

UC Santa Barbara Statement of Solidarity with UC Santa Cruz Wildcat Strike

We, the undersigned, write to express our solidarity with graduate student workers at UC Santa Cruz in their demand for a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of an additional \$1,412 a month for all UCSC graduate students. Graduate students workers make approximately \$2,000 per month, and those at UCSC routinely spend \$1,200-\$1,300 on rent alone. Moreover, the cost of living in Santa Cruz has been rising an average of 15% per year, but the union contract, which was rejected by 85% of UCSC grad workers in the ratification vote, only granted an inadequate 3% per year increase in wages, which does not keep up with annual projected cost-of-living increases. Graduate student workers who spend more than half of their income on rent are often forced to take second (and sometimes third) jobs to make ends meet; when it is our labor that keeps the university running, this is unfathomable and yet is a lived reality for many.

Given these circumstances, on December 8th, the UCSC Graduate Student Association general assembly called for an indefinite wildcat strike to withhold final grades until their demand for a COLA is met. This call was met with overwhelming support by their graduate student community. We at UC Santa Barbara stand in solidarity with our peers and colleagues at UC Santa Cruz, recognizing that withholding our labor from those that exploit us is instrumental in making change. Moreover, many of us at UC Santa Barbara share the experience of being paid poverty wages for our academic labor in the face of exorbitant, ever-skyrocketing rent, and thus also struggle to make ends meet. We are in awe of and tremendously inspired by UC Santa Cruz grad workers' courage, determination and conviction to fight for what they are duly owed by the University of California for their labor. We stand in solidarity with them.

We call upon the UCSC administration to immediately pay the Cost of Living Adjustment of \$1,412 a month to all its graduate students. We condemn all attempts by the administration to intimidate striking student workers, and demand there be no retaliation of any kind against strikers and organizers. We call upon faculty at UCSC to support the strike, and not engage in any actions that would undermine the strike. We also call upon our own students and faculty at UCSB to show their solidarity with UCSC graduate students by signing below.

NO COLA, NO GRADES!

In solidarity,

Bethany Hobart Earth Science PhD student
Andrew Johnson Political Science, doctoral candidate
Alex Brown Teaching Assistant
Patrick Fryberger TA
Delancey Wu PhD student at Psychological & Brain Sciences
Mulun Yin Department of Mathematics, Teaching Assistant
Johanna Fornberg EEMB
Taylor Van Doorne art history, PhD student
Kendall Ota Sociology, PhD Student
Megan Reilly PhD Student in Film and Media Studies
Christopher MacMahon History PhD Student, TA
Gabby Gutierrez GGSE Graduate Student
Oscar Fabian Soto Sociology
Cierra Raine Sorin Sociology Graduate Student & UCSB GSA President
Soha Saghazadeh Graduate student at the department of Film and Media Studies
Kaili Brande Bren School, PhD student
Laura Halcomb Sociology, graduate student
megan spencer feminist studies grad student
MAGDALENA PADILLA Spanish and Portuguese Department
Christina Roberts History
Enrique Morell Salcedo Physics, Graduate TA
Emma Schuster Feminist Studies grad/TA
Allison Mazur Communication Doctoral Student
Paulina Ramirez Doctoral Candidate
Andrew McCumber Sociology
Aracely Garcia Gonzalez Chicana/o studies
Brooke English Graduate Student in Linguistics
Anna Schartman Earth Sciences
Alisa Bedrov Psychology, grad student
Luke Carberry Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Marine Science
Kandra Polatis History
Daniel Arnold Chemical engineering grad student
Caragh Barry Department of Spanish & Portuguese, TA
Trevor Klar PhD student, Mathematics
Ran Liu CS
Sarah Paschal Gerenday Graduate student Earth Science
Jing Xu Geography, Graduate Student Researcher/Teaching Assistant
Rhys Kennard Materials Department Graduate Student
Hoai-An Nguyen Sociology, Graduate Student/Teaching Assistant

Alexia Limon Teacher Education Program
Amelia Ritger EEMG graduate student
Besnik Yzeiri Grad Student DMA Viola in Music Department
Li Guo MCDB
Kristian Emiliano Vasquez PhD Student in the Department of Chicana/o Studies
Assatu Wisseh Film and Media Studies
Robert McLaughlin Computer Science, PhD student
Lily Gosline 4th year Sociology major
Keidy Rivera Sociology, undergrad
Esmeralda Guzman Undergraduate student
Rosa Elvira Rodriguez M.A. candidate, Latin American and Iberian Studies
Zoë Zapata Student
Evelyn Student
Chance English Graduate Student, Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Marine Science
Jianfeng Wang Materials, Graduate student
Joshua Speer Graduate
Maryam Eslami Rasekh PhD student in ECE Department
Jaylen Pittman Linguistics
Josh Kenchel Biomolecular Science and Engineering PhD Candidate
Elijah R. Shelton Mechanical Engineering, Ph.D. Candidate
Kirby Bartlett Bren School
Ryan Arellano Education
Marina V. Chavez Chicana and Chicano Studies
Joslyn Fritz Environmental Science Department & TA
Aili Pettersson Peeker PhD student, English department
Luis Ángel Larios Cárdenas Computer Science, PhD Student and TA
Kristen Thomas-McGill History Department, TA and PhD Student
Serena Seshadri Chemistry
Maria D. Vazquez PhD Candidate, Department of Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology
Niah Swimmer Physics, Graduate Student
Julie Perkins Physics, PhD student
Ashleigh Wells Psychological and Brain Sciences
Luke Gockowski Mechanical Engineering
Shelley LaMon Doctoral student and Teaching Associate, Anthropology
Felicity Stone-Richards Political Science, PhD Student
Pouria Akbari Mistani Mechanical Engineering, graduate student
Ali Harms Sociology
Chantel Haughton Department of Communication
Pedro Craveiro Spanish and Portuguese, Doctoral Candidate, GSA Vice President
Lilly Lew Education, Doctoral Candidate
Ryan Avery Geography Graduate Student
Amaru Tejada Film and Media Studies, Grad student
Maximilian Seijo PhD Student, Comparative Literature
Courtney Durdle Psychological & Brain Sciences
Idalia Robles De León Sociology PhD Student
Allan Avila Mechanical Engineering PhD
Naomi Joseph Sociology grad student worker
Su Burtner Geography, TA/RA
Kasie Mays PhD student in Neuroscience and Behavior
Kristen Bryant Sociology Doctoral Candidate
Emily Smith Anthropology PhD Student
Sheila Kulkarni Chemistry Graduate Student-Worker; UCSB Unit Recording Secretary, UAW 2865
Ruby Harris-Gavin EEMB Grad Student and TA
Iliana Flores PhD Student, Counseling, Clinical, School Psychology
Michael Chin Chemistry, PhD student
Mengyu Chen Media Arts and Technology PhD student
Eugenia Siegel Conte PhD Candidate in Ethnomusicology
Kendall Lovely PhD student in History
Vinnie Wu Psychological and Brain Sciences
Cloe Gentile Music
Megan Williams Musicology
Matthew McCardy Student, mechanical engineering
Giulia Giamboni History
Rachelle Mottus Education
Magda Garcia Doctoral Candidate, Chicana/o Studies
Aaron Bagheri Mathematics department
Heath Pennington Doctoral scholar, Theatre and Dance
Hannah Kagan-Moore History of Art and Architecture, PhD Candidate
Michelle Pacheco Sociology, 4th Year Undergraduate
Christine Weidner English dept. doctoral student, TA
Clint Terrell English, PhD Student
Kelvin Lam Graduate Student, Psychological and Brain Sciences
Jennifer Selvidge Materials Department PhD Candidate
Valentina Fahler Education, PhD student
Imani Russell PhD student in EEMB
Erin Adams Art Dept, TA, Grad student
David Feldman PhD Candidate in Sociology
Natalie Dornan Teaching Assistant
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Leanne Friedrich Materials science, PhD candidate

Kelly Tingle Earth Science/Marine Science MS student
Tiffany Halvorsen BMSE
Jennifer Volk Computer Engineering, Grad Student
Daniel Martini PhD Candidate, Comparative Literature
Avi McClelland-Cohen PhD Candidate, Communication
Miguel Fuentes Global Studies PhD student
Natalia Chicana and Chicano Studies
Shelby King PhD student
lauren gutierrez student
Heili Lowman PhD Student, Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology
Harmeet Singh Computer Science
Sam Kaufman-Martin Graduate Student in Mechanical Engineering
Alexander Karvelas TA, Music Department
Ryan Lach Molecular, Cellular, Developmental Biology
Radmila Stefkova Spanish and Portuguese
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Cristina Awadalla Sociology Graduate Student
Gabi Abraham Physics GSR
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Holly Gore PhD Candidate, History of Art and Architecture