

While there is some coordinated messaging around the #ScholarStrike, the nation-wide organizing is also decentralized. One of the objectives is to feel disrupted in our sense of security and build visibility for collective non-complacency in higher education. Please participate as you see fit. Links to concrete actions on Sept 8-9 are pasted at the end of the letter. Feel free to add any resources you come across.

Dear Cornell colleagues,

We are writing to share information and to invite you to join the [#ScholarStrike](#), scheduled for 48 hours after Labor Day, September 8th and 9th. The wave of international protests and expressions of solidarity following the murders of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd earlier this summer felt momentous for many of us. We cannot abandon the commitments we made at the height of the Black Lives Matter protests in June. We refuse to be complacent as more and more people of color are hunted down by the police and vigilante white supremacist violence. We will not begin this semester by pretending, in the name of a false “new normal,” that the situation we are in is tolerable.

The strike is prompted by yet another scene, one of many scenes, of brutal anti-Black violence we have endured just this summer alone. Jacob Blake, a 29-year old African-American resident of Kenosha, Wisconsin, was shot 7 times in the back by a policeman as his children watched on August 23, 2020. Days later, Kyle Rittenhouse, a 17-year old white teenager, shot three and killed two Kenosha residents who were protesting Blake’s injury at the hands of police. The far right is using this opportunity to protect and defend Rittenhouse’s actions in the perverse name of law and order.

It is crucial for us to take a collective stand. You can find a copy of the #ScholarStrike organizers’ initial statement [here](#). As academic workers in higher education, we stand in solidarity with protestors, activists, social justice leaders, and students who have taken to the streets. Many of us will be showing our solidarity with the protests through work stoppage, pausing our normal teaching and administrative duties on September 8th and 9th. We will encourage our students to participate in the #ScholarStrike virtual teach-in and local actions. Others of us may partially strike and show our solidarity in different ways: engaging our departments, staging teach-ins, circulating resources, posting on social media, supporting local activists, and assigning related class material.

Colleagues, we invite you to join the #ScholarStrike. Please add your name and affiliation in alphabetical order by last name below, and further share this invitation with your own collegial networks at Cornell.

Eric Acree (Africana Library)

Begüm Adalet (Government)

Nick Admussen (Asian Studies)

Carlota Aguilar (Music)

Chloe Ahmann (Anthropology)

Lisa Avron (Science and Technology Studies)

Christine Bacareza Balance (Performing & Media Arts, Asian American Studies)

Edward E. Baptist, History

David Bateman (Government)

Victoria Baugh (English)
Anne M. Blackburn (Asian Studies)
Erik Born (German Studies)
Mary Pat Brady (English)
Ross Brann (Near Eastern Studies)
Judith Byfield (History)
Derek Chang (History & Asian American Studies)
Julia Chang (Romance Studies, FGSS)
Julia Dshemuchadse (Materials Science and Engineering)
Shimon Edelman (Psychology)
Jill Frank (Government)
Paul Friedland (History)
Eli Friedman (ILR)
Christina Fogarasi (English)
Chiara Formichi (Asian Studies)
Amal El-Ghazaly (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
Athanasios Geolas (History of Architecture and Urban Development)
Shannon Gleeson (ILR School - Labor Relations, Law & History)
Lawrence Glickman (History and American Studies)
Tao Leigh Goffe (Africana Studies / Feminist, Gender, Sexuality Studies)
Seema Golestaneh (Near Eastern Studies)
Denise Green (Fiber Science and Apparel Design, American Indian and Indigenous Studies)
Samia Henni (History of Architecture and Urban Development)
Chris Hesselbein (Science and Technology Studies)
Saida Hodzic (Anthropology/Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)
Kelly Hoffer (English)
Kun Huang (Comparative Literature)
Tristan Ivory (Industrial and Labor Relations)
Lori Khatchadourian (Near Eastern Studies)
Julilly Kohler-Hausmann (History)
Jane-Marie Law (Asian Studies)
Marie Lambert (Comparative Literature)
Stacey Langwick (Anthropology)
Hannah LeBlanc (Science & Technology Studies)
Risa Lieberwitz (Industrial & Labor Relations)
Odette Lienau (Law)
Greg Londe (English)
Lisette Lorenz (Science and Technology Studies)
Joanie Mackowski (English / Creative Writing)
Kaja McGowan (History of Art & Visual Studies)
Owen Marshall (Science & Technology Studies)
Verónica Martínez-Matsuda (ILR School--Labor Relations, Law, and History)
Jeffrey Mathias (Science and Technology Studies)
Courtney L. McCluney (Industrial and Labor Relations)
Mariangela Mihai (Anthropology)
Andrew Moisey (History of Art and Visual Studies)
Viranjini Munasinghe (Anthropology and Asian American Studies)
Tim Murray (Comparative Literature & English)
Tejasvi Nagaraja (Industrial and Labor Relations)

Natalie Nesvaderani (Anthropology)
Carolina Osorio Gil (Development Sociology)
Ana Ozaki (History of Architecture and Urban Development)
Juno Salazar Parrenas (Science & Technology Studies and Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)
Simone Pinet (Romance Studies, Medieval Studies, Religious Studies)
Verity Platt (Classics, History of Art, Media Studies)
Natasha Raheja (Anthropology, Performing & Media Arts)
Aziz Rana (Law)
Masha Raskolnikov (English)
Russell Rickford (History)
Anirban Roy (Astronomy)
Vilma Santiago-Irizarry
Pascal Schwaighofer (Comparative Literature)
Katherine Sender (Communication)
Elke Siegel (German Studies)
Rebecca Slayton (Science & Technology Studies)
Derrick R. Spires (English)
Deborah Starr (Near Eastern Studies)
Nitzan Tal (Comparative Literature)
Noah Tamarkin (Anthropology, Science & Technology Studies)
Sahar Tavakoli (Science and Technology Studies)
Chantal Thomas (Law)
Irina R. Troconis (Romance Studies)
Krithika Vachali (English)
Jaret Vadera (Art)
Parisa Vaziri (Comparative Literature & Near Eastern Studies)
Claudia Verhoeven (History)
Margaret Washnigton (History)
Marina Welker (Anthropology)
Shelley Wong (English and Asian American Studies)

Resources for Participation on Sept 8-9:

<https://www.scholarstrike.com/resources>

[Zoom backgrounds](#)

[ScholarStrike on Twitter](#)

[AACCD BC #ScholarStrike Conference Program](#)

[Keeping it 101 Podcast](#)

Sept 6th message from Scholar Strike organizers:

Use the hashtag: **#Scholarstrike**

Website: [Scholarstrike.com](https://www.scholarstrike.com)

Twitter:

[@Scholarstrike](https://twitter.com/ScholarStrike)

[@antheabutler](https://twitter.com/antheabutler)

[@TheTattooedProf](https://twitter.com/TheTattooedProf)

YouTube Channel: ScholarStrike

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Scholarstrike2020>

Instagram: ScholarStrike

Please follow all of these sites, this is where you will find the latest information about the strike and you'll also be able to DM us on twitter at @ScholarStrike

If you are doing a college or university wide program and want it advertised, [please fill out this form](#)

Link to Logos and Banners to use

[Logos](#) and [Banners](#)

Out-of-Office Messages

Scholar Strike Away Message for Email (you may modify if you wish, but this is the template we will use)

Thank you for your message.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8-9, I am participating in the Scholar Strike for Racial Justice, a mass action of higher education professionals protesting racist policing, state violence against communities of color, mass incarceration and other manifestations of racism.

Due to my participation, my email response may be delayed. Let me encourage you to follow #SCHOLARSTRIKE on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and to engage with the teach-in occurring on the Scholar Strike YouTube channel.

Scholar Strike is meant to disrupt the everyday routines of academia, and to show solidarity with other workers striking for Black lives, particularly the athletes of the WNBA and NBA. On these two days, in a variety of ways, academic professionals are disrupting the status quo and refusing to stand by while racism and violence devastate Black Americans' lives and communities.

How to use social media sites on Scholar Strike days

- 1. Please use the hashtag #ScholarStrike on all of your posts of the two-day action!**
- 2. Tweet Threads on Racism, police violence, social justice, and highlighting victims of police shootings are welcomed, and encouraged, using the hashtag #Scholarstrike**

Be succinct and direct. Facts are great, polemic is not.

- 3. Don't engage the trolls. You will get some. If you are attacked online, especially by Campus Reform or Turning Point, let Anthea know ASAP. Immediately block anyone with that moniker in their twitter or FB bio. If you don't block, these folks will be able to access anyone mentioned in the tweets or replies, as well as everyone you follow or who follows you. This is how they do targeted harassment.**

- 4. Be sure to promote campus events with the hashtag as well.**

- 5. We will do some live updates during the day on periscope, FB and YouTube, as well as short engagement posts on Instagram.**

6. Please tag your posts and if you would like for us to post up for you, we will be looking at our email account periodically during the day

7. We will be posting from 10 am to 4-5 pm (Eastern Time) each day of the action, but please feel free to keep things going afterwards.

Advice

For those of you who have written and said “I don’t know what to do, I want some help” We are a clearing house. We organized the event, and we hope that this makes you reach out to folks on your campus who do this work, to partner and learn with them. We are not able to do programming for you, but what we will be doing after the two-day action is to post up materials that will help you to be able to become more aware!