

WE

WON'T

WORK

FOR

THE

WAR

MACHINE



An overview of recruiters at
the UC Berkeley career fair

March 2023

ABOUT THIS PAMPHLET

"It's just a career fair. What's so bad about that?"

Through career fairs like this one, **university administrators collaborate with military contractors, weapons developers, and huge multinational tech and financial corporations to funnel students into jobs that exploit and oppress the people here and abroad.** This pamphlet was made to showcase all the different nefarious activities these employers are up to around the globe.

"There's a lot of employers listed here that aren't military agencies or weapons makers. What gives?"

No country just wakes up one morning and decides to be an imperialist power. It takes decades for the ruling class (including those who control productive enterprises and those who run the government) to build up enough economic might to where most of the profitable opportunities at home are exhausted, and they have no choice but to expand beyond their own borders. At this point, financiers from the top 1% of the top 1% orchestrate the systematic plunder and exploitation of other, less-developed countries, with the full power of the military right by their side. In this pamphlet, **we've marked all the corporations that contract with the US Department of Defense with an asterisk:** *

A quick glance through these pages should be enough to show that **maintaining the US empire requires active participation from all sectors of the economy:** healthcare, banking, tech, consulting, R&D, industry, and more.

"Well, what should I do about all this?"

We aren't here to provide an exact blueprint for what students should do after graduation, and **we don't think that a few people making certain individual choices will solve the vast problems facing our generation.** We do believe students should get involved in political activism, but recognize that not everyone can or will do that right away. To start with, though, we believe **students should get both sides of the story about what types of jobs they're being pushed into,** not just whatever the UC admins want them to hear.

If you or a group you're in (campus-affiliated or not) is looking to take further action: **Revolutionary Marxist Students**, an organization with chapters across the US, is helping to lead a **nationwide campaign this Spring to call for an end to imperialist recruiting on college campuses.** Even if you don't identify as revolutionary or Marxist, but want to oppose the pillage of countries around the world at the hands of US elites, **we are eager to work together.** Please reach out! Contact information is listed on the back page.

*Sandia National Labs



will tell you that they are “the nation's premier science and engineering lab” working on “homeland defense” and “global security.” But what is it they really do? Design the “non-nuclear elements of nuclear bombs” and create things like the first “self-guided” bullet. The laboratory was operated by UC Berkeley until 1949, when it was made a subsidiary to AT&T. In 1993 it was made a subsidiary of Lockheed Martin. As of 2017, Sandia is a privately managed subsidiary of Honeywell International that, in 2022, received \$958 million from the Department of Defense, \$80 million from the Department of Homeland Security, \$85 million from “other federal entities”, and most damningly: \$2.9 BILLION from the National Nuclear Security Administration. What was this money for? Ground-breaking research on nuclear energy? Nope. Weapons activities! AKA, building nuclear bombs, missiles, and other weapons. Sandia is keeping the globe “secure” by creating bullets that can kill people abroad as efficiently as possible and keep the homeland “secure” by dumping billions into nuclear weapons. But don’t worry – they don’t put the nuclear material in the bomb – they just design every other non-nuclear part!

*Bank of America and



*JP Morgan Chase



work tirelessly to extort the people with overdraft fees and predatory mortgages while cutting loans to the rich for all their varied exploitative projects, whether it be gentrification (new luxury housing) or starting yet another war abroad. Bank of America financed the destruction of the last public housing in San Francisco and its replacement with private housing that is hardly affordable to any working people, displacing thousands. But the big banks don’t only oppress the people at home, they also keep the cash flowing to exploit people all over the world. JP Morgan Chase had a 15-year-long partnership with Jeffrey Epstein, directly aiding in his global child sex trafficking empire, providing the financial infrastructure to move his blood money from pedophile to pedophile and keep top-level politicians subject to the whim of other members of the ruling class through sex tape blackmail. Bank of America extends its greedy hands into the economies of countries all over the world, as well, subordinating foreign economies to American capital. BOA openly brags about their “unprecedented global reach across Latin America, the U.S., Central, Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa, and Asia.” No continent will be left untouched by American finance tyrants!

*Juniper Networks



might track your data using its AI technology, but that doesn't mean it doesn't love diversity, equity, and inclusion! Juniper Networks shows its commitment to diversity by selling its AI networks to countries all around the world. Here in the US, they partner with Lockheed Martin, one of America's most powerful imperialist tools – it's the world's largest weapons contractor. Nothing says "inclusion" like bombing other countries! In India, Juniper Networks has partnered with the Big Pharma conglomerate Divi's Laboratories, whose factories were constructed on top of Indian forests, villages, and farmland, converting them into an industrial zone known as Pharma City despite protests by the residents who lived on the land against forcible land acquisition and unhealthy levels of air and water pollution. Juniper Networks also cooperates with Southeast Asian governments such as those of Thailand, Malaysia/East Malaysia, and Cambodia to assist foreign investors by providing these countries with the digital infrastructure for the development of neocolonial Special Economic Zones (SEZs), where the elites develop lush tropical forests and countrysides into mass industrial parks full of sweatshops and plumes of exhaust. Is that what they mean by "taking a 'glocalized' approach to Cloud solutions"?

*McKinsey & Company,



a management consulting firm which rakes in upwards of \$10 billion in revenue annually, proclaims on its website that its purpose is to "help create positive, enduring change in the world." What does this look like in practice? As one example, McKinsey consulted multiple financial corporations right into the 2008 financial crisis by encouraging them to stack their balance sheets with risky assets, fueling up a fire that eventually bankrupted and displaced millions of regular Americans. Just a few years after that debacle, it contracted with New York City for \$28 million to come with an idea for how to reduce assaults within the prison on Rikers Island. Maybe it's not surprising that the rate assaults on Rikers actually increased instead, given that McKinsey consultants hired for the gig didn't ever talk with a single prisoner or clinic staff member. With that success in pocket, it proceeded in 2019 to advise Purdue Pharma (maker of highly-addictive opioid painkiller OxyContin) to pay off pharmacies for every customer who got hooked or OD'd on their poison pills. In exchange for lovely advice such as this, McKinsey cashed in at least \$400 million from pharmaceutical companies in 2018 and 2019 alone. Sounds like an "enduring" chunk of "change," but we're not so sure about the "positive" part.

U.S. Navy



is the maritime arm of this country's \$800 billion-per-year military force, and will be promoting its Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate (NUPOC) Program at the UC Berkeley career fair today. In addition to funneling students with technical skills in math and science into seemingly endless wars at the behest of the ruling class, this program preys especially on poor and working students by promising to pay off the bill for their ever more exorbitant college education. This approach is part of a larger "economic draft" the US military relies on to fill its ranks. With the prospect of killing millions of innocent civilians abroad seeming to draw less and less interest from the up-and-coming generations, recruiters have pivoted to predatory tactics that hit young people where they know it counts: in the pockets. A recent survey conducted by the Department of Defense showed that the top two reasons American youth see to join the military are pay and college scholarships. You know what they say: the only thing more American than apple pie is financial precarity!

*C3 AI



is a tech company that creates large-scale artificial intelligence for other companies, making it easy for them to carry out extremely important business, from minor (but important!) tasks of making sure their underpaid workers spend every second of clocked in time on task to more major tasks – like working with Shell to make oil extraction and environmental degradation exponentially more efficient! This company contracts with several arms of the US military, including the Air Force, Army, Department of Defense, and missile defense academy – coming up with more and more innovative ways to further US imperialism and affirm American hegemony across the world. Other notable contracts include Raytheon (which builds drones and jets for the US military) and Baker Hughes (one of the largest oil and gas producers in the world). Pieced together, these contracts paint a grim picture of CS AI's deep connection to American militarism and the crude oil industry, which are already inextricably linked and enforced through oppression of the workers of each of these companies and brutal international dominance.

Haas School of Business



claims they encourage their students and professors to "lead by championing bold ideas and taking intelligent risks," and "shape our world by leading ethically and responsibly." And there is no better an example of a character whom lives up to those ideals than Distinguished Professor Laura Tyson. Tyson, a renowned Graduate professor, is well-loved by her students, teaching seminars on "Business & Public Policy," a champion of the "Center for Equity, Gender, and Leadership". But she didn't land a teaching gig at Haas in a vacuum: she has an absolutely glistening resume. Tyson's career, outside of her professorship, is rich with bold, intelligent risks. As a board member of Morgan Stanley, she played a direct role in the leveraging of billions of dollars worth of debt through subprime mortgage lending; what riskier bet is there than taking advantage of a speculative housing bubble? And this intelligent decision paid off. Despite borrowing – and ultimately losing – more than \$107 billion during the 2008 financial crisis, Morgan Stanley paid off a grand total of \$3.2 billion of their debts when the dust settled– that's less than three percent! For her ethical and responsible part in creating the conditions for a generation-defining recession, Morgan Stanley pays Tyson a yearly stipend of over a quarter of a million dollars to this day! And what is more in the spirit of Haas School of Business than that. Still, you can't help but get the sense that Haas might not live up to its ideals in practice. The college might consider Tyson to be exemplary, but we can't shake the feeling that the millions of people affected by the recession – the vast majority low-income homebuyers, disproportionately Black people and people of color – might not call her actions bold, intelligent, ethical, or responsible. In fact, they might say she ruined their lives, led them to housing insecurity, joblessness, homelessness, starvation, and in the most dire cases, even suicide. But what do we know – we weren't admitted to Haas.

Rakuten



is an online shopping website-turned-tech conglomerate that has had years of allegations of fraudulent charges to customers' credit cards and leaked sensitive information. Victims of fraudulent credit card charges had their private data, including social security numbers and credit card information used to open accounts on other online vendors, with no repercussions for the company. This lack of security is a reflection of the capitalist requirement to cut corners and create mediocre services for as little quality as they can get away with. But that's not all folks! In true movie supervillain fashion, Rakuten has been known to participate in and profit off the ivory and whale meat markets, allowing advertising of these parts from endangered species on their website and making profit from each sale.

*Abbott Labs



hasn't scored millions in military funding for medical supplies and services over the past two decades for nothing: the company has been hard at work consolidating its iron grip over various sectors of the domestic healthcare market. We can only presume that Abbott's shareholders have been thrilled by its ability to commodify basic material needs and sell them at monopoly prices to the general public. What Wall Street leech wouldn't salivate at the fact that Abbott Labs controls 40% of the \$50 billion baby formula market in the US, and holds several exclusive contracts with state welfare programs? Even better, Abbott enjoys full liberty to lobby federal agencies against promoting breastfeeding as a healthy choice for new mothers, setting the stage for lifelong brand loyalty from entire generations of Americans! Never mind that those mothers, mostly poor and working women, who are pressured to feed their children overpriced formula from birth, might have a hard time keeping their child alive if there's ever a major disruption in the supply chain – like the one that happened last February, when the FDA shuttered Abbott's main plant following incidents of deadly formula contamination. But we're sure the well-meaning execs at Abbott will clean up their act for next time, out of the goodness of their own hearts.

Peace Corps



calls on its volunteers to "serve boldly." But who exactly are they supposed to be serving? We can find some clues by looking to the organization's history. Founded in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy as a way to further expand the tentacles of US foreign influence during the height of the Cold War, the Peace Corps' first director was Sargent Shriver (who just so happened to be JFK's brother-in-law), a millionaire real estate speculator with extensive connections in the CIA. So, it's no wonder that, in just the first few years of its existence, several countries in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East expelled the Peace Corps for disrespecting locals and attempting to subject countries to the US's political and economic will. Today the proud legacy of Shriver is carried on by Carol Spahn, who's made millions from neocolonial domination as the former executive of several predatory corporations. She now rakes in a cushy six-figure salary as the top leader of Peace Corps. Spahn continues to serve the interests of the US ruling elite by helping them to compete with the growing threat from China's global influence. In a document published last year, the US federal government promised to push American capital into the Indo-Pacific by "expanding the role of people-to-people exchange, including the Peace Corps." The Peace Corps prepares us for war with a smile!

*Kodiak Robotics



markets itself as the premier creator of self-driving vehicles, focusing heavily on autonomous trucks for transporting commodities across the country's highways (if only some high-capacity infrastructure already existed for such transportation, maybe even with fixed routes and lower environmental impact...). With autonomous trucks not yet safe for commercial use and facing legal challenges from multiple states, these machines only serve as threats of lost jobs for blue collar workers nationally, forcing them to accept lower salaries and more exploitation from their employers. Kodiak's website heavily emphasizes safety and reliability, which stands in stark contrast to their recent \$50 million contract with the US Department of Defense. This contract, which seems to be the main focus of the company this year, is for "autonomous US army ground reconnaissance vehicles" AKA AI-powered imperialism and warfare. Doesn't sound so safe to us...

*Sherwin-Williams



paint company hides behind an innocuous veneer, but is one of several US Department of Defense contractors who UC Berkeley so cordially invited to recruit students into its ranks. This company sells paint which contains lead at 360 times the standard health limit to countries like Haiti, Thailand, Indonesia, El Salvador, Belize, Guatemala. Pumping glorified toxic waste to impoverished and working people in these oppressed countries. Sherman-Williams has also waged extended legal battles to avoid paying out paltry settlements to millions of Americans who've been poisoned by its products. A California lawsuit forcing Sherwin-Williams to pay damages for lead paint removal passed in 2019 after two decades of corporate obstruction. Across the country, lead, arsenic and other heavy metals still linger in the ground from decades of reckless dumping of the company's industrial sludge. Camden, NJ, has been utterly polluted by Sherwin-Williams, who violated EPA regulations there since the 1970s. With a lawsuit recently filed by Camden County, it should only be a few more decades until Sherwin-Williams forks over some pocket change as a "consolation" to the people living there!

WRITTEN AND DESIGNED BY



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