

The Daily Northwestern

“WE WILL NOT MOVE”

Five days in, pro-Palestinian demonstrators remain staunch in demands for divestment from Israel as encampment continues on Deering Meadow

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For five days, Deering Meadow has been a site of chants, songs, traditional dances, art, prayers, shared food and drinks, and speakers as students call for Northwestern to divest from Israel and protect student activists' civil liberties.

NU Divestment Coalition, the group behind the “Northwestern Liberation Zone,” has committed to staying on the meadow until the University agrees to

the demands outlined in a People’s Resolution circulated on April 22. The resolution, authored by NU’s chapters of Jewish Voice for Peace, Students for Justice in Palestine and Educators for Justice in Palestine, has more than 2,700 signatures as of Monday morning.

Since organizers first set up the encampment Thursday morning, professors, community members, families and Chicago-area residents have visited the site to show their support. Demonstrators have created hundreds of signs lining the fence along Sheridan Road with messages including “Divest From Death” and “Free Palestine.”

Students on campuses across the country — including Columbia University, Yale University and Emory

University — have set up similar encampments and faced violent encounters with police.

The nationwide encampments come as Israel’s military action in Gaza has killed more than 34,000 Palestinians, according to Palestinian officials. Israel’s ground and air offensive follows the militant group Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack on Israel which killed about 1,200 Israelis, according to Israeli officials.

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