

Since the last Council meeting I have worked primarily with the University of California Union Coalition (UCUC) on a number of issues including the California State Audit of the University of California, the David Crane nomination, reform of the UC Regents, Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) reform and RE-Fund California.

I worked with the UCUC coalition and the University of California Student Association (UCSA) on the California State Audit of UC. This included several meetings with the State Auditor as well as legislators. The results of the audit continue to be used to point out financial issues with UCOP and the Regents.

I worked with UCUC coalition (primarily AFSCME and UPTE) to prevent David Crane from being confirmed as UC Regent. I have also been working with the UCUC coalition to identify potential nominees for Regent and to recommend those individuals to the Governor for nomination.

I have worked with legislative staff of ASFCME and UPTE to develop a plan as well as a strategy for reforming the Regents. This plan involves getting the legislature to support a restricting of the regent nomination process. Currently the regents are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The reform proposal would distribute nominations to both houses of the legislature as well leaders in both political parties. The intention is to democratize the process for selection and the composition of the Regents. Since this involves an amendment to the California State Constitution, this is a long term project.

I have worked with the California Labor Federation and a number of other unions, both inside and outside UC to reform Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). This has resulted in a change in the composition of PERB and a move to a more even handed approach to labor issues.

The UCUC group has reached out to unions in the California State University system and we have had two meetings with them to discuss joint actions and develop plans at targeting both the Regents of the University of California and the Trustees of the California State University. The latest meeting included representatives from the California Community Colleges. The objective of this effort is to develop a more comprehensive plan to restore public higher education.

As we have begun to develop contacts with the CSU and CC systems we have recently been joined by the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE). I have been representing UC-AFT at the state level as plans for actions beginning on November 9<sup>th</sup> are being developed. The objective of this group is to focus attention on the Corporate-Financial Complex

and their role in creating the financial crisis. Since the banks cratered the economy, they should fix it. A proposed solution is a financial transaction tax. This would be combined with some of the other revenue proposals such as the 1% on 1% tax and possibly the oil severance tax. This is an ongoing alliance and will hopefully be connecting with the Occupy movement.

Lastly I have been cooperating with CFT as they are developing a number of organizing plans for new units. One area that they are exploring is organizing either researchers or adjuncts within the UC system. This might result in an additional unit within UC-AFT, however this is just the beginning of a long process.

Respectfully submitted,

Axel E. Borg  
Vice-President for Legislation  
UC-AFT