



\$7K OR STRIKE

Greetings to the Graduate Workers of the University of California Santa Cruz.

We are rank and file members of the PSC-CUNY union, organized under the banner of "\$7K or Strike" (\$7KOS). For more than two years now we have been fighting for wage parity for adjunct faculty and graduate workers at the City University of New York.

In our struggle we have faced opposition from both management as well as the bureaucracy of our own union, and we know how incredibly hard it can be to organize for, much less achieve, a strike under such conditions. The contract you are working under, ratified in 2018, did not offer sufficient remuneration for the important work graduate workers do for the university system. Graduate workers were the only title of the union whose majority voted against the contract, close to double the Yes votes. Not only do graduate workers comprise much of the university faculty, but they also represent the future of higher education in America.

We are inspired by your actions and your determination to win your demands for a fair cost of living increase. Your militant campaign against the last contract and the wildcat strike you have organized in response to the inadequacies of that contract show that workers' power flows from the self-organization of workers themselves and not the union bureaucracy.

We support your struggle for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) and we condemn the failure of the UCSC administration to meet your demands as well as its callous refusal to even negotiate with you. We further encourage other graduate workers, faculty, and students at UCSC to join you in your strike until your demands are met, and we are excited about the precedent you may be setting for future actions across the country.

In a political climate such as ours, when working people and rank-and-file union members are rising up everywhere, your actions are part of a much bigger revival of class struggle in the United States. Because of the increasing exploitation of graduate workers, adjuncts, contingent workers, and students, it is clear that the higher education sector is due for a mass strike wave and your brave actions point the way forward for higher education workers across the country.

Stay strong and keep fighting.

In Solidarity,

\$7KOS