

Dear all,

As you likely know, for almost two months, grad students across campus have been striking for a cost of living adjustment (COLA). Despite repeated calls from both students and faculty for the administration to work with grads, admin has refused to engage, while repeatedly threatening grads with retaliation. Last week, Chancellor Larive [announced](#) that all grads would receive 5 years of guaranteed funding (at the current pay rate), and that a “need-based” housing supplement of \$2500 annually would be instituted “until more graduate-level student housing becomes available.” There’s a [whole host of reasons why this is inadequate](#), and doesn’t pay grads a living wage.

Prompted by the Chancellor's email, hundreds of grad students met last week and voted to go on a full, open-ended strike beginning Monday, February 10. The intent behind the full strike is to not allow the administration to continue stonewalling us in the hope of simply waiting out the strike; a full strike will be something the administration cannot ignore, and it will bring about the quickest possible resolution.

This will mean that I will [not be holding section until the strike is resolved/ be holding section at the picket until the strike is resolved/holding section and office hours at the picket, and not grading [etc.] until the strike is resolved.]

As we have said: it is not grad students’ intention to hurt undergraduate students. The same university that doesn’t pay graduate students enough to live here, is the same university that shackles you in student debt. This university requires its undergraduates to pay \$1,500/month (with a compulsory meal plan) to live in one room with three other people; this university requires those who receive tuition relief for financial need to **still take on debt** to pay rent. And the UC is pushing to [raise your tuition even higher](#). We don’t have to take this - we will fight this with you. Grads are meeting with undergrads this week to escalate your demands around tuition and rent.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

First, email your professor and let them know you support graduate student strikers and that you are willing to forgo a grade until the conclusion of the strike.

Secondly, spread the word! Talk to your classmates and friends! Ask them, importantly, what they think about their tuition and rent, and how they can fight back!

Three, turn out to actions and events. Come meet us at the picket

Lastly, follow us on Instagram for strike updates <https://www.instagram.com/PayUsMoreUCSC/> and our website at <https://payusmoreucsc.com>.

Solidarity forever!

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