

Dear Graduate Student Instructors,

As Writing Program Chair, I want you to know that I am committed to supporting both our graduate and undergraduate students. I understand that a graduate student COLA would benefit graduate students' well-being and success and therefore also benefit undergraduates.

In my capacity as chair, I will not retaliate against graduate student workers who choose to participate in the COLA action. Additionally, future programmatic decisions about GSI allocations will not be affected by your decisions regarding strike participation.

As the primary GSI supervisor, I am concerned that, according to the City on a Hill Press, in the last five years the campus has given graduate student union workers only a three percent raise while Santa Cruz housing prices have increased by fifteen percent over the same time period. Other faculty are, too, as approximately four hundred UCSC faculty have signed the Faculty Petition in Solidarity with Graduate Students.

I welcome continued communication and am available to address any concerns you may have.

Kindly,
Tonya Ritola WouldGo

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Tonya Ritola WouldGo, PhD
Chair & Associate Teaching Professor
Writing Program