

Credit cards substitute for student ID's: Next up in the US?

Thanks to a recent blog at the website of a UK teacher union activist, we know may be coming down the road in the corporatization of US public higher education. In a situation that has been widely publicized in the media in Turkey, students at Ordu University have been forced to accept credit cards, issued by Vakifbank, to use as their campus ID's. Ordu's administration cut a deal with Vakifbank, and refusal of the credit card means no admission to Ordu. Student leaders of the movement opposing this commercialization of higher education have been punished by being fired from their campus jobs. Faculty supporters have also been met by reprisals from the administration. US students and faculty can help keep this dangerous innovation out of this country by spreading word about the resistance at Ordu University.