

[La onda newsletter purpose statement]. Jan. 1984

MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán) Madison, Wisconsin: MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán), Jan. 1984

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LA ONDA

CONTRAL is the official newsletter for Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (M.E.Ch.A.) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. It is the organ that speaks the Chicano political dialectic and voices our direction. One of the areas that ONDA focuses on is the creation of a Chicanos Studies Department.

Time is short for the UW-Administration to prove their commitment towards equal access in education. In the early 1970's, following the political precursor of social unrest, we saw the first visible appearances of some Chicanos on this campus, and today, we still have nothing to offer reflecting the underlying social and cultural premises upon which the concept of Chicano Studies rests.

One of the main functions of MEChA is to get a Chicano Studies Department. By analyzing our past issues of ONDA, Porta Voz and Tezcatlipoca, we have developed a twenty year picture showing the role this institution of higher learning plays in our communal society. We see that while obtaining a higher educational degree is supposed to open doors, the types of individuals and knowledge that flows through these doors is tightly controlled by aging fascist hypocrites. Their racist ideals have no relation to our barrio, ghetto and reservation communities, for they have a separate value system in store. Their standard is to preserve and maintain the status—quo capitalist elite.

Chicanos will never accept their belief that the rate at which one society changes with respect to another as a measure of development. At question then is the whole philosophical machine.

The fact that the university has become the target institution by Blacks, Chicanos, and Native Americans is not an isolated event. Moreover, it generally reflects the historic failure of other Anglo-American institutions, political and economic, to respond to the needs of our communities.

Chicano population growth rates will either double or triple by the end of this decade in the U.S., making it the fastest growing minority group. Evidence of this is in the demography of the Southwest United States which is chiefly composed of Chicanos predating the U.S. occupation on their lands.

The U.S.-Mexican War of 1846 resulted in the occupation of our lands in the southwest, known to us as Aztlan. The U.S. won "title" to a land that was never Mexicos' General Santa Annas to give. The signing of the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty in 1848 is an overt lie in the context of American history reminiscent to the confederacy, slavery, confinement of Indegenous People to reservations, bondage in the mines, railroad gangs and the clearing of the plains (desenraisar) for agribusiness.