

Dear Graduate Students,

Theater Arts is deeply committed to supporting our graduate students. We are keenly aware that graduate student raises have fallen drastically behind housing prices in the last five years. We understand that a raise in graduate student pay scales would benefit graduate students' well-being and success and therefore also benefit undergraduate students. We pledge that we will not retaliate as a department against any graduate student worker who chooses to participate in the wildcat strike, sick-outs, or other civil actions. Decisions about your status in the department, including allocation of fellowships and TA positions, will not be affected by your decisions regarding strike participation as long as you are ethical--as we know you will be--in your communication with faculty and students. Along with hundreds of UCSC faculty, many in our department have signed the Faculty Petition in Solidarity with Graduate Students. Please feel free to reach out to us regarding your concerns. We look forward to staying in collaborative communication.

In support,

- The Faculty of Theater Arts

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**Michael M. Chemers, PhD, MFA**

Pronouns: He, him, his

Professor of Dramatic Literature and Director of Graduate Studies

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