DOCUMENTATION FOR RADICAL CAUCUS RESOLUTION ABOUT UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATION AND CONTRACTS WITH ICE.

First is a list of all articles/sources alphabetical by author. Following is the full text of the articles.

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**ARTICLES FULL TEXT FOR DOCUMENTATION:**


Refusing to be defeated by the intransigence of the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) administration, students and Baltimore community members [held a teach-in and rally on November 15](https://truthout.org/articles/why-is-johns-hopkins-enabling-ice/) to protest the university’s million-dollar contracts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The action was spurred after the administration received a [petition with over 2,000 signatures](https://truthout.org/articles/why-is-johns-hopkins-enabling-ice/) calling for JHU to terminate the ICE contracts — and then rebuffed the demand.

Speakers at the teach-in rejected the administration’s cynical invocation of “academic freedom” as a defense of the ICE contracts, and denounced the university’s complicity in Trump’s war on immigrants. Inside the BLC, protesters chanted, “Money for education, not deportation!” and “End the contracts!” after several participants unfurled a banner over a balcony, which read “End the Contracts! #ICEoutJHU.”

This was the second major action against the contracts to have taken place at JHU since a coalition of student organizations came together in September to pressure the university to end its partnership with ICE.

Since 2008, the university has earned more than $7 million from 37 contracts with ICE, and currently, Hopkins has [three contracts with the agency totaling more than $1.7 million](https://truthout.org/articles/why-is-johns-hopkins-enabling-ice/). The contracts are for Hopkins to provide emergency medical training and leadership education to ICE personnel and are housed by the School of Medicine and the School of Education, respectively.

THE #ICEoutJHU campaign was ignited after JHU Professor Drew Daniel authored a [petition](https://truthout.org/articles/why-is-johns-hopkins-enabling-ice/) that called on JHU to immediately dissolve the currently existing partnership between the university and ICE.

“Given the extent and extremity of its cruel practices and the scale of ongoing human rights charters which ICE continues to violate, we do not see how in good conscience Johns Hopkins University can collaborate with this organization,” the petition stated.
As the fall semester approached, the Baltimore International Socialist Organization (ISO) planned its campus launch and initial tabling around a campaign against the contracts. Soon into the semester, it became apparent that other student organizations — including Students Against Private Police (SAPP) and Teachers and Researchers United (TRU) — were also organizing on the issue or interested in coming aboard.

These organizations — along with local branches of the Party for Socialism and Liberation and Jews United for Justice — decided immediately to form a coalition and plan a major action at the end of September.

The coalition’s first action began as an early morning “play date” — a symbolic manifestation of the slogan that families belong together — outside the Eisenhower Library, where students, faculty and community members with their children chalked on the sidewalk and participated in a song circle.

First a relatively quiet action, the action soon shifted into a march to the JHU president’s office to deliver the petition, with participants chanting, “Hey, hey! Ho, ho! These ICE contracts have got to go!”

Among the speakers were the partner of Tamsyn Mahoney-Steel, a JHU librarian whom the university served a 10-day notice that she would have to return to Britain after the JHU administration failed to renew her visa. (Instead of fighting on her behalf, Hopkins reportedly did not submit Mahoney-Steel’s application based on the belief that the Trump administration would reject it.)

In the interim weeks, while awaiting a response from the administration to the petition, the coalition kept up the pressure by flyering and protesting outside the JHU president’s eponymous “Day of Service,” demanding that the president do a real “service” to the community by ending his support for Trump’s deportation regime.

The University response dated October 17 flatly rejected the demands on the grounds that ending the university’s cooperation with ICE would “infringe on academic freedom” and that its “medical training is ultimately benefiting those who interact with ICE.” The administration also highlighted that the university does not abridge existing contracts on the basis of changes in federal policy.

The coalition shot back with a hard-hitting open letter, which rebuked the administration’s cynical version of “academic freedom”:

At least 30 participated in the teach-in outside in freezing weather before entering the Brody Learning Commons (BLC) building to disrupt business as usual, where the action swelled to at least 80 participants.

The Department of Homeland Security has contracted with Johns Hopkins University, not individual professors. Many of the courses, both in the School of Medicine and School of Education, are led by part-time instructors who are hired on a course-by-course basis, meaning that the instructors do not have a say in whether to maintain these courses.

It continued:

Under the proposed definition of academic freedom advanced in the letter, JHU is obliged to accept any contract that has the support of a faculty member. This is not the purpose of academic freedom protections. These “courses” are not forums for controversial discussions, venues for critical examination of fraught topics, or tools for research and knowledge production. They are training programs which enable human rights abuses.
To the claim that JHU’s medical training “ultimately benefits” those who interact with ICE, the coalition retorted, “If JHU wishes to provide medical services to migrants, they need not to do so through ICE.” JHU could channel resources into one of the many research programs at the JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health that are focused on improving public health in the immigrant community.

Support for the open letter (which is now available online as a petition) has been pouring in over recent days — including from several alumni who pledged they will divest their support from JHU and encourage others to do so until it terminates its cooperation with ICE. The Maryland ACLU also endorsed the coalition’s response one day before the rally, along with eight other organizations.

The day before the rally and teach-in, the Baltimore ISO branch hosted a public forum titled “How Hopkins Abets the War on Immigrants” in order to pull in students who were either not yet engaged in organizing on campus or who had not yet found a politics that gave them the courage to act.

One of the speakers covered the way in which the capitalist class uses borders in order to control populations in the service of expanding profits. In the discussion, members emphasized that our allegiance is with the working classes of all nations, not the ruling elites of any one nation.

It is also important to recognize the ways the coalition has drawn together struggles against oppression on different fronts. This was clear at the rally, when a member from Hopkins Students for Justice in Palestine linked the repression of Gazans by Israel with violence faced by migrants at the US border with Mexico.

It is also important to recognize the ways the coalition has drawn together struggles against oppression on different fronts. This was clear at the rally, when a member from Hopkins Students for Justice in Palestine linked the repression of Gazans by Israel with violence faced by migrants at the US border with Mexico.

Further, members of the graduate student unionization effort, TRU, connected their struggle for workplace rights to the way in which ICE acts as a tool to suppress workplace assertion by immigrants. SAAP saw their organizing against the militarization of the JHU campus as related to the intensification of the war against immigrants.

In the coming weeks, the coalition also plans to connect with progressive and radical student organizations at other universities that have current partnerships with ICE including Northeastern University, University of Maryland, Vermont State Colleges System, Virginia Tech, and University of Alabama Birmingham.

The success of our coalition against ICE at JHU, and the student movement against ICE more broadly, suggests there is great potential for organizing both students and community members on issues which have long faded from the corporate news cycle — whether it be #MeToo, #BlackLivesMatter or #AbolishICE.

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Students protest Johns Hopkins University’s association with anti-refugee force

April 25, 2019 by Anish R M

The Johns Hopkins University makes millions of dollars in contracts with law enforcement agencies, especially the notorious US Immigration and Customs Enforcement. ICE has been in the forefront of the Trump administration’s crackdown on refugees.

A protest by students and faculty at the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) against the institution’s association with the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) entered its fourth week on April 23. The students are also expressing their anger at the proposed deployment of a private police force with jurisdiction within and around the campuses.

The students are demanding that the university withdraw all contracts with ICE and abandon plans to constitute a private police. They are also demanding that the university pledge the amount received in profits with ICE contracts to the Baltimore Immigration Defense Fund. The legal defense fund was set up by the city administration of Baltimore in March 2018 to aid refugees who are victims of the Trump administration’s crackdown. Other demands include the recognition of workers’ unionization in the university, as well as student and faculty representation on the university’s board of trustees.

Students and faculty members have been protesting and petitioning against the university’s association with ICE since July 2018, when JHU was set to renew the contracts of ICE with its constituent faculties, the School of Medicine (JHUSOM) and the School of Education. The contracts provide various training programs and certificate courses for law enforcement officers, including those of ICE. The JHUSOM has been associated with the ICE since 2004. The school’s Center for Law Enforcement Medicine has provided specialized physician oversight and has trained federal law enforcement personnel as paramedics and emergency medical technicians.
According to the university’s official news portal, *The Hub*, they “do not see their work as an endorsement of current immigration policies” but the protesters have argued otherwise. In an interview with *Democracy Now!*, Mariam Banahi, a doctoral student at JHU and a participant at the sit-in, stated, “The administration puts [the contracts] in terms that it’s supportive of medical care and things like that, rather than actually supporting the detaining of asylum seekers. However, we see that as a kind of abstraction of the violence being enacted, because they support the actual structures that facilitate the workings of ICE.”

The university administration makes millions of dollars through these contracts. According to the university gazette, when the School of Education signed a contract with the ICE in 2009, it received a total of USD 11.4 million. But this is just the tip of the iceberg with regard to JHU’s involvement in the military industrial complex, said an op-ed written by three current and former students in the *Baltimore Sun*, published in July 2018. According to a *Vice News* list of most militarized universities in the US, JHU is among the top defense contractors in the country.

The university’s association with the military is also reflected in its plans to create its own police force. It tried to push for a legislation in the State legislature of Maryland, first in 2018 and then this year. The latter attempt was successful. Students and members of the communities where the university’s different campuses are located have vehemently protested this move.

For the students, it marks the militarization and policing of campus spaces. The residents of the neighborhoods of the university campuses find it extremely disconcerting that JHU, being a private establishment, is allowed to raise a police force with jurisdiction over them. In an interview with *Democracy Now!*, Chris Bilal, a member of the Students Against Private Police, stated, “Johns Hopkins University knows better and knows that more policing does not equate with less crime, but that more policing actually causes gentrification... causes the extraction of wealth from communities and also normalizes state-sanctioned violence and terror.”

The university’s president, Ronald Daniels, has refused to engage with the protesting students. Daniels has previously defended JHU’s association with the
ICE, stating that working with the agency does not imply endorsement of their policies.

The policies and measures of the ICE have faced significant criticism, especially because of its history of sexually abusing undocumented immigrants. Recently, it has come under attack from progressive US citizens and international organizations. In April 2018, the Donald Trump administration declared an ongoing “zero tolerance policy” against undocumented immigration. The measures implemented by ICE following this policy included separating children from their families as a supposed deterrent to potential undocumented immigrants, who might cross the US-Mexico border. The policy separated hundreds of children from their guardians and parents, most of them without proper documentations, making reunification extremely difficult. The administration had to eventually put a halt to the policy in June 2018 after national and international outrage and a federal judicial verdict, but the policy reportedly continues on a smaller scale.

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**Johns Hopkins Students Enter Week 4 of Sit-In Protesting ICE Contracts & Plan for Armed Campus Cops**

April 23, 2019.

Students at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, have entered their 21st day of a sit-in occupation of their campus administration building to protest the university’s plans for an armed police force on campus, as well as Johns Hopkins’s contracts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Students at Johns Hopkins are demanding the cancellation of contracts with ICE and a pledge to donate all money received from ICE to Baltimore’s immigration defense fund. They’re also demanding voluntary recognition for all workers wishing to unionize, and a student and faculty representative spot on the university’s board of
AMY GOODMAN: This is Democracy Now!, as we turn now to another student protest.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Yes, we turn now to a protest over immigration by students at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, which has entered the [21st] day—the students have been sitting in for 20 days in protesting the university’s plans for an armed police force on campus, as well as Johns Hopkins’s contracts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

PROTESTERS: JHU, shame on you! JHU, shame on you! JHU, shame on you! JHU, shame on you!

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: The Hopkins students are demanding the cancellation of contracts with ICE and a pledge to donate all money received from ICE to Baltimore’s immigration defense fund. They’re also demanding voluntary recognition for all workers wishing to unionize, and a student and faculty representative spot on the university’s board of trustees.

AMY GOODMAN: Democracy Now! invited Johns Hopkins to join us on our show, but the university declined our request.

We are going, though, to Baltimore, Maryland, where we’re joined by two guests. Mariam Banahi is a Johns Hopkins graduate student participating in the sit-in. She’s a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology, writing a dissertation on asylum seekers in Germany. And Chris Bilal is a member of Students Against Private Police and also a member of the Washington Hill Community Association, who’s participating in the Johns Hopkins sit-in.
We welcome you both to *Democracy Now!* Mariam, let’s begin with your protest around Johns Hopkins’ relationship with ICE. What is it?

**MARIAM BANahi:** So, we’re very interested in how Hopkins presents itself as an ethical university and concerned with health and safety at home, but also its contracts with ICE. So, since 2008, Hopkins has profited and made about $7 million from its contracts with ICE. Currently there’s about $1.7 million in contracts that are ongoing. And these are which—the administration puts these in terms that it’s supportive of medical care and things like that, rather than actually supporting the detaining of asylum seekers. However, we see that as a kind of abstraction of the violence being enacted, because they support the actual structures that facilitate the workings of ICE. So, these contracts are set to expire this year, so we would like the university to end its contracts with ICE and donate the proceeds to something like the immigrant defense fund.

**AMY GOODMAN:** Which is what?

**MARIAM BANahi:** It provides support for immigrants, asylum seekers in court cases, but also other kinds of immigrant justice efforts that can be decided upon later.

**JUAN GONZÁLEZ:** Now, another issue has been the university’s attempt to begin to have an armed police force. Could you talk about that, as well?

**MARIAM BANahi:** Yeah, I think Bilal can speak to that, as well.

**JUAN GONZÁLEZ:** Well, Bilal, yes?

**CHRIS BILAL:** Yeah. Legislation just passed. Thank you for having me. Yeah, very dangerous legislation has just passed in Baltimore, granting this university, which is a repeat offender in terms of crimes against Baltimore city residents, has—they now have a police power. And so, again, 75% of the students at Johns Hopkins University said they
did not want the police force. A bunch of community associations, primarily across Baltimore city, also said that they did not want this force.

There was a letter written by 100 faculty members of the administration who also said that, you know, they wanted to disarm, de-escalate and kind of defund this machine that was going to happen, and really calling for other solutions and investment and things like mediation, Safe Streets, ROCA, and community-driven alternatives to policing, because as a public health institution, Johns Hopkins University knows better and knows that more policing does not equate with less crime, but that more policing actually causes gentrification, it causes more anxiety and public health concerns around communities, causes the extraction of wealth from communities and also normalizes state-sanctioned violence and terror against black and brown bodies across America.

So, yeah, a lot of the students are kind of challenging and demonstrating against this investment in the mass incarceration system and the school-to-prison pipeline, and are demanding equity in terms of Hopkins reinvesting that money, after divesting, into community-driven alternatives that actually support the sustainability and wellness of people in Baltimore city.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: And, Mariam, I wanted to ask you about the sit-in and how long it’s lasted now—20 days—and what the administration’s response has been. But I wanted to first play a clip that, earlier this month, some of your protesters confronted the university’s president, Ron Daniels, and peppered him with questions, and he refused to answer any of their questions. Let’s go to a clip from that exchange.

PROTESTER: So, I mean, we just want to meet—

RONALD DANIELS: So, as I said to you, I have no intention of scheduling anything with you until you clear out of the—clear out of the building. And then you can get what any other student group is always available to, which is schedule a meeting if you want to talk about things you’re concerned with.
PROTESTER: Yes, so, we’ve been trying to discuss—

RONALD DANIELS: Thanks, guys.

PROTESTER: We’ve been trying to discuss the private police for over a year.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: That was the president being confronted by one of the students, one of your fellow protesters. Mariam, what has been the response of the university to this long sit-in now?

MARIAM BANAHI: Yeah, so, we’re actually going into—today is Day 21 of the sit-in. So, it’s been going for three weeks now. We’ll continue it, and we’ll continue to escalate.

The university response has actually been quite disappointing. We actually have—it’s basically a nonresponse. As you saw, President Daniels, the provost, Provost Kumar, refuses to speak with us. And they also, since the beginning, have refused to offer us anything in writing from our conversations and the like. The only responses that we receive for them are coordinated drop-offs of basically threats, written statements, any time that there is a supposed violation that they deem as a violation. So, I think they’re creating a paper trail in order to pursue disciplinary actions against students as soon as it’s over for them. So it’s quite alarming that there are these methods being used to intimidate protesters, intimidate students, as well as we’ve heard reports that the Dean’s Office has been calling faculty members, especially faculty members who are in more precarious positions, and threatening them, to discourage them from supporting the sit-in, from—anyone who’s stepping in the space is also being pursued and surveilled in these ways, which is extremely alarming and which actually gives credibility to our concerns about what Hopkins would do with its own private, armed police force on campus and beyond and in the community.

Another thing to mention is that the faculty supports the sit-in. There’s a unanimous faculty assembly resolution. So, the community is also supportive of the sit-in. And the
support is growing. Surely, it’s growing. And we had a great number of supporters coming in this weekend. We have a whole slew of events this week and into the weekend that are already being advertised. Pastor Heber Brown III of Pleasant Hope Baptist Church has expressed his support, and came and visited us on Sunday with members of his congregation, and will do that again next Sunday at 4 p.m. So, all are welcome.

**CHRIS BILAL:** Yeah, I was going to—I wanted to add to that, is that I was one of the people who was asking the questions to President Daniels. And as a community member, I think that the administration’s posture of silence towards communities is really bad. And I know folks who were involved in kind of like similar movements in the past will understand, when ACT UP said that silence equals death.

So, what was interesting is his answers to a lot of questions. The police force is billed as something that will generate safety for the people and residents of Baltimore and the students of Johns Hopkins University. But the more that I speak to students, especially women on campus, there is a big trend of women saying that they will feel safe when sexual assault is investigated on campus, that safety looks like investigating frat houses that have committed sexual crimes against folks on campus. I’ve also learned that one out of three undergrads also face sexual assault. And there is this weird case at Hopkins where 18 cases of sexual assault were like kind of deleted in kind of like this weird computer glitch. So when people talk about safety, that’s actually a lie, because Hopkins has been unable to protect its own students and make its own students feel safe. So, there’s no way that they’re going to be able to make people like me safe without profiling me.

And what’s also really scary—I asked President Daniels about mediation, because, basically, Hopkins has a long history of experimenting on black and brown people in Baltimore. It has a huge history of not paying taxes in Baltimore. Johns Hopkins, as a person, was actually a liquor distributor who, like, poisoned people. And also, his family, like, owned tobacco farms. And so they have a long history of poisoning the people of
Baltimore, and also not, like, listening to people of Baltimore. So, this is a situation where students were demanding a mediation. You know, like the Faculty Senate kind of proposed a neutral, non-Hopkins-affiliated, mutually agreed-upon mediator, and which the folks could talk to administration officials, like Dean Smita and Kevin and Ron Daniels, who have sat in spaces and have heard these students talk about their concerns about safety, talk about their concerns about the accountability board, talk about their concerns around the boundaries, talked about how they want President Ron Daniels to resign.

And if Ron Daniels doesn’t want to resign, I believe that he should mediate with students or negotiate with students or—again, there was a part on the video where he said, “Are you going to come to dinner?” And I think we would like to come to dinner. I think that we would actually like to see Ron Daniels come to the sit-in and have dinner with students and community members and the coalition of interfaith folks who are interested in this, to come through, or we can have dinner at President Daniels' house, because the last time that he invited the BSU, the Black Student Union, to his house around concerns around this, he actually kicked them out and said that they were ungrateful. So, we’re also demanding that he speak with the BSU, that he speak with people from the black and brown communities, who have not been consulted, and that they also continue those meetings that they were having, these public meetings around the police force. They canceled those meetings and refused to talk to people. So, this strategy of silence is really harmful.

**JUAN GONZÁLEZ:** Bilal, I wanted to interrupt you, because we only have a few more minutes, but I wanted to ask you—one of the demands of the sit-in is justice for Tyrone West. And I want to turn to West’s sister—

**CHRIS BILAL:** Yes.

**JUAN GONZÁLEZ:** —Tawanda Jones, speaking to WMAR-2 News.
TAWANDA JONES: To know that this can happen, these are not isolated incidents by far. It’s systemically happening. It’s happening all over the world. … Accountability looks like those officers involved in my brother’s brutal execution held accountable.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: For those who don’t know, who was Tyrone West?

CHRIS BILAL: Tyrone West was a Baltimorean who was the sister of Tawanda—

MARIAM BANAHI: Brother, brother.

CHRIS BILAL: Sorry, the brother of Tawanda. And he was actually murdered by police officers from Morgan State University, another university in Baltimore city, which has a police force that Hopkins is modeling their police force off of. And so, Sister West has been out here for—and next week will be her 300th week outside demanding justice for Tyrone West.

You know, the state actually didn’t, like, release a lot of information on the case. There are a lot of discrepancies in the coroner’s report. There are two different autopsies: one that kind of basically says that he was murdered in a case of state-sanctioned terror against him, and then, of course, the state’s narrative which says that, you know, he killed himself—which happens all too often.

So, Tawanda West has been out there every Wednesday for 299 weeks demanding justice and accountability for her brother. And, you know, this is really sad, because we were just watching the news from Yale, how a police officer from Yale also just shot Stephanie and Paul. So we’re asking for justice for Tyrone West and justice for Stephanie and Paul. And we also agree with their demands to disarm the YPD department and disarm Johns Hopkins University.

MARIAM BANAHI: And this also ties back to the case at Barnard recently with Alexander McNab being stopped by campus police coming in. He’s a Columbia student
going onto Barnard’s campus, which is normal, business as usual. I’m a Barnard alumna, so I was extremely disturbed by seeing this. And he was accosted and pinned to the counter once he entered the library. And this has been repetitive. However, President Beilock of Barnard has had a much, I guess, better response to what has happened than President Daniels has at Hopkins. She’s been calling for change, and she recognizes the pernicious racialized atmosphere and the racial profiling that takes place on campuses. So, I think Ron Daniels needs to take a look at this.

AMY GOODMAN: Mariam Banahi, we want to thank you for being with us, Johns Hopkins graduate student—

MARIAM BANAH: Thank you.

AMY GOODMAN: —in anthropology, and Chris Bilal, member of Students Against Private Police and also a member of the Washington Hill Community Association, both participating in the sit-in, now in its 21st day, at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

When we come back in 30 seconds, we continue on what’s happening in Baltimore and around this country. We’ll be speaking with D. Watkins, author of *We Speak for Ourselves: A Word from Forgotten Black America*. Stay with us.

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Police Raid Johns Hopkins Student Occupation, Arresting 7
May 9, 2019

In Baltimore, Maryland, university administrators at Johns Hopkins called in police Wednesday to end a month-long sit-in protest at the campus’s main administration building. Seven protesters were arrested. Students are demanding Johns Hopkins reverse plans to create a private university police force and cancel contracts with ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Click here to see our coverage of the sit-in occupation.


As Hundreds Protest ICE, Border Patrol Runs a Checkpoint

POSTED BY DEREK BROUWER AND MATTHEW ROY ON SUN, JUL 28, 2019 AT 11:12 PM

Updated 2:45 p.m. July 29, 2019

Several hundred protesters marched through Williston to the nondescript Immigration and Customs Enforcement intelligence center on Sunday in an effort to draw attention to the state’s little-known role in Trump’s national immigration crackdown.

Nineteen people were cited for disorderly conduct after blocking entrances to the 24-7 facility for two hours. But the federal government’s pursuit of undocumented immigrants continued unabated, as ICE’s sister agency, Customs and Border Protection, set up a highway enforcement checkpoint in South Hero during the widely publicized demonstration against federal deportations.

With participation from more than 60 activist groups, the protest began in pouring rain outside Vermont Technical College’s Williston
campus, **which has contracted with ICE for small workforce training programs.**

Hundreds then marched with a Williston Police escort along Route 2A, waving signs that condemned federal "concentration camps" for apprehended immigrants and called for the abolition of ICE. One person wore a chicken suit with a sign that read, "only cage-free children PLEASE," in reference to holding cells for migrant children on the southern border. Marchers eventually gathered in the street outside ICE's Law Enforcement Support Center on Harvest Lane.

The office serves as a headquarters for the agency's information-sharing with other law enforcement agencies, **aiding thousands of immigration arrests across the country.** It has operated in Williston since the 1990s, when Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) secured funding. It employs about 400.

The grounds were roped off with police tape Sunday afternoon, but cars in the parking lot indicated the center was still operational. A handful of Department of Homeland Security police and two working canines stood outside the front doors as protesters streamed past.

Kina Thorpe, an educational program manager at the Burlington-based Peace & Justice Center, roused the crowd by reading excerpts from a **2017 federal news release about the facility.** The release boasted of Vermont ICE employees' "enviable" lifestyle, including the state's low crime rates and "thriving farm-to-table restaurant scene."

"The unassuming building behind us is part of a horrible, horrible mission that is deporting innocent people who are just trying to live their life and support their families," Thorpe said.

The crowd broke into a chants of "Shut it down!" and "Get a new job!"

Speakers hammered ICE over family separation policies and cramped conditions at detention centers. Others highlighted the plight of immigrant farmworkers, who risk deportation even as they power Vermont's agricultural economy.
"Our need to move urgently now should have come years ago, if not generations ago," Yolanda Huerta, of Upper Valley Interfaith Action, said.

Organizers' demands included defunding federal immigration agencies, freeing all immigrant detainees and providing financial support for family settlement and reunification. They also called upon federal officials to end deportation proceedings against three Vermont farmworkers who were arrested last month outside Walmart in Derby.

During the speeches, some protesters jostled to interrupt a television news interview with a few counter-demonstrators, one of whom held an "ICE = Safety" sign. Others heckled the DHS staffers who watched silently from the center's front doors.

Afterward, 19 demonstrators sat down and linked arms across the driveways to the ICE building. Two hours later, they moved their act of civil disobedience to the road when DHS officials threatened to charge them with federal offenses, two of the demonstrators said.

Williston police politely arrested them one-by-one for refusing to leave the right-of-way. They received citations to appear in state court August 13.

MacKenzie Murdoch, 19, said she blocked the road to draw attention to what she called Vermonters' complicity in the federal deportation scheme.

"We act like everything is OK here, but we are one of the biggest enablers in all of the things that ICE is currently working to do," she said.

Even as the protest hit its height, authorities pursued another immigration enforcement effort just 30 minutes away. U.S. Border Patrol set out traffic cones and stop signs and established a checkpoint, halting vehicles on the causeway that connects South Hero to Milton.

"How are you today, sir? Citizenship, please!" an agent cheerfully announced to a Seven Days staffer who was driving off the island.
"U.S.," the staffer replied.

"Thank you. Have a good day, sir," the agent responded, waving the car through.

The officers, some of whom had working canines, from time to time told a motorist to pull into a parking area. One man waited while agents grouped around what appeared to be a potted cannabis plant nearly as tall as them. After a delay, the man hoisted the plant into his blue Prius and drove off with it.

Around then, Will Lambek of Migrant Justice, the farmworker advocacy organization, arrived.

"This is just one tool in a larger toolbox terrorizing immigrants who are living and working in Vermont," he told Seven Days. "Whether it’s Border Patrol checkpoints or racial profiling or arrests on and around farms, this is part of striking fear into the immigrant community. And it’s an intentional strategy."

Border patrol agents have ramped up checkpoints in Vermont this year, though they are still relatively infrequent.

Asked if he thought the timing of Sunday's checkpoint was related to the ICE protest, Lambek answered, "I don't want to speculate on it, but it's hard not to draw conclusions that the two are linked in some way." (On Monday, a border patrol spokesperson said the checkpoint had been planned for weeks "based on intelligence gathering and personnel staffing.")

Meanwhile, activists arrived to warn motorists about the checkpoint. They set up about a mile in advance of the traffic cones, in South Hero. Debra Stoleroff of Plainfield held up a sign that read "Cuidado Retén! Checkpoint."

Stoleroff and others in her group said they get texts when checkpoints are spotted and try to respond quickly.
As more volunteers showed up to warn motorists, the Border Patrol vehicles passed by, headed away around 6:30 p.m. As easily as it had been set up, the checkpoint had been broken down and carted off.


TOPEKA, Kan. (KSNT) – Washburn University addressed concerns Thursday afternoon after Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents were rumored to be coming to campus.

In a press release, the University said that ICE representatives are on campus today to meet with International Programs in regards to the Project Campus Sentinel outreach program.

The program focuses on helping schools handle potential compliance problems regarding visa fraud and exploitation.

The University noted that they were not aware of any other ICE activity on campus other than this meeting.

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**ICE Ran a Fake University in Michigan to Catch Immigration Fraud**

By Sarah Mervosh – Jan. 31, 2019

The University of Farmington in Farmington Hills, Mich., billed itself as a “nationally accredited business and STEM institution,” with an innovative curriculum, flexible class schedules and a diverse student body.

But it had no curriculum, no classes and no real students, the authorities said this week. The university in the suburbs of Detroit was part of an undercover operation by the
Department of Homeland Security designed to expose immigration fraud, according to federal prosecutors who announced charges in the case.

In what the authorities called a “pay to stay” scheme, foreign students knowingly enrolled in the fake school to falsely maintain their student visa status and remain in the United States, according to prosecutors.

The authorities charged eight “recruiters” in the case. They are accused of enlisting at least 600 people to enroll in the school. Prosecutors said the recruiters collected money from the fake university for bringing in students and made more than $250,000 in profit. Immigration and Customs Enforcement had also detained people who had enrolled at the university, according to immigration lawyers working on the case. A spokesman for ICE said that about 130 people had been arrested on administrative immigration violations as part of the investigation.

“I have received calls from Georgia, Louisiana, California, North Carolina,” said Ravi Mannam, an immigration lawyer based in Atlanta. “It seems to be a nationwide ICE action as we speak.”

The students swept up in the scheme were largely from India, lawyers said.

“We are all aware that international students can be a valuable asset to our country,” Matthew Schneider, the United States attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, said in a news release. “But as this case shows, the well-intended international student visa program can also be exploited and abused.”

ICE declined to say how many total students had enrolled in the university or how the authorities would use the tuition fees that were collected.

Undercover agents from Homeland Security Investigations had posed as the owners and employees of the University of Farmington since February 2017, the indictments said. The university had a real website with program details, tuition pricing and contact information. The phone number for the university went to a voice mail box for the “office of admissions.”

But the university was not staffed with instructors and had no actual classes, according to the indictments.

Prosecutors said that everyone involved with the school knew that.

“Each of the foreign citizens who ‘enrolled’ and made ‘tuition’ payments to the University knew that they would not attend any actual classes, earn credits, or make academic progress toward an actual degree in a particular field of study,” the indictments said, adding that the students knew that “discretion should be used when discussing the program with others.”
But Mr. Mannam, the immigration lawyer, criticized the undercover operation as misleading and said some students had believed they were enrolling in a legitimate program.

He said some students had come from India to the United States to enroll elsewhere, only to find that their intended program had lost accreditation. So they enrolled at the University of Farmington, believing that they could apply their prior credits to the new program, which seemed to emphasize work experience, he said.

Other students had completed legitimate master’s programs in the United States but were waiting to be approved for a specialty work visa, so they enrolled in school as a “stopgap measure,” he said.

“The government utilized very questionable and troubling methods to get these foreign students to join the institution,” Mr. Mannam said.

Rahul Reddy, an immigration lawyer in Houston, said he had spoken with about 25 students who had enrolled at the University of Farmington and who were facing possible consequences. Some had already been arrested, he said, while others had rushed to leave the country.

He warned that international students should guard against universities that do not hold regular classes or that offer a work permit immediately. “That’s a red flag,” he said.

The scene in Michigan was reminiscent of a similar operation in New Jersey two years ago, when federal prosecutors and ICE announced that the University of Northern New Jersey, with its official website and seal featuring the Latin words “Humanus, Scientia, Integritas,” was a fake set up by the government.

In that case, the authorities arrested about 20 brokers who they said had recruited foreign students to the university. Twenty-five students were listed as anonymous co-conspirators. Within days, more than 1,000 of them were ordered to appear in immigration court, facing deportation or even a lifetime ban from the United States.

Most of the students in that case were from China and India. Officials said that the students were “100 percent fully aware” that they had enrolled in a fake school. But some insisted that they were collateral damage, duped by both the brokers and the government.

By Thursday, the website for the University of Farmington, which had once appeared to show photos of students, had been taken down.

It was replaced with a page showing the university’s logo next to a law enforcement badge and a warning: “The University of Farmington,” it said, “has been closed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.”
Should Universities Sever Ties With ICE?

As anger over the Trump administration's immigration policies has mounted, universities are facing calls to sever their contracts with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Just a handful of universities have active contracts with ICE, which has come under increasing criticism and calls for its abolition in recent weeks. Activists say that universities should not collaborate with an agency they say is guilty of human rights abuses -- even if some of the projects that are being funded do not relate to ICE’s most controversial functions in detaining and deporting undocumented immigrants but instead relate to other functions of the agency, like preventing terrorism and stopping illegal trade in drugs and weapons.

In response to the protests and petitions, universities variously cite their track records of partnering with the federal government to offer work-force training and the freedom of faculty members to accept funding from whichever government agency they see fit.

A petition written by a faculty member at Johns Hopkins University calls on the university to sever its relationship with ICE, citing the agency's "brutal policy of raids, deportations and family separations of immigrants, some of whom are apprehended at the border, some of whom have lived peaceably here in our country for decades before being stripped of their rights and ripped from their families and communities."

Johns Hopkins has multiple contracts with ICE for education and training services and tactical medical training. A university website describes the partnership between ICE and the university’s School of Education as dating to 2009. More than $1.6 million has been allocated to Johns Hopkins through six contracts with ICE that are currently active, and the university has received about $6.6 million from the agency since the 2008 fiscal year.

"We recognize that a range of views about the politics of immigration and border security are possible," the petition states. "We do not expect that you will publicly respond to each new policy or statement made by this administration. Furthermore, we understand that there is a historic relationship between this university and the federal government which has enabled decades of life-saving and innovative research. We do not expect you to enforce a partisan stance or a party affiliation with any narrowly particular political position. But if our school is to live up to its stated values of free
intellectual inquiry, human rights, human flourishing, and 'knowledge for the world,' a quote from Hopkins' first president -- it cannot do so while assisting ICE agents."

Drew Daniels, an associate professor of English at Johns Hopkins, said he wrote the petition after he saw a tweet from the graduate student worker organization that made him aware of the university's partnership with ICE. Daniels said he plans to gather more signatures before delivering it to Hopkins's president before the start of the fall semester. As of late Monday afternoon he said there were 1,026 signatures, about three-quarters of which come from individuals who variously identify as Johns Hopkins students, alumni and faculty and staff members.

One of the students who signed the petition, Mira Wattal, an undergraduate math major who's involved with Students Against Private Police, a coalition of student groups that mobilized to counter the university's push to establish its own police department, described the university's relationship with ICE as an example of "Hopkins championing progressive values while going against those behind our backs. It's just part of this larger trend of militarization of college campuses that we're particularly concerned about."

"Johns Hopkins University faculty have longstanding service contracts with federal law enforcement agencies to provide education, training, and medical expertise," the university said in a statement. "The School of Education’s Division of Public Safety Leadership has taught leadership and management courses and workshops to employees of police departments, law enforcement agencies and other public safety organizations at the local, state and federal levels for more than 20 years, including under a contract with the Department of Homeland Security that is open to U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement and other DHS agencies. The School of Medicine’s Center for Law Enforcement Medicine provides physician oversight and education for federal personnel who are cross-trained as paramedics and emergency medical technicians, including under contract with the U.S. Secret Service; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the U.S. Marshals Service; and U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement."

Northeastern University has a contract with ICE worth up to about $7.8 million, of which about $2.7 million has been allocated for what a government website describes as "exploratory methods mapping process services for big data sets." The university says the funds were received by a faculty member to study data related to the movement across borders of materials used in weapons of mass destruction.

The faculty member, Glenn L. Pierce, the director of Northeastern’s Institute of Security and Public Policy and a principal research scientist in the
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, declined an interview request. Pierce referred a reporter to a recent Chronicle of Higher Education article about the research, in which he was quoted saying that the ICE-funded research relates to his analysis of data on “dual-use technologies” -- technologies that can have both military and commercial applications -- that are exported from the United States. Pierce told the Chronicle he looks for cases where such technologies are sent to countries or companies that the U.S. might find problematic.

Activists are still concerned. An online petition calling on the university to drop its contract with ICE states, flatly, “Having any kind of contract with ICE at this moment in history is irresponsible and immoral.”

The Boston Globe reported that more than 100 people protested Northeastern’s contract with ICE on the Boston campus earlier this month. The university reported that the number of protesters was smaller, at fewer than 50, while one of the organizers, Meghan Thomas, said the group of protesters indeed numbered around 100 and was made up of a mixture of law students, graduate students, undergraduate students and community activists. Thomas, a third-year law student, said the university needs to be more transparent about sharing information about the ICE contract.

“The central issue is that this money is coming from an organization that is abusing people on such a wide scale,” said Thomas. “I think the university has some responsibility because of that plain fact to let us know about why these funds are so critical, if these funds could be taken somewhere else or taken from somebody else. There are lots of questions that are just being dismissed instead of dealt with.”

In a written statement, a Northeastern spokeswoman, Renata Nyul, defended the contract with ICE on academic freedom-related grounds. “Our commitment to academic freedom goes beyond protecting what professors say; it also means allowing faculty members to freely pursue research funding in their fields of expertise,” Nyul said. “Efforts to restrict which federal agencies a faculty member can approach for research funding are antithetical to academic freedom.”

A search of a government database shows three other universities or university systems with active contracts with ICE, though two of the three -- the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Vermont State Colleges -- said the contractual work is completed. The University of Alabama at Birmingham has received $73,003 to date for its two-year contract with ICE, which officially expires in September.

“UAB’s Center for Information Assurance and Joint Forensics Research had a contract with the Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crime Unit to aid in preventing harmful drugs -- both counterfeits and opioids -- from being
smuggled into the country illegally,” the university said in a statement. “We believe our digital forensics and criminal justice expertise was a valuable asset to HSI’s efforts. Our contract has now ended and the investigations were closed.”

The Vermont State Colleges has had multiple contracts with ICE in recent years, including a contract for $12,470 that officially ends this week. A statement from the president of Vermont Technical College, Patricia Moulton, said the college's Continuing Education and Workforce Development department contracted with ICE for work-force training in leadership and financial accounting.

**CORRECTION:** An earlier version of this article misstated Moulton's title. It has been corrected.

"The contracts with DHS are exemplary of CEWD’s relationship as a service provider to many businesses, agencies, and organizations for the development of their incumbent employees," Moulton said. "Providing leadership and financial accounting training to the employees of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement falls within the scope of the college’s value to the state in providing workforce training and development to the people of Vermont and the region." A spokeswoman said the college contracted with the ICE location based in Williston, Vt.

The University of Maryland at College Park also has a contract that will end in September with ICE for hazmat technician training. The contract is potentially worth just over $100,000, of which about half has been allocated so far.

A spokeswoman, Jessica Jennings, said the university's Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute conducts training programs for the U.S. military and for various federal agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secret Service, the National Institute for Standards and Technology, and ICE. “This contract is for eight five-day, 40-hour safety training courses for customs officials to provide information on how to detect, identify and handle any hazardous substances entering the United States from abroad," she said.
Northeastern Defends Its Connections To ICE Despite Protests

Northeastern University has defended its ties to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement amid protests calling for the university to sever any connection with the agency.

On Wednesday, dozens of people demonstrated against the Northeastern research contract funded by ICE, as well as the agency's inclusion in a list of potential employers in the co-op program at Northeastern. The program lets students earn academic credits by working for outside employers.

"I do not care to separate that Northeastern’s contract is not directly related to border policies because the issue here is ICE itself," said Ienna Fernandez, a law student. "ICE is working the way it was meant to be. ICE was born out of xenophobic and racist policies and to align yourself with ICE in any way is to concede that it is more valuable than the families it tears apart, that its function is more important than the trauma it inflicts on people who are just trying to find a home here."

Northeastern, however, pushed back against calls to reject funding — no matter the agency.

"Efforts to restrict which federal agencies a faculty member can approach for research funding are antithetical to academic freedom," spokeswoman Renata Nyul said in a statement.

The professor conducting the ICE-funded research said the agency will stop funding his project on Aug. 31.

Glenn Pierce, director of Northeastern's Institute of Security and Public Policy, has received more than $2.7 million from ICE since 2016 to analyze exports of technologies that have civilian uses but could also be used in making weapons.
ICE issued a statement Wednesday saying "cancelling a critical research effort to help combat terrorist explosive attacks would be unproductive and short-sighted to say the least."

It's not clear why ICE is ending the funding. John Mohan, a spokesman for ICE, said that while he could not comment on the specifics of the contract, in general, multi-year federal research contracts hold "scheduled cycle periods written into them that will periodically start and end and may then be renewed at various times as allowed by the contract."

"As mentioned, the research under this contract supports worthwhile and necessary work," he added.

The research's connection to ICE has come under fire by progressives. More than 2,000 people have signed an online petition asking the university to sever its ties with ICE, citing the agency's practice earlier this year of separating migrant children from their families at the nation's southern border. The Trump administration says it has stopped separating families.


Colleges pressured to cut ties with ICE

Several higher education institutions are facing calls from staff and students to cut ties with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
Officials at Johns Hopkins and Northeastern universities are both facing petitions demanding that the institutions end their current contracts with the immigration agency, Inside Higher Ed reported.

Johns Hopkins’ School of Education has worked with ICE since 2009, and the university has received about $6.6 million in contracts from the agency over the years, according to the news site.

The professor who created the petition, Drew Daniels, tweeted Sunday that the form had earned more than 1,000 signatures.

“Given the extent and extremity of its cruel practices and the scale of ongoing human rights charters which ICE continues to violate, we do not see how in good conscience Johns Hopkins University can collaborate with this organization,” the letter sent to university officials reads.

Johns Hopkins said in a statement that the university's "faculty have longstanding service contracts with federal law enforcement agencies to provide education, training, and medical expertise."

And Northeastern has a contract with the agency that could total up to $7.8 million. The university told Inside Higher Ed that a faculty member is working with ICE data on his research on materials used for weapons of mass destruction imported and exported across borders.

The Northeastern petition has earned more than 2,000 signatures as of Tuesday afternoon, and states that “[having any kind of contract with ICE at this moment in history is irresponsible and immoral.”

“Our commitment to academic freedom goes beyond protecting what professors say; it also means allowing faculty members to freely pursue research funding in their fields of expertise,” Northeastern spokeswoman Renata Nyul told Inside Higher Ed. “Efforts to restrict which federal agencies a faculty member can approach for research funding are antithetical to academic freedom.”

Inside Higher Ed reported that three other institutions — the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the Vermont State Colleges system and the University of Maryland at College Park — currently have contracts with ICE.
Officials at the University of Alabama and the Vermont college system told the news site that the work laid out in the contracts have been completed.

The AP reported that a student at Northern Vermont University is also circulating a petition calling for officials to cut ties with ICE. A spokeswoman for Vermont Technical College, which had a contract with ICE, told the wire service that it was not related to law enforcement or policing.

Scrutiny over ICE has increased in recent months due to the agency’s role in enforcing the Trump administration's "zero-tolerance" policy at the border and, in the past, helping separate immigrant families under a since-ended policy.

Some Democrats have called to abolish ICE and have introduced legislation to do so. House Republicans passed a resolution last week showing support for the agency.

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**ICE contracts bring in millions for U.S. colleges**

Northeastern’s $2.7-million contract is one of several.

Nearly 100 Northeastern University students convened Wednesday to protest their school’s $2.7-million contract helping ICE process data. Students clutched signs reading "Dear Northeastern, we prefer our ICE crushed" and "No ICE at NEU" as they marched around campus chanting, "Say it loud, say it clear, ICE is never welcome here."

Though the contract appears to have gone into effect in September 2016, virtually no student knew about it until *TIME* published a report on June 27 identifying Northeastern University as one of fifteen organization that have been profiting off contracts from ICE. The Northeastern contract, which expires in August 2021, states that the university will provide ICE with “exploratory methods mapping process services for big data sets” to track potential weapons abroad.
After ICE began separating families trying to enter the U.S., activists have targeted businesses that provide services to ICE — including private prison companies GEO Group and CoreCivic, aerospace company General Dynamics Corp, and Amazon — with claims that they are supporting the agency’s human rights abuses.

But countless colleges, many of which are vocally supportive of immigrant rights, are also taking money from ICE, and students are just beginning to fight back.

After the *TIME* story about Northeastern was published, local activist Evan Greer demanded an end to the ICE deal in a petition that circulated among Northeastern students and has thus far garnered 2,000 signatures. Within a week, a protest was in the works.

“There's a lot of disgust, anger, and shock. Everyone I talked to was unaware that this partnership existed until the *TIME* magazine story broke,” Alex Ahmed, a PhD student at the Northeastern College of Computer and Information Science, told *The Outline*.

Alexandra Fernandez, a second-year law student at Northeastern, said her friends at the school “couldn't believe that a university like Northeastern, that touts itself as being global and inclusive, would collaborate with an agency that is actively terrorizing immigrant communities.” Because the university has recently shown support for immigrants — this year it opened an Immigration Justice Clinic — the news that it works with ICE felt for many like a betrayal.

Northeastern isn't alone. Johns Hopkins University has five ongoing contracts, which total $1.65 million, for providing medical training to ICE agents. On its website, Johns Hopkins characterizes its programs with ICE as “a cooperative relationship for the purpose of improving ICE training and educational programs.” It adds, “All programs support the ICE mission, strategic goals, meet the needs of a diverse and dispersed workforce, and contribute to measurable outcomes and results.”

Johns Hopkins faculty and staff, alarmed by the statement of support for the “ICE mission,” have circulated a petition that urges the university to sever its relationship with the agency. “If our school is to live up to its stated values of free intellectual inquiry, human rights, human flourishing, and ‘knowledge for the world,’ it cannot do so while assisting ICE agents,” the petition states. “Given the extent and extremity of its cruel practices and the scale of ongoing human rights charters which ICE continues to violate, we do not
see how in good conscience Johns Hopkins University can collaborate with this organization."

A university spokesperson told The Outline that the university "provides physician oversight and education for federal personnel who are cross-trained as paramedics and emergency medical technicians" and that, in addition to ICE, the university also trains members of the Secret Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

The Outline also found that the University of Alabama at Birmingham has a contract with ICE for “analytical services” to the tune of $73,003. And for $51,265, the University of Maryland provides ICE with “Hazmat technician certification and training,” which a university spokesperson noted is also given to agencies like the FBI and the Secret Service. The training, according to the spokesperson, offers officials with “information on how to detect, identify and handle any hazardous substances entering the United States from abroad.”

The Vermont Technical College, part of the Vermont State Colleges, continually signed contracts with ICE since February 2008, most recently for $12,000 in a deal that ended in mid-May. Reached for comment, Vermont Technical College president Patricia Moulton told The Outline that the school offered “leadership and financial accounting training to the employees of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement” and that the contract “falls within the scope of the college’s value to the state in providing workforce training and development to the people of Vermont and the region.”

But many students argue that supporting the agency in any form is by extension supporting its human rights abuses at the border. “I would concede that it would definitely be a much worse situation if Northeastern was doing something directly with the enforcement aspect of ICE,” Northeastern law student Meghan Thomas told The Outline. “Any work with ICE is unconscionable considering everything they’re doing right now. The alleged human rights abuses are so bad.”

Northeastern University maintains that its contract with ICE is focused on “data research to prevent the import and export of weapons of mass destruction,” as a spokesperson put it to MassLive — not on finding or providing information about immigrants to the U.S. Glenn Pierce, who heads the project, told the Chronicle of Higher Education that his contract is with ICE.
only because it is the agency that monitors products going in and out of the U.S.

“It doesn't matter if the research is related to immigration policy or not, it's still fundamentally immoral because it will aid ICE and further their mission,” Ahmed said. “It is impossible to separate the technology from its political and social context. ICE is already using large datasets [like the one Pierce analyzes] to target Black and Brown people.” (Pierce did not respond to a request for comment.)

According to Thomas, the first step is for colleges to be more open about their work with ICE. "I hope at the very least that [Northeastern] would be more transparent about what the contract is really about and answer some more questions about whether this is a contract that can be dropped at all,” Thomas said.

But transparency only goes so far. Citing the agency’s recent actions in detentions and at the border, Thomas told The Outline, “Until they show signs of stopping, collaboration with them is wrong."

**Update July 14 2018 2:49 pm:** A statement from Johns Hopkins was added to the original story.

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Whitaker, Lenyon (25 July 2018). These colleges and universities have contracts with ICE. *Metro USA.* At https://www.metro.us/news/colleges-universities-contracts-with-ice

**NEWS**

These colleges and universities have contracts with ICE

There are several colleges and universities that have contracts with ICE. Your college might be on the list.

Several colleges and universities in the United States are facing backlash and petitions from students and faculty members because some colleges have service contracts with
the United States Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency. These colleges and universities collect millions of dollars from ICE for various provided services ranging from counterterrorism training and evidence collection to leasing parking spots on campuses around the country, according to the Associated Press.

The colleges under fire claim the contracts they have with ICE have nothing to do with President Trump’s “zero tolerance” policy against people who cross the border illegally. Instead, the contracts some colleges and universities have with ICE are for research, leadership and medical training services. Despite the contracts for services unrelated to controversial immigration and border control policies, activists, faculty members and students are creating petitions urging schools to cut ties with the federal agency.

**What colleges have contracts with ICE?**

According to the [Associated Press](https://www.ap.org) the following schools currently have contracts with Immigration Customs Enforcement:

Northeastern University

Vermont State Colleges System

Johns Hopkins

University of Maryland

Virginia Tech

University of Alabama Birmingham

Northeastern University in Boston currently has a $7.7 million research contract with ICE which has caused students and faculty members to gather and protest.
Inside Higher Ed reports that Vermont State Colleges System has a contract with ICE and has received approximately $34,000 from ICE for leadership and financial accounting training for ICE staff members.

Johns Hopkins University has received $6.5 million from ICE to provide leadership and tactical medical training to ICE staff members. The Associated Press reports that at least $1 million of the funds received by Johns Hopkins University has been used to send ICE staff members to Gettysburg National Battleground for leadership training exercises.

The University of Maryland has a contract with ICE and has provided HAZMAT training to ICE staff. Virginia Tech reportedly has a contract with ICE to test aluminum that was confiscated by the agency at an entry port, while the University of Alabama at Birmingham has worked with ICE to provide professional services to prevent drugs from being smuggled into the United States.

The Hill reports that officials from the University of Alabama and the Vermont College system say the work in the contracts have been completed.

How to find what colleges have contracts with ICE

While it has been uncovered that several schools have connections with the United States Customs Enforcement agency, you may be interested in combing through financial data for the Department of Homeland Security’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency and see how funds are allocated on the USA Spending website.

Because President Trump’s immigration laws are facing scrutiny, it may be a good time to pay close attention to online petitions against ICE created by college and university students and faculty.