-story-high
7 center, would be safe. And I'm sure most of the
8 students, when they come to Chinatown, they will take
9 public transportation like BART, and also Muni.

10 And I'm sure that the City, and also the
11 buildings center that are built, will do something to
12 make sure the traffic is going on smoothly. Thank you.

13 MS. FOSTER: My name is Peggy Foster. I'm kind
14 of confused by this whole issue because it's not making
15 any sense to me that there's any problem with the
16 environmental impact.

17 So the opposition is kind of strange because
18 everything in the environmental impact report here says
19 that really, if there's any impact at all, it will be
20 very insignificant.

21 The transportation issue makes no sense either
22 because it's not like 8,000 students are going to come
23 marching down the street in a big army, or something.
24 So therefore it kind of makes you wonder why, the
25 opposition by the Hilton and, apparently, the Telegraph

1 Hill dwellers, from what I understand.

2 The only possible thing it can be is, somebody
3 thinks their view is going to be obstructed. And that
4 makes no sense, because it's right on the edge of
5 downtown. There are a lot of buildings around it that
6 are as high or higher than this will be. Nobody's real
7 view is going to get obstructed except maybe a few
8 stories of the building, and one side of the building.

9 In addition, there will be a lot of business
10 brought to the area, I would think, by this. So it
11 would seem good for it, and I don't understand the local
12 businesspeople's willingness to go with the Hilton, or
13 whoever these people are who don't want it.

14 But the other thing is, there's one other
15 aspect to the Environmental Impact Report that is not in
16 here. And that's because it traditionally is not in
17 here. It has to do with how long can these people at
18 the Hilton or these businesspeople, how long can they
19 hold their pee.

20 And I ask that because at the City College
21 campus that they're using, there is no accessible
22 bathroom at all that anybody with a disability can use
23 unless they can climb steps. So not allowing this
24 building to be built -- and frankly, if they won't allow
25 this building to be built right on the edge of downtown,

1 they're not going to allow one to be built further out,
2 where there really is no bunch of really tall downtown
3 buildings to be a part of. Then they will object to the
4 view.

5 So if they're not going to allow this building
6 to be built, they're creating a real environmental
7 hazard for people with disabilities, for seniors with
8 mobility problems, for anybody who can't get beyond the
9 first floor of the building. They can't go to the
10 classrooms upstairs; they can't go to the office
11 upstairs, they can't go -- it's against the law. So
12 it's a liability issue.

13 And the people at the Hilton, frankly, I just
14 don't think -- they don't care. My experience is a lot
15 of people just don't care. Thank you.

16 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Peter Ng, and the next
17 speaker is Janice Wood.

18 MR. NG: My name is Peter Ng. I'm a resident.
19 The 16-story plan center has been in the works for quite
20 a while, and since the Hilton Hotel there, they are
21 introducing a new plan. And there's a Chinese saying
22 that, "Well, with money you can do everything." So
23 Hilton is providing poisonous coffee to Chinatown. Why?

24 Well, at a meeting on May the 14th -- according
25 to the expert, the two buildings that are planned for

1 the center at the Hilton Hotel, there are a lot of
 2 mistakes. For example, the ceilings were too low, and
 3 also they use concrete, and to build the campus, and
 4 there is not enough lighting.

5 So while the rich people said that they can use
 6 money to buy the official, or the product, they cannot
 7 buy justice.

8 TRUSTEE RAMOS: Translator, I want to ask you
 9 a question. Did he use the term "poisonous coffee"?

10 THE TRANSLATOR: Yes.

11 TRUSTEE RAMOS: I want to use that one;
 12 "poisonous coffee."

13 MR. NG: I want to explain. The Chinese say,
 14 "If you have rich people, you can pay money to let the
 15 table say something for you."

16 But this project, the second project, like the
 17 devil, make poison coffee to Chinatown. You understand?

18 TRUSTEE RAMOS: Yes, thank you, Peter.

19 CHANCELLOR DAY: Janice Wood.

20 MS. WOOD: Janice Wood; I'm a City College
 21 instructor and a resident of North Beach. And first I
 22 would like to respond to some previous comments.

23 We need to remember that Chinatown/North Beach
 24 campus already exists. We have been here since 1975.
 25 So these thousands of people that everyone is worried

1 about, they already come here every day and go home
 2 every day. And we do ride Muni, and very few of us
 3 drive. There's no student parking now.

4 My main point is concerning the Muni impact, as
 5 mentioned in the EIR. And I know that it does say there
 6 may be a significant impact, and I believe that is, part
 7 of that was based on a survey that was done in the
 8 classrooms.

9 And as someone who administered this survey, I
 10 can tell you that unfortunately, we, a lot of us feel
 11 that the students did not really understand what was
 12 being asked of them. And in the low-level classes we
 13 were not able to help them. And unfortunately, although
 14 we know that they come to Chinatown, do their shopping,
 15 visit their family, pick up their children at school,
 16 many of them just marked "home, school," "school, home."

17 So I think the only way to have gotten an
 18 accurate picture would have been one-on-one interviews
 19 of each student, which obviously could not have
 20 happened.

21 I personally believe there are two reasons that
 22 Muni will experience reduced ridership with the new
 23 building. Many faculty and students will now be able to
 24 walk from Market Street after using Muni Metro or BART.
 25 And many students will now be able to walk directly from

1 home or work to the new campus since it will actually be
2 in Chinatown and not on Russian Hill.

3 And also, since we will be in one campus, we
4 will not be traveling back and forth between two and
5 three different buildings. So I think there will be
6 reduced ridership on the 30 and 45 lines.

7 CHANCELLOR DAY: The current speaker is Steven
8 Lee. After Mr. Lee, and again I would ask people to
9 line up in the aisle, Ronnie Rhoe, Sue Lim Yee, Sam Siu,
10 Mary Capp, Marina Caldes. Those are the next speakers
11 after Mr. Steven Lee.

12 MR. RHOE: I'm actually Mr. Rhoe.

13 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Rhoe. Is Mr. Steven Lee
14 here? It's yours.

15 MR. RHOE: Good evening. My name is Ronnie,
16 R-o-n-n-i-e, R-h-o-e, Director of community development
17 with Chinese for Affirmative Action.

18 I would like to talk about the importance of
19 creating career opportunities for Chinatown residents
20 during the construction phase of this project sooner
21 rather than later.

22 Construction is one of the few sectors in San
23 Francisco that provides a career path and accessibility
24 for low-income communities like Chinatown. We want to
25 ensure that there is a clear and comprehensive plan so

1 that Chinatown residents have access to jobs during the
2 construction phase to reach the stated high wrinkles of
3 this project.

4 We're pleased to note that there's a project
5 labor agreement in place for City College projects and
6 that workers will be coming out of the local union
7 hiring halls.

8 We think this is a great opportunity to
9 coordinate efforts between City College, City Build, the
10 local building trades, and community organizations to
11 ensure sponsorship opportunities for Chinatown residents
12 and immigrant job seekers to diversify their trades.

13 Only through this coordination can we ensure
14 that local hires are made to kick-start a career-long
15 commitment to the trades and not simply a temporary hire
16 to fulfill the goals of this project.

17 I would also like to request that a thorough
18 summary of local hiring for the City College admission
19 campus be made publicly available so that successes with
20 the implementation of that program can be carried over
21 to the Chinatown effort and that gaps or shortages can
22 be addressed prior to the start of the building.

23 Thank you for your time.

24 CHANCELLOR DAY: Sue Lim Yee.

25 MS. YEE: Ladies and Gentlemen on the board and

1 in the audience, thank you all for being here tonight
 2 and giving of your time and energy to this important
 3 matter of a new Chinatown/North Beach campus.
 4 Chinatown/North Beach campus is part of the San
 5 Francisco Community College District, thus serving the
 6 community.

7 But what is "community"? Does it mean
 8 specifically the residents of the Chinatown/North Beach
 9 neighborhoods? Does it mean just the immigrant
 10 population? Because the Chinatown/North Beach campus
 11 dean also serves as the dean of the school of ESL.

12 As a counselor for nearly 30 years at the
 13 Chinatown/North Beach campus, I know that our community
 14 of students come from all over and that our "community"
 15 refers to any person who is interested and qualified to
 16 attend our classes. Thus we serve a broad geographic
 17 community, be they from Fremont, catching a ride with a
 18 relative from San Francisco and wanting to study ESL; an
 19 Hispanic student from the Mission district who wants to
 20 be in a non-Spanish-speaking setting; an Afghani student
 21 who works in a nearby restaurant; an African-American
 22 student interested in our business classes.

23 Chinatown/North Beach, like the other City
 24 College campuses, seek to serve a diverse population,
 25 and a new building at the corner of Washington and

1 Kearny will allow us to expand and diversify our
 2 programs and better serve the needs of our current and
 3 potential students from the financial district, from the
 4 I-Hotel, and even from the Hilton.

5 By being able to design a building to meet ADA
 6 regulations, we can better serve students with
 7 disabilities. By being at Washington and Kearny, our
 8 campus will be more convenient to parents whose children
 9 attend neighborhood schools such as CEC, Gordon J. Lau,
 10 Johnny Hall Chin, and childcare centers such as Wu Yi
 11 and Rainbow. Being in Chinatown our students can easily
 12 walk to and from their home and their jobs in local
 13 restaurants.

14 I'll just do it real quickly.

15 By being near bus stops, it's more convenient
 16 for our students. By being in one location, they don't
 17 need to commute. But more important, for the student
 18 services program, a new building will provide adequate
 19 and appropriate office space. Counselors will have
 20 enclosed offices that will allow for confidentiality and
 21 privacy.

22 Our interdisciplinary team of academic
 23 counselors, CSPA counselors, financial aid counselors,
 24 APEC counselors, and child development advisors, who
 25 have separate offices for each areas, we will be able to

1 offer testing, group workshops, and student/teacher
2 conferences without interruptions and vacating
3 classrooms.

4 Our students need a library, a real bookstore,
5 and areas for eating, studying, and socializing.
6 Although our current site is an improvement from the
7 Cumberland Church, where I have worked before, this is
8 far from being an ideal environment.

9 I will try to be optimistic with the time line
10 set in the EIR document of construction beginning in
11 2009.

12 CHANCELLOR DAY: I'm sorry. We need to wrap
13 this up. Please. You're taking too much time. You're
14 way over.

15 MS. YEE: I'm sorry. I apologize. I hope
16 that I will celebrate my 30th year with the celebration
17 of a new campus. Thank you.

18 CHANCELLOR DAY: Sam Siu.

19 MR. SIU: My name is Sam Siu. The spelling is
20 S-i-u. I am San Francisco Sunset District resident.

21 I am also a union member for Service Employees
22 International Union, San Francisco Local 87 Union.
23 Basically, I am a member of the community strong request
24 trustees to approve the North Beach/Chinatown 16-level
25 campus as soon as possible.

1 (Off the record.)

2 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Siu, you're on. You have
3 two minutes remaining in your presentation.

4 MR. SIU: I would repeat, our community would
5 strongly request the trustees approve the 16 campus as
6 soon as possible. Because the time is limited. The
7 building fund from the State connect the, limit that
8 line. Our community have request the North
9 Beach/Chinatown campus from 1996, but no resolve. We
10 don't want fail again.

11 We understand the hotel giant, they try to
12 misdirect the public. They try to stop, they try to
13 delay. They delay, "Oh, how about other plan? How
14 about new building plan?" We understand our 16-level
15 parking already improve 90 percent is beautiful, but the
16 other plan, the two buildings, the move vote is zero.
17 That's approved by the contract.

18 The hotel giant is our community labor. They
19 try to enemy our community; how shame on you. With the
20 hotel giant still trying to interrupt our plan, our
21 community will pay the hotel giant.

22 Hey, hey, ho ho, hotel giant got to go. What
23 do you want?

24 CHANCELLOR DAY: Professor Mary Capp.

25 MS. CAPP: My name is Mary Capp; M-a-r-y,

1 C-a-p-p. I'm an ESL teacher at the Chinatown/North
2 Beach campus and a resident of North Beach.

3 I would like to stress the importance and
4 practicality of a one-building campus from the point of
5 view of the users of the building. That is, teachers,
6 students, and staff need easy access to all the services
7 in one building; counseling, testing, the cafeteria,
8 library, computer and language labs, and so on.

9 It doesn't make sense that we would replicate a
10 multiple-site campus which is not working for us now, at
11 a new campus.

12 The majority of the classes at the
13 Chinatown/North Beach campus are non-credit English as a
14 second language classes, with over 160 classes spread
15 over seven days.

16 Most of the students are at a very low level of
17 English; literacy; beginning low, beginning high.
18 Students are learning survival English for work,
19 shopping, and other everyday activities.

20 To this end, teachers bring visual material to
21 the classroom; for instance, it might be clocks to one
22 class, and then the next class, fruits and vegetables.
23 Teachers don't stay in the same classroom for all of
24 their classes. They move from one classroom to another.

25 And there's only a ten-minute break between

1 classes. That means that at the end of every of class,
2 they have to pack up all of their materials, while at
3 the same time often answering questions from individual
4 students about grammar, or vocabulary, or the lessons,
5 and then go set up in the next room.

6 It's not possible that they can also add to
7 that; go from one building and around the block to the
8 next building. Classes will start late. Also, it would
9 be very difficult and inconvenient for senior students
10 and disabled students to go from one building to
11 another. Last, students and teachers moving from one
12 building to another would actually double the foot
13 traffic rather than the situation of staying in one
14 building for the duration of their schedule.

15 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, Mary. The next group
16 of speakers is led off with Mr. Harrison Lim, to be
17 followed by Dr. Lauri McLean, to be followed by Zhao Xin
18 Zeng, Yu Nyn Chan, and Jim Pan Sui. Mr. Lim.

19 MR. LIM: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.
20 My name is Harrison Lim, H-a-r-r-i-s-o-n, Lim, L-i-m;
21 the presiding president of Chinese Consolidated Liberal
22 Association. But I prefer use --

23 I fully support the building of the 16-story
24 campus in Chinatown. I ask the Board of Trustees to
25 look from the perspective of our Chinese community,

1 which we have struggled for more than a century, and now
2 we're getting some success.

3 But please stand on our points, that if this
4 happens to your communities, what are you going to
5 consider to do. Well, if this campus is going to be
6 built in other district, for example, at Bayview
7 Hunter's Point, I don't think there would be such a
8 controversy.

9 It's because of the Chinese communities that I
10 have been a president of so many years, that's why we
11 are being so dependent on. So I ask the Board of
12 Trustees to look at this issue from the perspective of
13 this vantage to approve the 16-story plan.

14 Well, we can refer to the example of the campus
15 downtown, the City College campus at downtown, and there
16 is no parking garage there. And it's still a very
17 successful campus. So the opposing of the parties are
18 just trying to obstruct this project.

19 So I ask the Board of the Trustee center to
20 support the wishes of the disadvantaged community.

21 CHANCELLOR DAY: Laurie McLean.

22 MS. McLEAN: I'm Laurie Lou McLean. I teach at
23 City College, and I grew up in Chinatown.

24 What we have seen is that we have had a
25 multitude, is that we have had a multitude of students,

1 staff, and many members of the community speak for this
2 integrated, unified, accessible campus in Chinatown.

3 This follows the history of the Chinese in
4 California and their quest for education in the face of
5 persistent denial. In 1860, just ten years after the
6 state was founded, the legislature passed a law that
7 said, quote, "Negroes, Mongolians, and Indians shall not
8 be admitted into public schools." Because of the
9 concerted efforts of African-Americans and those of
10 Indian descent in the state, by 1870 they were allowed
11 in schools, but only in segregated schools.

12 Asian students were still not allowed in any
13 schools in 1870, whether they were integrated or
14 segregated.

15 By 1880, that concerted lobbying on behalf of
16 African-Americans, because of the concerted effort of
17 African-American students, and also students of Indian
18 descent, they were allowed to go into desegregated
19 schools. But still, even then, Asian students were not
20 allowed to attend any public school.

21 By the 1880s the Chinese had stepped up their
22 efforts to gain access to education.

23 They argued very, very strongly that they were
24 taxpayers and that they deserved an education from the
25 taxes that they paid. They also argued that they were

1 residents in the state, and they were not sojourners
2 intending to go back to China, but that their futures
3 resided here in America.

4 By the 1880s, the Chinese had stepped up their
5 efforts to gain an education, but the legislature then
6 wrote a law that says, "Trustees shall have the power to
7 school children in filthy or vicious habits, and also to
8 establish separate schools for children of Mongolian or
9 Chinese descent."

10 It was obvious at that time that the reason for
11 denying Asian children an education had something to do
12 with these excuses. And it seems to me, from reading
13 this environmental impact report, that, frankly, if we
14 weigh the factors, the factors speak very, very clearly
15 for this building. And in fact, on one of the pages of
16 the Environmental Impact Report, for people who are
17 questioning the parking situation, it says, "The project
18 will not result in substantial increase in demand on
19 parking or vehicle traffic, and impacts will be less
20 than significant."

21 In other words, it seems to me the arguments
22 we've heard this evening have tried to throw in excuses
23 which just don't work. And the same excuses for denying
24 the Chinese education.

25 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, Laurie.

1 MS. McLEAN: So the arguments we have heard are
2 really part of a legacy of the Chinese fighting for
3 their right to education, and I urge the board to accept
4 the Environmental Impact Report, and get this plan
5 moving.

6 CHANCELLOR DAY: Zhao Xin Zeng?

7 MS. BIEUDIENG: Lang Loan Bieudieng; L-a-n-g,
8 L-o-a-n, B-i-e-u-d-i-n-g. Okay. Thank you for the
9 opportunity today to allow me to speak here.

10 I am a skilled learner. I am also a parent. I
11 respect the comments that are people's who oppose the
12 project, but I want to point out one thing. That the
13 Hilton Hotel is more than 30 stories high. And we
14 remember in nineteen-something there's a great
15 earthquake, and there's nothing happens to the Hilton
16 Hotel. So why should we worry that the 16 stories our
17 campus built would be threatened by the earthquake?

18 So if any building is going to create a traffic
19 problem, it should be the Hilton Hotel center, because
20 they have more than 30 stories high.

21 Instead, the Hilton Hotel center should support
22 our center to build even more stories so we can have
23 parking center garage.

24 So the traffic problems, as the Chinese saying
25 said, "When the water is overflow, there's a way that

1 can be naturally solved." And I believe the same can be
2 applied for the traffic problem in Chinatown.

3 So this is a great opportunity, which would
4 benefit our children, and I hope that the 16-story
5 building center can be built.

6 CHANCELLOR DAY: Yu Nyu Chan.

7 That's not you. Pretty definite about that.

8 Okay. Mr. Mel Lee.

9 Next speaker is Jin Pan Sui. After that is Lin
10 Tan. Mei Zhen Ma and King Chan.

11 Mr. Lee?

12 MR. LEE: Madam President, members of the Board
13 of Trustees. My name is Mel Lee, M-e-l, L-e-e.

14 You folks have been making not just small
15 history; it will be major history. Remember, I have
16 been a resident of San Francisco for over 50 years.
17 I've never seen anything as critical as this one.

18 The first day that Trustee Lawrence Wong, he
19 promised would build a City College in Chinatown, I
20 believe it's happening right now. No matter which team
21 you folks be choosing, it's in your hands; whether it's
22 a 16-story or different scheme. Do not delay; proceed.
23 That's the bottom line.

24 But given an opportunity, if you have the
25 opportunity financially, physically, if you can provide

1 some problem, it's going to help the project, a major,
2 major factor.

3 Secondly, I'm not going to be worried about
4 it's more few bits of shadows, nor certain points of
5 view. That's secondary. In the shadow of the park.

6 So Trustees, the ballgame's in your hands.
7 Implore you to proceed with the project. Thank you.

8 CHANCELLOR DAY: I assume I'm pronouncing this
9 correctly. Mr. Jin Pan Sui.

10 And the next speaker is Lin Tan. If you could
11 come down and be ready, please.

12 MS. SUI: My name is Jin Pan Sui, J-i-n, P-a-n,
13 S-u-i.

14 I support the 16-story Chinatown campus because
15 new immigrants going to need to study English to learn
16 English. If we don't know English there's no way we can
17 find a job. So that's why I support the 16-story
18 project and I wish everybody would support the project,
19 too.

20 And I also wish that the buildings will be
21 constructed as early as possible. Thank you.

22 CHANCELLOR DAY: Ms. Lin Tan.

23 MS. TAN: Yes, my name is Lin Tan, L-i-n,
24 T-a-n.

25 I was a student at the Chinatown/North Beach

1 campus. Now I'm a teaching assistant at the
 2 Chinatown/North Beach campus. As a former student, I
 3 want to say thank you so much, Chinatown/North Beach
 4 campus. As a teaching assistant I want to say, I feel
 5 so sorry for you, Chinatown/North Beach campus. And the
 6 why? To answer that question I would like to use my
 7 native language, Chinese, because I want to share my
 8 strong feelings with all of you. And I have English
 9 summary that you can help me to read for you. Thank
 10 you.

11 On behalf of thousands of students I would like
 12 to thank City College North Beach campus. The
 13 educational program there enable me to go from a
 14 beginning-level English learner to become a teaching
 15 assistant and a vocational English teacher at the Jewish
 16 Community Center in a few short years.

17 The school also enable my son Owen, who
 18 immigrated to the U.S. two years ago, to complete his
 19 non-credit program and transfer to the credit program.
 20 At the North Beach campus we have the support of the
 21 personal dean, caring instructors and counselors, who
 22 helped to guide my son through his restless teenage
 23 years to become a young man with directions and
 24 compassion. My story and my son's story illustrate the
 25 positive outcome of the program, of the Chinatown/North

1 Beach campus and its importance in the life of new and
 2 old immigrants.

3 However, as a teacher assistant I'm troubled by
 4 many problems that the campus faces. The campus doesn't
 5 have a permanent home and has to rent many classrooms,
 6 so the teachers and students have to go from site to
 7 site, many city blocks apart. I have the greatest
 8 respect for them. I often feel sorry for the teachers
 9 who go down the street of Chinatown/North Beach carrying
 10 their heavy bags and eating their sandwiches along the
 11 way.

12 Students often have to fight for seats in
 13 classrooms and computer labs, very often resulting in
 14 unpleasant situation. There's no lunchroom and adequate
 15 bathroom, so that there are always long lines outside
 16 each bathroom. My heart goes out to the students and
 17 teachers who eat standing up, and to the seniors and
 18 disabled people lining up outside the bathroom reclining
 19 on their cane. I really feel our campus need a
 20 permanent building as soon as possible.

21 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mei Zhen Ma, to be followed by
 22 King Chan.

23 MS. MA: Thank you for the opportunity to allow
 24 me to speak here. I have some comments about the
 25 16-story building. Well, we are new immigrants and

1 people who were born here. They don't know how hard
2 kind of life new immigrants there is.

3 Well, I remember one time I went to the post
4 office to try to send a registered mail, and then I
5 asked whether I fill in the form was correct. And I was
6 told, "Why don't you go to Chinatown newcomer service."

7 Well, I felt so bad, and I almost cried. And I
8 told the post office guy that if I know English, I won't
9 bother you. So I notice that if I don't know English,
10 there is no way I can fully live the life here in the
11 United States.

12 So if other people can survive, I can, too. So
13 I went to school, and now it has been 23 years since I
14 came to the United States. Now I found a good job;
15 after I learned English I found a good job. So I urge
16 the Board to support the building of the 16-story campus
17 to benefit the new immigrants.

18 MR. CHAN: My name is King Lam Chan, and I'm
19 representing the Chinese Progressive Association, a
20 44-year-old-community-based organization that educates
21 and empowers the Chinese community and promotes justice
22 and equality for all people.

23 Through Chinese Progressive Association, with
24 low-income immigrant families are struggling to survive
25 economy in this city, we understand the urgent need to

1 build a new Chinatown campus as soon as possible.

2 For example, over the past several years, CPA
3 has assists over 1,500 government workers to SS public
4 benefits and retaining services, and we also conducting
5 ongoing outreach to over 400 low-income families with
6 children living in single-room-occupancy hotels in
7 Chinatown.

8 This cost billions of CPA and the tens of
9 thousands of other low-income and working class
10 immigrants in our community desperately need expand
11 workforce development opportunities that would be made
12 possible by the new Chinatown campus as proposed by City
13 College San Francisco.

14 Land is precious in San Francisco, and
15 especially so in Chinatown. Building a 10-story
16 building instead of a 16-story one is apparently a
17 waste. A building is expected to last at least for
18 decades, and we must take the population growth, in
19 meeting the future needs, in consideration.

20 The other piece of land could be used for
21 future development. The 16-story campus would surely be
22 more prudent and fruitfully investment and efficient in
23 operations.

24 But when this concern in this community is that
25 we could not afford to waste any more time before the

1 funding will dry up and another round of argument
2 whether it will be legally or politically.

3 The two buildings proposal is just hastily put
4 together to stop the 16-story building plan by those
5 with self-interest, namely the Hilton Hotel and trustee
6 investors.

7 We therefore strongly support the 16-story
8 campus proposal and that it be, in the eyes of the
9 future generation, the testament to the foresight of the
10 funders, but not a blunder, because we are submissive
11 for those who are not of the good of the Chinatown
12 community.

13 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, sir. The next
14 several speakers include the following: First, Mr. Paul
15 Kohler, secondly, Biyun Yu. Elaine Lai. Yim Ma. Jimmy
16 Kwok and Tony Gantner. Mr. Kohler, are you here?

17 Would the rest of the speakers line up, please.

18 MR. KOHLER: My name is Paul Kohler. And I'm
19 representing District 3 Democratic Club.

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: K-o-h-l-e-r?

21 MR. KOHLER: Correct. The District 3
22 Democratic Club is against this EIR for two reasons.
23 Number one, for transportation reasons, and secondly,
24 for historic neighborhood.

25 First off, regarding transportation. From a

1 campus of over 7,000 students who were primarily from
2 other areas, little allowance for additional parking has
3 been made in the EIR. Additionally, there is no
4 increase or adjustment of the local transportation,
5 including Muni buses.

6 Now, regarding the historic neighborhood, the
7 area is a historic area; one of the oldest in San
8 Francisco. Portsmouth Square is a very beautiful and
9 very special part of Chinatown and old North Beach. Do
10 we like that the huge concrete Hilton Hotel looms over
11 the square?

12 The proposed building is much wider and much
13 bigger than the Hilton, and the location is much closer
14 to the Portsmouth Square.

15 Now, if you look at the pictures in the EIR of
16 the building, it looks much like a Las Vegas hotel. In
17 summary, we very much do want a City College campus in
18 this area, but we want one that fits in with the
19 historic district.

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Please, ladies and gentlemen.
21 Biyun Yu.

22 MS. YU: Biyun Yu; B-i-y-u-n, Y-u.

23 I heard about this project ten years ago. I
24 have been waiting ten years. Now the plan is going to
25 be considered to approved. I support the 16-story plan

1 because, as a student, we don't want the students to
 2 move from one site center to another site. Also,
 3 there's a long waiting list of students to be enrolled
 4 to City College.

5 If we are going to delay, instead of one year
 6 to another year, how many ten years do we have in our
 7 life? So I would ask that the Board of Trustees, that
 8 no further delay of the project.

9 So I urge the Board to support the building at
 10 16 stories so that while we are still alive, we can see
 11 this actually realized.

12 CHANCELLOR DAY: Elaine Lai. And the next
 13 speaker is Yuki Yim Ma.

14 MS. LAI: Good evening, honorable Trustees,
 15 Dr. Day, and ladies and gentlemen. My name is Elaine
 16 Lai, and I'm the business faculty member at
 17 Chinatown/North Beach. This evening I would like to
 18 share with you the reasons why we need a 16-story
 19 building in Chinatown/North Beach campus.

20 First, the existing building was built in 1911,
 21 and the infrastructure of the building was not built to
 22 meet the current needs and demands of the computer
 23 technology of our students and community.

24 Very often, we experience power outages in the
 25 computer labs due to the overload of the electrical

1 circuits. The worst day, we had three power outages in
 2 one single evening section. The faculty and the
 3 students were very frustrated by the frequent
 4 interruptions of the power failure, and some students
 5 sometimes they just left the class in the middle of the
 6 class.

7 We definitely need a 16-story building with the
 8 infrastructure to support the modern technology so we
 9 have more rooms to better serve our community.

10 Secondly, with the existing two business
 11 computer labs, our computer and business class offerings
 12 are very limited at Chinatown/North Beach.

13 Currently we do not offer any business and
 14 computer credit courses. With the new 16-story
 15 building, we will have more computer labs in the
 16 classrooms to authorize the computer and business
 17 courses in both credit and non-credit to serve our
 18 students in the local business community.

19 Students can keep credit and non-credit classes
 20 without traveling across town. Last but not the least,
 21 currently, students and community have very limited
 22 access to our open computer lab because if we open more
 23 computer lab hours for students or communities, that
 24 means we have to cut down our computer course offerings,
 25 and vice versa.

1 In conclusion, I urge the Board of Trustees
2 pass the resolution to our 16-story building for
3 Chinatown campus without any further delay. Thank you.

4 CHANCELLOR DAY: Would you pronounce and spell
5 your name, please.

6 MS. MA: Hello. My name is Y-u-k-i, Y-i-m,
7 M-a; Yuki.

8 Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. I am the
9 president for the Chinatown lobby students. I need to
10 speak in Chinese. Thank you.

11 I represent the students at our campus to
12 express our strong support for City College to build a
13 new 16-floor building in Chinatown. We hope the
14 building will be built as soon as possible. Education
15 has always been an important issue to everyone. There's
16 a Chinese saying that goes like this: "It takes ten
17 years to train a person. Education is the backbone."

18 A new school building in Chinatown is the
19 desire of most people. A more equipped and adequate
20 building is better for students to study, give more
21 people the opportunity to receive an education, and help
22 new immigrants to learn the American language, culture,
23 and job-training skills. It would benefit the Chinese
24 for generations to come.

25 But right now some people are trying hurt the

1 community by representing the owner of the taller
2 buildings, such as Hilton Hotel, and speaking against
3 the new 16-floor building. They are using the
4 environmental and shadow issues as excuse. In fact,
5 what they are doing is accumulating political and
6 economic power to advance their own career.

7 These people are really going downhill. We
8 must protect the educational rights of the Chinese
9 community. We continue to support City College in
10 building a 16-floor building in Chinatown. We hope that
11 the new building can be built as soon as possible.

12 CHANCELLOR DAY: Jimmy Kwok. K-w-o-k.

13 We need to stop for two minutes.

14 (Off the record.)

15 Mr. Jimmy Kwok.

16 MR. KWOK: My name is Jimmy Kwok, K-w-o-k.

17 First of all, let me greet President Dr. Grier,
18 and the Board of Trustees, and Chancellor Dr. Day. A
19 special thanks to translator. They're doing a very good
20 job tonight. Thank you for your patience.

21 I have read the EIR report that came out on May
22 16th. I have come up with the following issues and
23 comments. Number one, whether the EIR is a credible
24 report.

25 Refer to, when I look at the introduction,

1 section B, already we have been contracted for review
 2 and approval of this project. And B, this report is not
 3 marked up by any independent professional agency, such
 4 as San Francisco City Planning, or Office of State
 5 Architect, or any other independent parent agencies.

6 And C, it appears to constitute the
 7 presumptions of potential conflict of interest. And
 8 four, it appears that the original intent of CEQA could
 9 have been substantially tainted.

10 The number two issue, is there a credible and
 11 viable alternative provided in the report? There isn't
 12 any alternative that is credible and viable provided in
 13 the report. However, right now there is the educational
 14 provision proposal that could be considered by the Board
 15 of Trustees, to have the City College professional team
 16 supporting the visibility of this intervening proposal
 17 as a possible comparable and viable alternative.

18 And number three, are there any analysis
 19 reports of comparables, comparing the 17-story, decide
 20 is the best for our community.

21 There is no such report found in the draft EIR
 22 at all. I would like to alert the Board of Trustees
 23 that if we are serious about building this campus, we'd
 24 better make sure those issues can survive any court
 25 challenges, or we might have to wait indefinitely.

1 Actually, I don't speak good English. That's
 2 why I did not prepare for trustees. Thank you.

3 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, Jimmy.

4 Mr. Tony Gantner. Followed up by Zi Ma Zhu.
 5 Not here?

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Go home already.

7 CHANCELLOR DAY: Followed by Sharon Seymour.

8 MR. GANTNER: Trustees, Chancellor Day, good
 9 evening. Tony Gantner, North Beach Merchants
 10 Association.

11 As we have stated in a letter to the San
 12 Francisco Chronicle and in public forums, we want a
 13 Chinatown/North Beach campus, and we don't want anymore
 14 delays. However, City College's proposal for a nearly
 15 250-foot, 17-story high-rise campus at the cultural
 16 nexus of Chinatown, Portsmouth Square Park, old North
 17 Beach and Jackson Square, is simply too big in scope and
 18 scale for this historic Gold Rush area of San Francisco.

19 The visual quality impacts of the present
 20 proposal would be a Dutch mantle to a historic area
 21 heavily visited by tourists from all over the world and
 22 to a park heavily used by the Chinese community.

23 We must preserve our special character; we must
 24 protect our historic resources. Adequate parking is not
 25 provided for an estimated 7,000 students, as well as

1 staff and faculty. While we do not favor increased use
 2 of private automobiles, we will nonetheless lose parking
 3 from the existing site, an added demand on top of that.
 4 The cumulative impact is unacceptable to merchants,
 5 businesses, and residents in the surrounding area.

6 We do not need an already heavily congested
 7 area made worse, nor Muni further slowed by people
 8 searching for nonexistent parking.

9 There is no overriding consideration that can
 10 possibly outweigh the significant environmental effects
 11 of this project when other mid-rise alternatives can
 12 also meet program needs.

13 The coalition of which we are a part has
 14 proposed a very reasonable compromise, with continued
 15 good-faith iterations that meets all City College needs,
 16 includes parking, and would allow us to move forward
 17 without more years of delay.

18 Of course, we cannot forget the Portsmouth
 19 Square park already under severe stress, to the point
 20 where DPW has taken over maintenance from the rec/park
 21 department. Let us not forget that compassion for the
 22 environment is as compassion for our fellow human
 23 beings.

24 We thank you for your courtesy and cooperation
 25 in this matter, and we ask that no waiver of existing

1 planning code height limits be approved by a
 2 supermajority of the Trustees unless and until we have
 3 reached consensus. Thank you.

4 CHANCELLOR DAY: Sharon Seymour. Please.

5 MS. SEYMOUR: I'm Sharon Seymour,
 6 S-e-y-m-o-u-r. I have taught ESL for over 30 years at
 7 City College. I served as chair of the ESL department
 8 for ten years.

9 Currently I am working on a report on ESL at
 10 the college, with the research department, and I want to
 11 share with you some of the findings we have gotten so
 12 far for that report, which I think --

13 I support the 16-story one building, which the
 14 EIR gives as the best choice. And I think there's some
 15 strong educational reasons for this. First of all, the
 16 new building will offer a chance for more diversified
 17 offerings at the campus. As you know, ESL is the
 18 largest program now at the campus. It's served, since
 19 spring '06, nearly 5,500 ESL students, along -- there
 20 are other offerings at the campus. But the new building
 21 will provide a chance for more non-credit programs, and
 22 also for credit programs.

23 You've heard from other students and faculty
 24 tonight that of course our students are interested in
 25 learning English to be able to successfully work and

1 continue their education in the U.S.

2 We have found that non-credit ESL students
3 transfer to credit at higher rates if they take other
4 non-credit courses while taking ESL. And offering more
5 non-credit offerings at the campus I think will help
6 promote this transfer to credit.

7 Secondly, I believe that a one-building campus
8 will offer better access to student services. We have
9 found that non-credit ESL students transfer to credit at
10 a higher rate when they receive matriculation services
11 in their first semester, or before their first semester.

12 And also, non-credit ESL students are retained
13 longer if they receive matriculation services. I
14 believe that, we don't have the evidence yet, but I
15 believe that access to other students services will only
16 improve retention and transfer to credit. And that is
17 best done under one roof, in one building.

18 Finally, I just want to say that I have taught
19 credit at Ocean, and I have had many Asian students, and
20 I've asked them to write about their problems with the
21 college, and one their biggest complaints is the
22 distance that they have to travel to Ocean to take
23 credit classes. So if they were able to take classes in
24 Chinatown, I think many students would be happy.

25 Better facilities would offer better services

1 for disabled students and for all of the students at
2 City College. Thank you.

3 CHANCELLOR DAY: Lian Kaizhen.

4 MR. KAIZHEN: My name is Lian Kaizhen, L-i-a-n,
5 K-a-i-z-h-e-n. I'm a student from City College. I
6 fully support the building or 16-story Chinatown campus.

7 So I guess most of you know that Yau Ming, the
8 boss, came here from China. Do you think the other
9 kings, they will say "Oh, you are so high, you are just
10 obstructing us being the boss"?

11 So I don't know whether this comparison is
12 good, but I think that its excuse of obstructing the
13 view is ridiculous.

14 So I urge the Board of Trustees that you
15 approve the plan as soon as possible. So I would like
16 to make another comparison. Is it better to hire just
17 one very good teacher than hire just two so-so teachers?
18 See, my wife was a teacher when she was in China, but
19 she doesn't know English there. So she can't get into
20 the education field here in the United States.

21 So if we have a chance and we have the
22 opportunity center to learn English, it would help us a
23 lot. And I urge the Board to support the plan.

24 CHANCELLOR DAY: Cindy Choy, followed by Susan
25 Hsieh.

1 MS. CHOY: Hello. My name is Cindy Choy,
2 C-i-n-d-y, C-h-o-y. I come from Visitation Valley
3 Parent Leadership.

4 I want to ask you a question. That you need
5 not to go to the bathroom for the whole morning? I go
6 to the Filbert Street campus from Monday to Friday. I
7 can't go to the bathroom all morning.

8 Have you ever had this experience? During a
9 lunch hour you have to eat outside the campus and sit on
10 the street and eat there? It is not a park. It's just
11 a sidewalk. Because at Filbert Street, if you are going
12 to eat lunch, you have to eat outside the bathroom.
13 Because I cannot stand the smell, I have to go outside
14 and eat at the sidewalk.

15 Well, I remember when I first came to the
16 United States, six years ago, people said, Oh, you can
17 go to Filbert Street and take class. I didn't know
18 there are two sides there. So if you are going to
19 construct a building in the middle of Chinatown, so it
20 would be very easy instead of, for immigrants, to locate
21 where it is.

22 I live at Visitation Valley. I take Muni and I
23 walk to school. So if the campus is situated in
24 Chinatown, we can just go to eat lunch in Chinatown. So
25 we will bring business to small businesses in the

1 community. And also, if we have to move there from one
2 side to another side, it's more safe.

3 So today I have the courage to speak here
4 publicly because there are many good teachers who will
5 teach me to do so.

6 So why not we provide a good environment so
7 there is a teacher can also have time to take rest, and
8 they can teach us.

9 So I hope that people not be selfish, and let
10 the new immigrants that have the opportunities to learn,
11 and we can survive in this society, so we can make
12 contribution to this society, as well.

13 Well, I don't want other people say, "Oh, you
14 Chinese just wants to get benefits, welfare," so we will
15 try our best to be contributing members in the society.

16 CHANCELLOR DAY: Susan Hsieh followed By Gerry
17 Crowley.

18 MS. HSIEH: My name is Susan Hsieh, S-u-s-a-n,
19 H-s-i-e-h. I am the membership and communications
20 coordinator at CAA, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and
21 I'm a reading a statement on behalf of our executive
22 Trustee, Vincent Pan, who is unable to be here tonight.

23 On behalf of CAA, I would like to thank each of
24 the members up here for your commitment to build a
25 permanent City College campus in Chinatown. Like other

1 struggles for equal access and opportunity, the road to
2 a permanent campus continues to be long and difficult.
3 So I once again urge you to keep your eye on the prize.

4 I appreciate your effort to conduct these
5 meetings not just in the public but in this community,
6 and not just with transparency but with bilingual
7 access.

8 I would like to make two comments regarding the
9 EIR. First, I recommend that the final report provide
10 some information about the projected economic benefits
11 of the campus to the surrounding neighborhoods.

12 Though I understand that this is not required
13 by law, I believe this information will be very helpful
14 to you and the community.

15 Second, the draft report suggests that the
16 project will have an adverse visual impact. As you may
17 know, CAA's office is on Walter U. Lum Place, which is
18 located on and overlooking Portsmouth Square. Our front
19 windows will have a direct sightline to the proposed
20 campus location.

21 This means our employees, people who visit our
22 office, and the clients that we work with will likely
23 see the proposed building many times each day, probably
24 more than the average San Francisco resident will see in
25 a lifetime.

1 And yet we all support the proposed project.
2 Because we know that relative to the community benefits
3 and opportunities offered by this campus, the visual
4 impact of the project is minimal, insignificant, and
5 clearly insufficient to warrant any delays.

6 Yes, of course there will be a building where
7 none currently exists. However, the campus will not be
8 replacing an historical building, nor any sort of
9 endangered or aesthetic jump.

10 It will replace an unsightly billboard and a
11 parking lot, an offer bound against the imposing and
12 altogether grotesque Hilton Hotel.

13 The billboard, the parking lot, the Hilton,
14 these are the unrelenting reminders of commercial excess
15 and greed that encroach on the character of the
16 neighborhood. Well, in contrast, the campus in that
17 particular location will act to the benefit of the
18 community. And once it's built, the community will find
19 satisfaction looking at it as a modern, high-tech
20 quality place of learning. And we will look at it and
21 be heartened that a decade-long struggle for accessible
22 and high-quality community education was won.

23 I want to close by saying that this proposed
24 campus is exactly what a progressive San Francisco
25 needs. It is a living beacon of what our country ought

1 to be: a place of opportunity for immigrants seeking to
2 improve their lives. And therefore, in totality the
3 impact of the campus will actually be an improvement,
4 not a regression.

5 Therefore I request that the adverse visual
6 impact finding of the draft report be removed from the
7 final version. Thank you.

8 CHANCELLOR DAY: The next speaker after
9 Ms. Crowley is Anthony Sit, Monica Lee, Wilma Pang, and
10 Howard Wong.

11 MS. CROWLEY: Good evening, I'm Gerry Crowley,
12 G-e-r-r-y, C-r-o-w-l-e-y, and I am representing the
13 Telegraph Hill Dwellers, a neighborhood organization of
14 800 members. Since 1954 we have been protecting the
15 North Beach Telegraph Hill neighborhood.

16 First let me restate that we have always
17 supported a Chinatown/North Beach campus. Early in this
18 decade, after more than, or almost two years of meetings
19 with City College, we neighbors were in agreement about
20 a prior proposal. Our primary issue with the current
21 proposal has always been the lack of compatibility with
22 the character of this historic neighborhood.

23 In our view, a high-rise of glass and steel
24 does not blend with buildings of Chinatown, 75 percent
25 of which are three stories or less. And just as an

1 aside, I should mention for some people in the audience
2 that the Planning Code establishes that the financial
3 district, with its tall buildings, ends on the south
4 side of Washington Street.

5 Let me direct your attention to the summary of
6 the EIR. I'm looking at page 1-7, paragraph 3, which
7 says, three sentences, I believe, "the project would
8 change the visual setting on the west end of the project
9 block. Particularly, the project would affect the
10 visual character of the area around the Columbo
11 building.

12 "While there is no quantitative threshold for
13 such visual-quality impacts, which are to an extent
14 based on subjective judgment, it is conservatively
15 determined that the changes to the visual context of the
16 cultural resources in the area around the project site
17 would be a significant adverse impact on visual quality.

18 "As there are no mitigation measures that would
19 reduce this impact, this impact is considered
20 significant and unavoidable."

21 We respectfully disagree. Recent meetings
22 between City College's architects and Heller Mannes
23 architects have shown that alternative design proposals
24 suggest that mitigation and compromise are possible.

25 I hope that the Board of Trustees will continue

1 to foster these discussions. Thank you.

2 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Anthony Sit.

3 Would you spell your last name.

4 MR. SIT: Yes. Good evening. Everyone my name
5 is Anthony Sit, last name spelled S-i-t.

6 I'm 22 years old. I'm a resident of San
7 Francisco. I'm a student at San Francisco State
8 University.

9 I'm a former City College student in the
10 non-credit division, in computer skills, so obviously
11 I'm here fully supporting to build a 16-story campus in
12 Chinatown. For those who say that there is a parking
13 problem with the 16-story campus building, it's a
14 citywide problem that has already existed. And also,
15 for those who oppose, don't see the long-term benefits,
16 such as helping the economy at ending the period that
17 was kept from Chinese immigrants and Chinese people.

18 And they deserve a better education. So I
19 strongly believe that the campus provides a key for the
20 students so they can succeed in their career endeavors.
21 Without the key they would not be able to achieve
22 success in advancing their career. So once again, I
23 urge you, the Board members, to go ahead and pass this
24 resolution to build a 16-story campus without further
25 delay. Thank you for giving me the opportunity.

1 CHANCELLOR DAY: Monica Lee. Followed by Wilma
2 Pang. If she's here, and if not, Howard Wong.

3 MS. LEE: I'm Monica Lee, and today I'm here to
4 represent my mom to say a speech. My mom is an alumni
5 of Chinatown/North Beach campus. She studied at CNB
6 campus for three semesters for non-credit. She studied
7 at ESL level 1 for one semester. Then the teacher
8 recommended her to skip level 2 and go to level 3.

9 After the second semester the same happened and
10 she skipped level 4 and went to level 5 and 6
11 intermediate classes. When she finished this level she
12 took the credit placement test and went to Ocean campus
13 and got study credit.

14 In three years my mom graduated from CCSF. I'm
15 proud of my mom, but she didn't stop her education after
16 getting her A.A. degree.

17 She went to John Adams campus for the pharmacy
18 technician program and, along the way, passed her GED
19 and also received a scholarship from Asian coalition.
20 After getting her pharm tech certificate and another
21 associate degree, my mother was able to find good jobs
22 as a pharmacy technician and received an employee-of-the
23 -month award.

24 My mom is very grateful to all the teachers at
25 Chinatown/North Beach campus who helped her start her

1 education in the United States. Because of all their
2 hard effort, and even body language, to teach the
3 beginning students, to learn English as a second
4 language.

5 Bob Segal, now retired, was my mom's level 3
6 teacher, and he used a Chinese-English bilingual
7 dictionary to teach the students. He was very patient
8 and kind.

9 My mom also appreciated the staff at
10 Chinatown/North Beach campus. When my mom was studying
11 at this campus, she worked as a lab aide for 15 hours
12 per week. She helped out in counseling and
13 administration in the enrollment office.

14 The staff at CNB is a great group. They work
15 well with the students and give bilingual services to
16 help the students. The counselors always do their best
17 to access the students to give the appropriate classes
18 and other assistance to help them with their studies,
19 job search, and other problems.

20 Chinatown/North Beach campus of City College of
21 San Francisco serves more than 6,500 students seven days
22 a week. As part of the City College of San Francisco
23 ESL program, the Chinese North Beach campus has been
24 meeting the lifelong learning needs of the students
25 located throughout the city as well as serving the

1 residents in North Beach and Chinatown and Marina
2 district.

3 However, my mom heard complaints from the
4 students about being put on the waiting list because
5 campus cannot accommodate every student that applies
6 there. She always heard that there are at least 700
7 students on the waiting list. And when she worked at
8 CNB she would send out waiting-list cards when there
9 were openings. But there were never enough openings for
10 everyone on the waiting list.

11 CHANCELLOR DAY: We need to come to closure.
12 Thank you. Wilma Pang is not here? Okay. Howard Wong.

13 MR. WONG: Good evening. Howard Wong, an
14 architect. Thank you for your attentiveness. I'm very
15 impressed with your energy.

16 As you've heard, there are many variables in a
17 design. Architecture, as we all know, is a very dynamic
18 process.

19 Many people have very legitimate concerns, and
20 an architect will assemble all of these different
21 program requirements and look at many different options.

22 Fortunately, in this project one thing is very
23 clear. There is wide support throughout the city for a
24 Chinatown campus of very high quality. Some of the
25 issues that many organizations in the northeast sector

1 of the city have, have existed for many, many decades as
 2 you know. They are concerns about scale, height, mass.
 3 And these issues have not only been issues for North
 4 Beach, Chinatown, and Jackson Square, but have existed
 5 in almost all urban cities in the United States.

6 So when neighborhood activists or architects or
 7 planners talk about contextualism -- if there's a
 8 Chinese word for that -- they're talking about
 9 preserving a way of life for centuries.

10 And full people who have preceded us, who have
 11 fought to preserve the scale, have actually preserved
 12 our neighborhoods because, as we have seen in many, many
 13 other cities, the large-scale buildings essentially have
 14 eliminated smaller scale neighborhoods. So fortunately,
 15 in this project we have an opportunity to look at all
 16 these issues and develop a design that actually makes
 17 everybody happy. And for that I think we're very, very
 18 fortunate.

19 CHANCELLOR DAY: The next speaker is Andrew Hom,
 20 followed by Zhin Lu Li, Alex Ku, Cliff Waldeck, John
 21 Glen.

22 Andrew Hom, H-o-m?

23 MR. HOM: H-o-m. Thank you. Honorable
 24 Trustees, Dr. Day, thank you for your indulgence. I
 25 just wanted to cite a few words that Chancellor Day

1 spoke of when he was interviewed on City Desk. It
 2 really inspired me a lot because it's very true. He
 3 said that he would like to think that City College is
 4 not being judged on who we put into the college but what
 5 we produce when we come out.

6 This statement is very true on many levels, but
 7 the one I would like to cite the most is the fact that
 8 so many students today at CCSF are living proof of the
 9 institution's goal for academic achievement. It's well
 10 represented, as thousands have successfully transferred
 11 to four-year universities, such as myself.

12 The Ocean campus for many decades have been the
 13 basis for a foundation of education for at least tens of
 14 thousands students, past and present. We now have the
 15 opportunity to expand the dreams of thousands more. The
 16 pros and cons over the issue of a permanent
 17 Chinatown/North Beach facility has repeatedly been
 18 mentioned.

19 I'm not going to go over all the arguments I
 20 have been going over the entire night. We know about
 21 how a centralized cite is more advantageous than several
 22 fragmented locations. We know that the close proximity
 23 of most of these students who live and use this campus
 24 will apparently continue to take the bus or walk to the
 25 campus. So the congestion issue of traffic and

1 commuters is highly exaggerated.

2 So the issue that I'm really concerned about
3 and I know this is a reflection of concerns about the
4 people, is the fact that while I attended a couple of
5 meetings here before, about two months ago, I remember
6 one of the independent contractors or somebody earlier
7 making a statement of the fact that basically the
8 government funds allocated for this project is actually
9 dwindling.

10 Every passing moment hastens the demise of the
11 project. We're actually losing, according to their
12 estimates, \$6 million a month. Now, if you take into
13 consideration that I heard this comment made two months
14 ago, we lost about 10 percent of the real buying power
15 that's been allocated to the community district to build
16 this, to make this Chinatown CNB project.

17 The other concern I have is this. That it's
18 been my understanding, as well as some others, that part
19 of the delays is, has been anchored to, that some of the
20 Board of Trustees actually have concerns over this
21 issue. However, it's not clear to me as to what those
22 concerns are. If these items are not addressed, then we
23 as a society would have you, the terrible failed, to
24 support the principles under which this institution
25 highly espouses its very own mission statement. Thank

1 you very much.

2 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Jin Niu Li followed by Alex
3 Ku.

4 MR. LI: My name is Jin Niu Li, J-i-n, N-i-u,
5 L-i.

6 I am representing the members of the Portsmouth
7 Square Association. Firstly, we fully support the
8 building on the 16-story campus, which will have
9 benefits of the economies of the communities and also
10 would enhance our status. And also, we'll have enhance
11 the educational equality for community members.

12 It also will set up more opportunities for
13 workers that are working in the communities to take
14 classes in English and hotel management and things like
15 that so that we have an opportunity to get into the
16 mainstream society.

17 So the Board should look at us from the
18 viewpoint of the residents. The issues like shadowings,
19 according to the report, are insignificant.

20 I think the 16-story plans is the best plans
21 that can meet the needs of the community. So if we are
22 being manipulated by the special interests groups and we
23 make a wrong decision, we will be sinners.

24 So if you approve the 16-story plans, all the
25 community members will benefit. So lastly, no further

1 delay on these projects. There should be no further
 2 delays for this project. And we hope that the Chinatown
 3 campus can be built as soon as possible. So listen to
 4 our voice and make a right decision fast.

5 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Alex Ku followed by Clifford
 6 Waldeck. Alex Ku first.

7 So Alex Ku is not here.

8 MR. WALDECK: W-a-l-d-e-c-k. I am Clifford
 9 Waldeck. I own a small business near the proposed site,
 10 and I am concerned about the tower and the impact it
 11 will have on our historic Jackson Square and Chinatown
 12 districts.

13 This tower is simply out of proportion and will
 14 permanently harm the Chinatown and Jackson Square
 15 historic districts. As is said on page IES 7 of this
 16 summary, "The project will change the visual settings,
 17 significant adverse impact on visual quality. This is
 18 considered significant and unavoidable." We are San
 19 Francisco. We want to do things well.

20 We don't need another high-rise creeping into
 21 our neighborhood. That's why the planning department
 22 has height restrictions. Why does City College think it
 23 can do whatever it wants and destroy the beauty of our
 24 neighborhoods?

25 City College has always claimed it cannot build

1 in Chinatown for lack of land. They now own three
 2 parcels on the same block. So why not just build a few
 3 smaller buildings? That's right, they're all on the
 4 same block.

5 You've heard from Heller Mannes that a
 6 two-building solution is less expensive and can be built
 7 faster. I urge you to do a cost study to compare the
 8 cost.

9 And why is this campus the only one in
 10 California that has 17 stories? Also, board members, I
 11 encourage you to ask for a full accounting of the
 12 taxpayer dollars spent on promoting this project.

13 In conclusion, I'm all for a new permanent
 14 campus in Chinatown and North Beach, but we deserve and
 15 need a better plan: A plan that respects the unique
 16 historical character of our Jackson Square, North Beach,
 17 and Chinatown districts. Thank you.

18 CHANCELLOR DAY: Gentlemen.

19 MR. WEN: My name is Chan Wen.

20 I am a member of the Portsmouth Center Square
 21 Association and the Chinatown campus center to the
 22 immigrants, the past immigrants, current immigrants, and
 23 also the future immigrants, the Chinatown campus center
 24 can benefit them. And now with the funding of the
 25 government, and also with our abilities of the land, and

1 we should not miss this opportunity.

2 Now you have the money, you have the site, and
3 also the EIR has been released. So why does minority or
4 special interest or few individuals, that this project
5 is going to be obstructed. So you have the alternative,
6 the purpose of which is just to delay the construction.

7 Everybody can tell once the Chinatown campus is
8 constructed it will bring possibilities to the
9 community. Some people, they are just too picky. So
10 they use all this excuse, like traffic issues or parking
11 issues, to try to obstruct the project.

12 I was a student at City College myself and most
13 of the students, very few of them drive to school. So
14 you can do a survey and you can tell only very, very few
15 people drive to school. So the traffic problem is not a
16 problem.

17 CHANCELLOR DAY: Time's up.

18 MR. WEN: So we should take action immediately
19 so any delay would cost.

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you.

21 MR. WEN: So we are united, and we will march
22 and encourage the 16-story building be built.

23 CHANCELLOR DAY: Wong Kasing. Dan Lieberman is
24 next.

25 MR. KASING: W-o-n-g, K-a-s-i-n-g.

1 First, my concern: Is this project planning is
2 doing in secret? So if it's not, the plan was not
3 planned secretly, it takes time to get this process
4 going on. So it is rather strange that now there's
5 opposition to this project at this time.

6 So my concern is that the opposing party, have
7 they ever been, make the proposal or make the comments
8 to City College before this time? And also, will the
9 16-story building make the land sink? Is it because of
10 this structure or concern there is opposition?

11 Well, I consider it's the right to try to
12 utilize every space in Chinatown because we don't have
13 much land here. Now, if now we have two lots, then we
14 consider one lot to build a 16-story building and save
15 other lots for another center development.

16 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you.

17 MR. KASING: So like the power was off several
18 times this evening. In the nearby area, are there not
19 buildings that are higher than the Chinatown campus?

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, Mr. Wong. We have to
21 terminate it at this point. Thank you very much.

22 Dan Lieberman is next, followed by Jenny Liu,
23 followed by Isabel Huie, Cary Fong, and Lon Dai Chang.

24 Dan Lieberman, are you here? Gone.

25 Jenny Liu. And I will remind you, Ms. Liu,

1 three minutes. You've been with us before. I know you
2 well.

3 MS. LIU: I really would like to thank you, the
4 Board of Trustees, a very hard-working court reporter
5 and translator. I'm so glad you are able to come down
6 here, because I think it might seem to you that people
7 are not addressing exactly the issues in environmental
8 law or the EIR. But they're really speaking to, they
9 want you to understand the environment of which we are
10 in.

11 When people are talking about their traffic
12 impact and how it impacts their business, and so forth,
13 how many people out of over 100 people that came today
14 that go to the school that live in this community do you
15 think have private cars?

16 When they talk about traffic congestion and the
17 lack of parking, whose cars do you think to let
18 Portsmouth Square, St. Mary's Square, all the office
19 buildings and the garages downtown? Do you think it's
20 their cars?

21 When you're talking about view blockage, and we
22 talk about the good old days of the Gold Rush era.
23 Kearny Street was the waterfront. Where are our view
24 blockages? Where did all those buildings come from?

25 And when people talk about how crowded we are,

1 and we don't need more crowding, and that we want
2 seismic safety of the community, what happened when we
3 tried to address, there are three- to four-story
4 buildings in Chinatown, 75 percent are in that housing
5 stock. Do they know the standard of that housing stock?
6 They're 8-by-10 single-room-occupancy buildings, where
7 people share bathrooms and kitchens.

8 What we're trying to tell you is, we have a
9 case of environmental racism, environmental
10 discrimination. When we try to improve our environment
11 and our quality of life, like Lady Shaw Housing,
12 International Hotel elderly housing, and now the
13 community college, people threaten us with suits and
14 tell us how they're going to save us from environmental
15 impact.

16 So now you have an alternative plan, and I said
17 to you, and I wrote a letter to you, that is not an
18 alternative plan, because it does not work. They have
19 an alternative plan for a seven-story, seven-story, that
20 goes all the way to their property line. It increases
21 shadow on Portsmouth Square. It is a larger shadow. It
22 goes straight up, with no setbacks. It increases wind
23 impact. It has over 50 parking in it, which is not only
24 against the public transit policy, first, of the City,
25 but also will encourage more people to drive, and more

1 congestion.

2 Now, I really seriously believe you want to
3 build this, and you do not want this to get caught up in
4 a suit, but I want you to know, Mae Liu (phonetic) was
5 sued, Lady Shaw was sued, the I-Hotel was sued and this
6 is going to be sued. And it never stopped us. Don't
7 let it stop you.

8 CHANCELLOR DAY: The next person after Ms. Huie,
9 Isabel Huie, is Cary Fong. So if you're here, thank
10 you.

11 MS. HUIE: My name is Isabel Huie, I-s-a-b-e-l,
12 H-u-i-e, and I am representing Attorney Claudine Cheng,
13 C-h-e-n-g.

14 She is the past national president of OCA, a
15 long-time active community leader in the Chinese
16 community as well as many other city-wide nonprofit
17 organizations.

18 Claudine is attending a convention in
19 Sacramento but would like to make sure that her
20 statement is on record. And I read the following:

21 "Over the past 20 years there has not been too
22 many issues that were able to galvanize the community
23 like this proposed City College campus. As a longtime
24 activist, having served on many community boards, as
25 well as a 20-year resident of northeast waterfront, I

1 feel strongly that the time has come for the City
2 College of San Francisco to have a campus in a proposed
3 location which will serve community needs of residents
4 in both Chinatown as well as the northeast part of the
5 city.

6 With reference to the findings of the Draft
7 EIR, you will hear diverse opinions about the height and
8 other physical details of the proposed building. I urge
9 you to listen to the public opinions expressed and make
10 a sensible decision that will not only advance the
11 educational objectives of City College but, most
12 importantly, a decision that will truly reflect the wish
13 of the majority in the community.

14 Lastly, I urge you to adopt a decision that
15 will not cause further delay in the process, which will
16 impact the availability of funding for this significant
17 project, one that is already long overdue."

18 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you. The next speaker
19 after Fong. After Mr. Fong is Lon Dai Chang. So if you
20 could be ready, we would appreciate it.

21 MR. FONG: Cary Fong; C-a-r-y, F-o-n-g.

22 Madam President and all the Trustees, thank you
23 for your patience and coming down to Chinatown. And
24 thank you for providing us with a Chinese translator.

25 I myself do not speak Chinese. My father was

1 born in China and he made a conscious decision when we
2 were young that he would only raise us speaking in
3 English.

4 And the reason being was, he came to this
5 country when he was 13 and there was no ESL, and he
6 wanted us not to have an accent, because he wanted us to
7 adapt to this country and assimilate. So it's also
8 educational for me to hear the passion that you have
9 these monolingual speakers coming forward. Because
10 those are the stories of my father.

11 I just want to talk about a concept, and it
12 probably has its roots in San Francisco. It's a concept
13 called NIMBY, not in my neighborhood, and it probably
14 goes back to the '60s, when the planners said, "Let's
15 extend the Embarcadero freeway, and cut through Bay
16 Street, and hook up with the Golden Gate Bridge, and
17 let's have freeways go through the Panhandle."

18 And San Franciscans rose up and said, "Not in
19 my neighborhood," and you do not have freeways.

20 So as San Francisco came up with this concept,
21 it's really odd. I think there's a new concept being
22 born in San Francisco, and it's really, it's called,
23 "Not in your neighborhood." Because what I was struck
24 by was the opposition, if you look at their support
25 group, they only have one Chinese organization.

1 And when you look at the EIR, it's called the
2 Chinatown/North Beach campus, and the community that's
3 being, that's going to get the brunt of these economic,
4 these environmental impacts is Chinatown.

5 So why do we have all of these organizations
6 outside of Chinatown telling Chinatown what's best for
7 them? And the answer is, economic racism. When the
8 powers that be, the owners of the Hilton, can get a
9 state senator to threaten to hold up state funding, and
10 when they can get the mayor to try to intervene and cut
11 a deal, and they can get the Chronicle to write an
12 editorial to make all these problems go away, that's
13 economic racism.

14 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you, Mr. Wong.

15 Lon Dai Chang? Linda Wang?

16 MS. WANG: I think we're about to have a
17 congregate yawn. It's so late in the night. Thank you
18 for sticking it out. I am Linda Wang, W-a-n-g.

19 I would like to actually speak to the EIR.

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you.

21 MS. WANG: I heard a faculty member of City
22 College state that there was a possibility that a survey
23 of students might have been misunderstood. Do you
24 recall that?

25 CHANCELLOR DAY: Yes.

1 MS. WANG: That survey, as I heard it, was a
 2 survey asking the students where they came from prior to
 3 coming to class and where they were going to after
 4 class. If you review that survey, and if there is any
 5 possibility that the students misunderstood, I would
 6 urge you to conduct that survey again. Because you are
 7 basing your impacts, in part, your discussion of impacts
 8 in part on the results of that survey.

9 If that survey was not accurate, then your
 10 impact discussion is faulty and would subject you to
 11 criticism, if not worse.

12 Secondly, I would like to urge you, even though
 13 you're not obligated to do this, I understand, to look
 14 to project the future need for this campus. It would be
 15 a total embarrassment if two years, three years down the
 16 road, after the campus opens, if you find that you are
 17 at capacity.

18 Many people have been praising City College
 19 because it is so accessible, and they hear about the
 20 credit courses that you will be able to offer. You are
 21 going to draw more people. So I would urge you, even
 22 though you might not be obligated to, to please take a
 23 look at projected need for the future.

24 Thirdly, I'd like to talk about preservation.
 25 In the many comments that I have heard about

1 preservation of Chinatown, the talk is about preserving
 2 buildings. Preserving the character of Chinatown is not
 3 just preserving buildings. Chinatown's primary
 4 character is that it is a living community. It is
 5 demonstrating its life by signing petitions supporting a
 6 16-story campus.

7 Fifteen thousand signatures and rising; it
 8 demonstrates it's alive by 100 community organizations
 9 supporting a 16-story campus. These are not bogus
 10 organizations; these are family associations, district
 11 associations, other community organizations; churches.
 12 I would urge the trustees to hold fast to your public
 13 trust. That public trust is not to mollify the Hilton
 14 Hotel. That public trust is education first for our
 15 community.

16 CHANCELLOR DAY: The next speaker is Lorraine
 17 Chew, C-h-e-w; Agnes Chan is after Ms. Chew. Bennong Li
 18 after that individual, Victor Seeto and Shirley Chang.

19 MS. CHEW: Thank you. My name is Lorraine
 20 Chew. Currently I am associate dean of the College of
 21 Studies at San Francisco State. Actually, you've heard
 22 it all, and I want to truly echo what Jenny has said. I
 23 think she has said a lot in terms of what our community
 24 consistently has to go through in terms of getting
 25 services and what we deserve. Always people telling us

1 what we need and what we should have.

2 I don't know what happened to the concept of
3 self-determination, but definitely it is not something
4 that is embraced by others of how we want to carry out
5 our task and our will in our community.

6 I'm here today to, again, like everyone has
7 said, the majority of people have said, to urge you to
8 construct this permanent site in Chinatown, City College
9 site in Chinatown, the 16-story one. Because people
10 misunderstand.

11 As someone who is in education, there has been
12 countless research and substantial research that
13 supports the fact that parents, particularly immigrant
14 parents, who are educated on how our system works in
15 this country, with increased language skills, are better
16 informed, productive, participatory parents in their
17 children's education.

18 And the results are, with parents being more
19 informed and more educated and with more language
20 skills, particularly in English, is that there are less
21 dropout rates for students; there are more informed
22 decision making in terms of parents, as to how students
23 can go to college. And they are more informed in terms
24 of how to get assistance for their students to complete
25 college.

1 I really would encourage this Board to go
2 forward with not how not to do this but to look really
3 and truly as to how to make this happen.

4 All the suggestions tonight really points to
5 the fact that there are many exciting programs that can
6 happen at this site. I would be most encouraged to see
7 further collaboration between a place like San Francisco
8 State University and the community college, in terms of
9 promoting classes in community service, learning in
10 community leadership. But most of all, I think when you
11 make this decision to build a 16-story building and
12 permanent site, you are sending a message to the
13 community and the communities at large that we want to
14 invest in the social capital of all the students that
15 come to this site.

16 What's amazing to me, as a student activist 40
17 years ago, when I came to this auditorium as a student,
18 raising issues about ESL for K-12 education, tonight I
19 see these people learn and demonstrate and practice what
20 democracy is. And then my only hope for this Board is
21 that you do them justice by making the decision that is
22 their wealth and their future.

23 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you very much. Agnes
24 Chan, followed by Bennong Li.

25 MS. CHAN: My name is Agnes Chan, C-h-a-n, and

1 I will be translating for myself. That will be more
2 efficient.

3 I'm a faculty member teaching in the ESL
4 department at Chinatown/North Beach for 25 years. And
5 before that, I was also very involved in searching for a
6 site for the Chinatown/North Beach campus, which was 30
7 years ago. I worked with Frances Lee, and we secured
8 the 940 Filbert Street site.

9 And I also was involved in the community for a
10 long time. I was there fighting against the eviction of
11 the International Hotel. I was there fighting against
12 the building of the Holiday Inn. And talking about
13 shadows, I was very involved in the renovation of the
14 children's playground, the second-level part of the
15 Portsmouth Square. And there we were seriously talking
16 about shadows.

17 So I would like to talk about two things today.
18 One is, I would like to rebut some of the points raised
19 by the opposition. And secondly, if I have time, I
20 would like to give you some life stories of the students
21 in my classes in the last few semesters.

22 In terms of rebuttal, some of the opposition
23 points.

24 Earthquake and fire safety. We got Filbert
25 Street because the Hancock Elementary School was not,

1 and is not still, earthquake safe. And that is why the
2 Unified School District closed it down for K-to-6
3 children. So it is not safe for young children, but we
4 took it over and it is safe, I guess, for adults like me
5 and my students.

6 We thought it would be a short stint of a few
7 years, and it turned out to be 30 years.

8 If we talk about fire safety, you met at 888
9 today, earlier, Clay Street, and you saw that three-foot
10 stairway, and I always have this bad dream of a fire.
11 It's a death trap, of 200 and 300 students going down
12 that narrow stairway.

13 So I really hope that our new building will be
14 built with urgency and move ahead before I die in the
15 next Loma Prieta earthquake and before I get burned at
16 888 Clay.

17 In terms of public transportation, I for one
18 will not be driving. I live in the East Bay. And now I
19 have to drive because after BART, I have to transfer to
20 number 41 to go to Filbert. And as everybody knows,
21 number 41 only runs at rush hour in the morning and in
22 the evening, and it's very erratic.

23 That's three minutes?

24 CHANCELLOR DAY: That's it.

25 MS. CHAN: Okay. Can I just tell you the story

1 of one student?

2 CHANCELLOR DAY: Very quickly.

3 MS. CHANG: Very quickly. This student came to
4 me, she was a waitress. She lived in Chinatown, in a
5 residential hotel. She came to me at 8:00 o'clock, went
6 to work a lunch shift, and then she went to a 3:00
7 o'clock class and went to work at the dinner shift,
8 putting in 42 hours a week of work.

9 She transferred to credit. But recently she
10 said she can no longer do the credit work because Ocean
11 campus is way too far for her. I'm done.

12 CHANCELLOR DAY: Bennong Li. B-e-n-n-o-n-g.

13 MR. LI. My name is Bennong Li, B-e-n-n-o-n-g.
14 The 16-story plan is the best plan, and I fully support
15 16-story plan. And on behalf of my five members of the
16 family, my whole family support the 16-story plan.

17 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Victor Seeto is next,
18 followed by Shirley Chang, followed by Fan Ru Ning.

19 MR. SEETO: My name is Victor Seeto, S-e-e-t-o,
20 and I represent the Chinese-American Democratic Club.
21 There has been many individuals that have spoken, and I
22 think that I represent a community organization that's
23 been in existence for 49 years.

24 Our club -- I don't have any prepared
25 statement, because our club made its final decision just

1 today, a vote; a unanimous vote of our executive
2 committee supports the 16-story proposal.

3 But coming late to this controversy, we're able
4 to actually have a process. Monday night we met for
5 over three and a half hours, and with representatives of
6 the main proposal and the alternative proposal, we met;
7 we had a proposal, we had the presentation by Eric
8 Lindquist from Heller Mannes, who presented us with
9 charts and floor plans, and drawings.

10 I think that the trustees may be tempted to
11 choose an alternative. These are a great temptation.
12 Heller Mannes is a very reputable firm. There are some
13 defects in it that I would like to point out.

14 The parking is an illusion; it's below sea
15 level. And St. Mary's, who built the parking garage, it
16 cost them over \$200,000 per stall. And I think that it
17 will break the bank if the proposed parking, which is
18 apparently going to be three stories or three levels, is
19 going to be implemented.

20 The proposed proposal by Heller Mannes is,
21 fills up very close to the parking line, and even though
22 their proposal is 7 stories as opposed to 16 stories, it
23 casts a greater shadow on Portsmouth Square.

24 Heller Mannes' proposal suggests greater space
25 efficiency. They propose four elevators, and it's our

1 impression that that's debatable, that you may need
2 more.

3 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Seeto, I'm going to have to
4 ask you. This evening is not about the Heller Mannes
5 plan. It's about the EIR draft report, and I would like
6 to see if you would be able to wrap it up with some just
7 relevant comments to that agenda, please. Thank you.

8 MR. SEETO: I think I'll have -- our committee
9 came to a unanimous decision, and everyone spoke and
10 voted and was unanimous. And I can tell you my personal
11 reasons for supporting it.

12 First is historical reasons. This project is
13 in a line, over a 30-year period, in my experience of
14 being a community activist, of having neighbors
15 objecting for environmental purposes. This pattern is a
16 plague upon Chinatown. It always comes up whenever
17 there is.

18 And second is, I support it because of the
19 depth, authenticity, and commitment of supporters who
20 are volunteers, unpaid volunteers, as opposed to the
21 people who came who are paid lobbyists

22 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you. Ms. Shirley Chang.
23 She's gone.

24 Fan Ru Ning? Jose Ricondo Bondac?
25 Chi Kin Wong?

1 MR. WONG: Thank you for everybody coming to
2 our board meeting. I'm very support that 16-story
3 building because, you know, I'm very sorry that
4 everybody at the lunchtime or at the break time, they
5 have to eat in, near the restroom. Because it's very
6 nasty.

7 So I am very, very support that 16-story
8 building. Build a new building as soon as possible.
9 Thank you. Thank you and have a nice day.

10 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you for your brevity.
11 Richard Ow.

12 MR. OW: Richard, last name O-w. I will be
13 very brief. I'm really hungry. God save San Francisco
14 from earthquakes. What I'm going to say next? I, like
15 the previous gentleman, saying that the new 16-story
16 building looks like Las Vegas building. I hope all the
17 tourists, when they come to San Francisco, leave their
18 money back in San Francisco before they go to Las Vegas.

19 I want to talk to the Trustees. You are
20 elected by the people, and you sworn that you will do
21 your duty. Your duty is for the students. The finance,
22 most of the finance come from the State. And then the
23 City bonds, and the sales tax. And there are other
24 income property tax. Use it for the benefit of the
25 student.

1 When I look at three-by-three trustees, I been
2 supporting you guys for quite a few years, and I am
3 looking forward to when you going up the higher staff, I
4 will continue to support all you ladies and gentlemen.

5 I heard so much about preservation of the old
6 Chinatown and other communities. Gentlemen, the City
7 have a preservation commission. Let them do their work.
8 And President Paskin, he been only in the board of
9 supervisor for seven years. I think he make the record
10 of preserving in North Beach of the most historical
11 buildings. And if you WANT to preserve some buildings
12 or streets or parks, whatever, please talk to President
13 Paskin.

14 And I have so much concern about parking, about
15 Muni. We have a parking and traffic department. We
16 also have a Muni. The Muni carries one million
17 passengers in and out, and within the city, a day.

18 I'm going to be quick. And we are better
19 streetcars, clean-feel streetcar, and more comfort to
20 the transportation. So it will take the students, come
21 to school and go to work, or go home, whatever, and our
22 city is public transportation, first priority.

23 I urge the whole board will finish construction
24 of this 16-story building and students will be your
25 number one on priority.

1 Thank you.

2 CHANCELLOR DAY: One more speaker, please. You
3 will have to give your full name.

4 MS. HSIEH: Thank you for the opportunity. My
5 name is France Hsieh, F-r-a-n-c-e-s, last name
6 H-s-i-e-h.

7 Thank you guys so much for your patience. I'm
8 going to speak specifically to a couple of items on the
9 DEIR that I think we have to look a little bit more into
10 detail.

11 One is that the college draft DEIR really did
12 not explore any real alternatives that will both have
13 smaller buildings and a smaller scale but actually meet
14 the student needs and educational needs.

15 Everybody, everybody has said, Chinatown/North
16 Beach there's some of the most crowdest communities and
17 dense communities in the city. And the height and the
18 bulk of this building will have a significant impact.
19 And not only that, building such a large building will
20 kind of set a precedent for more high-rises encroaching
21 on Chinatown, and that is certainly something that
22 should have been studied more. That is something that
23 the DEIR should have looked at.

24 And I have to also wonder if any alternatives
25 that you studied, whether there was a study of a

1 no-shadow alternative.

2 Second issue, again, is going to look at the
3 traffic and parking. And as we heard from a lot of
4 teachers and counselors tonight, it looks like the
5 surveys that were done were of the students that were
6 currently using the Filbert campus. Those same teachers
7 and counselors also talked about wanting to increase not
8 only the programs, but credit and non-credit that are
9 going to be offered at the new campus, but also
10 diversifying the community that was going to be coming
11 to the new campus.

12 And I have to, if you look at the DEIR, it
13 doesn't take that into consideration, and having that
14 many more new students that were unanticipated, that are
15 not part of the current campus, will certainly change
16 traffic patterns and the Muni use patterns.

17 And not only that, the DEIR didn't mention the
18 200 spots that you would be taking away from Chinatown
19 with this new building; 150 that are the current parking
20 lot that you would be building on, and the extra 50 that
21 you would be renting for the faculty over at St. Mary's.
22 So you're effectively taking away 200 parking spots.

23 So I don't think these are issues of racism. I
24 think that's a distraction. I think we need to look at
25 the real issues, and the real concerns, and the problems

1 that we have, and not have a huge inappropriate building
2 come into the neighborhood. And let's look at these
3 real issues. Thank you.

4 CHANCELLOR DAY: Natasha Su Yen.

5 MS. SU YEN: Dear Board of Trustees, and
6 everybody. I have been sitting here for six hours.
7 There are so many people supporting the 16-story
8 project, so I'm not going to consider to mention about
9 the professional comments and data.

10 I want to say something about our teachers and
11 students. I am a student at Filbert Street City
12 College. Well, maybe I'm not a very qualified person to
13 speak at this hearing, because I attend City College
14 only for one semester. But I have seen a lot of, and
15 been very touched, so I want to mention three things.

16 All the students, they want to have opportunity
17 to learn.

18 And the teachers are very professional and very
19 patient, so they can teach the students.

20 Well, I used to be a Mandarin teacher before I
21 came to the United States. So as a former teacher, and
22 also as a student, I consider I can feel very deeply,
23 speaking to this issue.

24 So you must be very tired. It has been so many
25 hours. So I want to extend an invitation to you, to

1 invite all the Board of Trustees, it will be my honor,
 2 passion. So I invite Board members to come to our
 3 Filbert Street campus. I will prepare seven lunches for
 4 seven board members. But you may need to wait for a
 5 long time before you can use the microwave.

6 After lunch I will provide tea, and you need to
 7 go to the bathroom after you drink tea. So you may have
 8 to wait like half an hour before you can go to the
 9 bathroom. So by the time you leave you may notice there
 10 is some handicap center students. With the help of
 11 people, they are trying to hand them step by step.

12 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you.

13 MS. YEN: And also we have the 92-year-old
 14 student coming to the class. I know as board members
 15 you have an important job. So I believe you have
 16 already make up your decisions how to vote. So thank
 17 you for this opportunity. Actually, I am representing
 18 200 students from four classes to speak. Thank you very
 19 much.

20 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Richard Bondo.

21 MR. BONDO: Something that seems very wrong
 22 about the plan is that it's reliant on too many things
 23 that aren't there yet. For instance, we keep going
 24 around the issue that with public transportation, the
 25 7,000 students at the new campus would be easily able to

1 get back and forth to the campus.

2 But just looking at the current T Muni line, or
 3 the current expansion plan of BART to SFO, or its plans
 4 to go all the way to San Jose, does anyone realistically
 5 think that everything in public transportation would be
 6 easily met, in a smooth fashion?

7 Also, it's great to have, we're talking about
 8 the effect on Chinatown, but we seem to be forgetting
 9 that this is not just a Chinatown campus. This is also
 10 a North Beach/Telegraph Hill campus.

11 Why haven't we seen or heard people from those
 12 neighborhoods being represented? In fact, many of the
 13 residents in North Beach and also the Telegraph area
 14 have openly said that they haven't received the copy of
 15 the Draft EIR that was supposed to be sent to them on
 16 this issue. Shouldn't they also have a stake in this
 17 issue?

18 CHANCELLOR DAY: Thank you. I think this might
 19 be the last card. Calvin Pong.

20 MR. PONG: I mention last time every plan
 21 center has its effects. But we need to look at the big
 22 picture. So we know that the 16-story plan is almost
 23 the best.

24 All the time has been spent in preparing this
 25 report. So why nobody raise any objection or comments

1 during the course of the preparation and until today?

2 Now is the time to take action. If we are not
3 going to implement this plan, this plan will be a
4 failure. It will be a bomb. Because if you have
5 objections now, and instead you are going to have
6 discussion, and after that, when you have another plan
7 and there's other objections, this will continue
8 endlessly.

9 So I urge you, as united officials of all the
10 people, take action to get this plan passed.

11 CHANCELLOR DAY: Mr. Pilpel.

12 MR. PILPEL: David Pilpel, P-i-l-p-e-l. Just
13 want to speak very briefly with regard to the project
14 need and description in sections 1 and 2.

15 Actually, I believe that the introduction in
16 section 5 regarding discussion of the alternatives is
17 actually quite helpful. I found that very useful. But
18 as to sections 1 and 2 in particular on the project
19 description, there's a particular table on page 2-10
20 regarding the characteristics that discusses the
21 required program number of rooms and spaces and the
22 assignable square footage.

23 And it notes the source as EHDD, which I
24 believe is the project architect. What's not clear is
25 the actual source, other than the architect of those

1 program needs.

2 I would suggest that the EIR be expanded to
3 describe the basis for that program requirement in terms
4 of program needs.

5 It may well be that the building as designed
6 meets the needs, or meets as many of the needs as
7 possible. It may also be that other alternatives might
8 meet a reduced need, if in fact the number of program
9 rooms and spaces were better described or dealt with in
10 a different fashion.

11 If I have any additional comments I'll provide
12 them in writing. Thank you very much.

13 CHANCELLOR DAY: That's it.

14 MS. GRIER: Before we adjourn, I just want to
15 remind you that the board started their meeting at 3:00
16 o'clock and we met until 6:00 o'clock, and then we
17 started with the public hearing on the draft of the EIR,
18 or the DEIR.

19 And so it's about 11:45, 11:50, so we've been
20 meeting for five hours and 45 minutes beyond the three
21 hours. And it was important. It was important to hear
22 what everyone had to say.

23 And I really want to thank all of you for your
24 comments.

25 I would like to also thank my colleagues for

1 their role in this, and unless there's a burning issue
2 or there's something that you must say, I'm going to
3 conclude and say good night for the public hearing.
4 Good night.

5 (Whereupon, the proceedings adjourned at 11:50 p.m.)

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2 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
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5 I, KAREN A. FRIEDMAN, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter, hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings
7 were taken in shorthand by me at the time and place
8 therein stated, and that the said proceedings were
9 thereafter reduced to typewriting, by computer, under my
10 direction and supervision.
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