



GRADUATE EMPLOYEES OF NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

GENU-UAW: A UNION FOR RESEARCH AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS

www.nugradunion.com

We, the Organizing Committee of Graduate Employees of Northeastern University, write today to express our complete solidarity with striking graduate workers at the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) in their demand for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

With their wildcat strike, UCSC grad workers are sending a strong message not only to their administration, which is refusing to negotiate, but also to the leadership of the statewide union, UAW Local 2865. Graduate workers at UCSC voted against their present contract in a large majority; it includes a no-strike clause and does not adequately address the workers' needs for sufficient pay to keep up with rapidly rising costs-of-living in Santa Cruz and across California.

We condemn the responses from UC President Janet Napolitano and UCSC Chancellor Cynthia Larive, who claim negotiations with UCSC would be illegal because the wildcat strike is not sanctioned by the statewide local. The administration should immediately negotiate a side letter, which is standard practice for diverse locals like 2865, with Santa Cruz workers for a COLA.

We are proud to join the chorus of enthusiastic and strong support for the strike from several unions, including our colleagues at nearby GEO-UAW at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

As the UCSC grad workers write: **“what is really at issue here is power. We have it and the University is desperately trying to trick us into forgetting that.”** Thanks and solidarity to you all for your organizing and commitment to justice. You are an inspiration to our movement.

Solidarity Forever!

Organizing Committee, Graduate Employees of Northeastern University

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Sign the petition in support of the wildcat strikers' demand for a COLA here:

<https://forms.gle/f4mhAPFCZFFLcPap7>

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