

Chairman Dave Archambault II
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Building 1 North Standing Rock Ave.
Fort Yates, ND 58530

September 12th, 2016

A Statement of Support for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

We the faculty of The New School stand in peaceful and politicized solidarity with Chairman Dave Archambault II, tribal members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and their allies against the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, a project of Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners. This project is not only a violation of treaty rights, but federal law. Although federal law requires The Army Corps of Engineers to consult with the tribe about its sovereign interests, construction began without meaningful consultation. The Army Corps of Engineers disregarded the concerns outlined by the tribe and issued permits to Dakota Access LLC to dig under the Missouri River. Such a move signals the US government's ongoing disregard for tribal nations and their communities—a relationship that has been marked by genocide and structural injustice since the violent founding of the United States—in favor of corporate interests and profit. This is, and has always been, entirely unacceptable.

The Dakota Access Pipeline is an imminent threat to those living on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, as well as those who live near the pipeline and rely on water from the Missouri River. The pipeline is a dangerous, grave risk to a primary water source and would be an environmental assault on the community if a spill were to occur. Energy Transfer Partners has assured the people of Standing Rock that the pipeline would be closely monitored, but given the historical relations between Indigenous peoples and the United States, the tribe has little faith that their safety and interests will be upheld. The record on spillage is bleak. In 2012-2013, there were 300 oil pipeline breaks in North Dakota alone. The pipeline will also disturb burial grounds and sacred sites on the tribe's ancestral treaty lands—its proposal marks violation on multiple fronts.

As a collective of scholars, some of whom come from and/or work alongside Indigenous communities, we understand the stakes associated with the propagation of US colonial interests; interests that place the extraction of fossil fuels over a fundamental right to access clean water and a desire to preserve and protect the planet. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe are not just fighting for their own existence, but for those who are unable to do so and for all the future generations that follow.

Even though the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline may be temporarily halted (and this remains to be seen), due to the massive resistance efforts at Standing Rock, we know this fight is far from being over. The faculty of The New School will continue to stand with Chairman Archambault, the tribal members, and

their allies who are heroically holding the line to stop the pipeline construction. This fight is the fight of all Native peoples and their allies struggling against the imposition of neoliberal development projects that continue to harm humans and homelands alike.

Sincerely,

Jaskiran Dhillon, Global Studies and Anthropology
Jonathan Bach, Global Studies
Laura Liu, Global Studies
Alexandra Délano, Global Studies
Gustav Peebles, Global Studies

Joined by:

Miriam Ticktin, Anthropology
Erica Kohl-Arenas, Non-Profit Management
Rachel Sherman, Sociology
Rachel Heiman, Anthropology
Kendra Danowski, Civic Engagement & Social Justice
Melissa Friedling, Schools for Public Engagement
Timothy Quigley, Liberal Arts
Julia Foulkes, Bachelors Program
Aleksandra Wagner, Bachelors Program
Siddhartha Deb, Literary Studies
Radhika Subramaniam, Parsons School of Design
Shaza Elsheshtawy, History and Literary Studies
Benoit Challand, Sociology
Rachelle Rahmé, Liberal Studies
Claire Potter, History
Gabriel Vignoli, Global Studies
Charles Whitcroft, Anthropology
Soyoung Yoon, The Arts
Lei Ping, Foreign Languages and Global Studies
Zishan Ugurlu, The Arts /Theater
Geeti Das, Global Studies
Mark Larrimore, Religious Studies
Banu Bargu, Politics
Dechen Albero, Global Studies
Neni Panourgia, Anthropology
Evan Rapport, Arts and Jazz
Timon McPhearson, Environmental Studies
Ann Laura Stoler, Anthropology and Historical Studies
Dean Reynolds, Contemporary Music
Sara Shroff, Global Studies
Sarah Chant, Anthropology
Abou Farman, Anthropology

Amy Elizabeth Osika, Anthropology
Julienne Obadia, Anthropology
Pasang Yangjee Sherpa, India China Institute
Nancy Fraser, Philosophy and Politics
Alexios Tsigkas, Anthropology
Erick Howard, Anthropology
Hugh Raffles, Anthropology
Antina von Schnitzler, International Affairs/Anthropology
Dominic Pettman, Culture & Media
Trebor Scholz, Culture & Media
Noah Isenberg, Culture and Media
Rhea Rahman, International Affairs
Natalia Mehlman Petrzela, History
Talia Lugacy, Culture & Media
Soyoung Yoon, The Arts
Neil Greenberg, The Arts
Cecilia Rubino, Theater
Christina Moon, Art and Design History and Theory
Ann Snitow, Gender Studies
Lydia Matthews, Parsons Fine Arts
Carin Kuoni, Vera List Center for Art and Politics
Andrea Geyer, Parsons Fine Arts
Jasmine Rault, Culture and Media Studies
Doris F. Chang, Psychology
Randi Irwin, Anthropology
Janet Roitman, Anthropology
David Bering-Porter, Culture and Media
Lenore Malen, Fine Arts
Laura Sansone, Parsons School of Fashion
Timo Rissanen, Parsons School of Fashion
Meret Lenzlinger, Parsons First Year
Yim Lin, Parsons First Year
Donna Maione, Parsons First Year
Taina Guarda, Milano
Rose Bothomley, Parsons Sustainable Systems
Evren Uzer, Parsons School of Design Strategies
Cinzia Arruzza, Philosophy
Ujju Aggarwal, Milano
Greg Climer, Parsons School of Fashion
Molly Craft Johnson, Tishman Environment and Design Center
Paul Kottman, Literary Studies
Paulo L dos Santos, Economics
James W. Fuerst, Literary Studies
Joshua Furst, Literary Studies
Scott Korb, First-Year Writing
Michael F Pettinger, Literary Studies/Religious Studies
Victoria Abrash, Arts
Deborah Levitt, Culture and Media Studies

Samuel Sellers, The Arts
Katherine Kurs, Religious Studies
Genevieve Yue, Culture and Media
Katayoun Chamany, Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Rafi Youatt, Politics
Juan E De Castro, Literary Studies
Mary Carpenter, Dance
Scott Salmon, Urban Studies
Maya Ciarrocchi, The Arts
Iliana Cepero, Visual Studies
Jennifer Firestone, Literary Studies
Elana Greenfie, The Arts
Jenny Perlin, Culture and Media
Emily Wetherbee, Parsons First Year
Kristi Marie Steinmetz, Liberal Arts
Bhawani Venkataraman, Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Alexandra Chasin, Literary Studies
Aurash Khawarзад, Urban Studies
Constantina Zavitsanos, The Arts
Christen Clifford, Liberal Arts