Resolution to Condemn President Michel Martelly's Armed Raid on a Haitian University Campus

Submitted by the International Committee

Whereas, on February 17, 2012, a brutal armed raid on the School of Ethnology campus of the State University of Haiti (UEH) was carried out by the Haitian President Michel Martelly's supporters, members of his security services, and pro-Martelly students; and

Whereas, this attack on the campus tore down fences, smashed professors' car windows, trashed the Department of Ethnology office, looted computers and printers and students' personal property, tear-gassed and beat students, sending several to the hospital, while security forces fired automatic weapons into the air; and

Whereas, since he came to power, Martelly has been demonizing the students at this campus, who are leaders in fighting for a decent budget and necessities at UEH, like courses, library books, a cafeteria, and a dormitory, as well as radical social change (*Haïti Liberté*, www.haiti-liberte.com, 2/26/12.); and

Whereas, under Martelly there are systematic moves towards authoritarianism of the type practiced by Haiti's former dictator, Francois Duvalier; Martelly has staffed his army and security services with neo-Duvalierists ("Martelly's Macoutisation of the State," *Haïti Liberté*, 2/18/12); and

Whereas, the United States intervened directly in the 2010-11 Haitian election to keep Martelly in the race; and

Whereas, the PSC and CUNY students and faculty (including many Haitian-Americans) have extended solidarity to our brothers and sisters in Haiti since the 2010 earthquake, and will continue to support the social movements in Haiti working for the transformation of an oppressive society; and

Whereas, Martelly's raid is an example of a growing international crackdown on popular resistance in this time of economic crisis, including police violence against students at the City University of New York and the University of California, and against student strikes for access and against tuition hikes in Spain, Chile, Québec, and elsewhere; therefore be it

Resolved, that the PSC joins with students and faculty in Haiti to condemn this raid on the Faculty of Ethnology campus of UEH, and supports Haitian students and workers who defend themselves against such attacks and fight in terrible conditions for better education and a new, just society.