

UC-AFT President's Report
January 21, 2024
Katie Rodger
Activities since October, 2023 Council Meeting

Narrative:

Since our last meeting in October, Unit 17 librarians have begun bargaining with UCOP, and I was very happy to be able to attend the first session at UCSD in November. I am trying to support the campaign in any way that U17 needs me to, but mostly I'm here as a supporter and advocate as they lead their campaign and negotiations.

Most of my union work this quarter has been administrative and internal to UC-AFT. In November, I attended UCOP's annual presentation to UC unions of the changes to UC health benefits. All unions in attendance expressed outrage at the soaring costs of benefits for 2024, and I worked with other UC-AFT leaders to survey our members about how these costs will impact them. With more than 100 member responses, this survey will serve as a foundation for us to push for higher wages for both librarians, as they bargain now, and later for U18 members. We were also able to submit some member responses directly to the UC Regents and President Drake in order to express our frustration. Currently, I'm working with CUCFA to draft a letter on behalf of the UCUC in which we demand to be included in the negotiations with health care providers for 2025 UC benefits.

The war in Israel-Gaza has been fraught for many of our members and leaders, and I've spent a great deal of time talking and emailing with folks about this situation. These conversations have reinforced for me how diverse our membership is—in so many ways—and that one of the major responsibilities of my position is to listen and learn. I believe we're in a situation that, no matter what we do, may lead to some degree of division within our union, and that sits very heavily with me.

UC-AFT Governance and Administration

Executive Board meetings
Monthly Chairs' Calls
Monthly E-Board / Staff Calls
Regular communication with members, leaders, and staff

Coalition Work

UCUC
United University Professions - SUNY

CFT Participation

Attended CFT Executive Council meetings, in person and via zoom
PCC Phone Bank