



30 ORANGE TREE CIRCLE
VACAVILLE, CA 95687
P.O. BOX 2547, VACAVILLE, CA 95696

TOM DALZELL, BUSINESS MANAGER
CECELIA DE LA TORRE, PRESIDENT

(707) 452-2700
FAX (707) 452-2701

20 February 2020

Office of the Secretary and
Chief of Staff to the Regents
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear UC Regents:

On behalf of the 25,000 members of the IBEW Local 1245 I write to stand in solidarity with the 19,000 academic student workers at the University of California represented by UAW 2865 and their demand for a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to address the untenable rising cost of living around UC campuses.

It is our understanding that UC Santa Cruz student workers in particular face one of the highest housing burden in your system, given their average salary of \$2,400 per month does not approach the average rent of \$2,600 for a one-bedroom apartment in the Santa Cruz area. UC Santa Cruz workers are not alone, however, given the exorbitant rent in the areas around most UC campuses. Many UC student workers are paying upwards of 50% and some as high as 70% of their income on housing, placing them at the brink of homelessness. This is a problem throughout the state, not just at UCSC.

According to reputable news reports, you, yourselves, have recognized the real housing issues and challenges. UC Santa Cruz Chancellor Cynthia Larive, herself--for example--enjoys University-subsidized housing in addition to her annual salary of \$425,000.

The situation has reached a crisis point.

Threats of termination and blackballing by some in leadership are counterproductive and serve only to deepen the divide.

The student workers have garnered the support of many faculty, undergraduates and the broader community, including the City Council of Santa Cruz, labor unions, and civic groups and leaders. We join them in calling for good faith problem solving.

We urge you and your management team to exercise enlightened leadership to address your workforce's appeal for you to sit down with UAW 2865 to work out a meaningful remedy to the crisis.

On behalf of IBEW 1245,

TOM DALZELL
Business Manager

TD:emp:kmk

cc: Cynthia K. Larive, Chancellor, UCSC