UC-AFT URGES GOVERNOR TO TAKE ACTION TO END “CHAOS” CAUSED BY UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA’S UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES

The University Council-American Federation of Teachers (UC-AFT) has sent a letter to California Governor Gavin Newsom, urging him to take immediate action with the UC Regents to resolve the “instructional crisis caused by the repeated failures of the University of California to bargain in good faith” with United Auto Workers academic student employees entering their fourth week of a systemwide strike. UC-AFT stands in solidarity with the workers of UAW 2865 and SRU-UAW, who continue to bargain for living wages.

The letter outlines the disruption UC’s actions have caused to students and faculty during the fall academic term. The UAW has documented more than 30 unfair labor practices by the UC since bargaining began in Spring, 2021, most of them related to bargaining in bad faith. The UAW campaign has been met with UC’s signature brand of intransigence, in which President Michael Drake’s negotiators take every opportunity to slow and muddle the bargaining process.

And as the fall academic term nears an end, UC students and faculty are left uncertain about the completion of course grades and concerned about how classes may be impacted on campuses in January and beyond.

UC-AFT President Katie Rodger writes to Newsom, “To allow this disruption to continue into the new year—which seems to be the UC President’s plan—has and will continue to create unnecessary chaos for UC students and faculty for the duration of the 2022-23 school year.” She urges the governor on behalf of UC-AFT teaching faculty and their students to intervene immediately in order to avoid further instructional disruption.

The University Council-American Federation of Teachers represents approximately 6,000 librarians and non-tenure-track teaching faculty working throughout the University of California system. UC-AFT members hold academic appointments as lecturers, supervisors of teacher education, field work coordinators, and librarians. For more information about UC-AFT, go to ucaft.org.