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UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES
representing employees at the University of California

RX/TX Bargaining Update #9 - UC Berkeley



UPTE RX/TX members at Berkeley present workplace issues at bargaining

UPTE members came to the bargaining session to voice their concerns to UCOP and campus representatives in support of a strong contract, strong pension and quality of life.

Dan Russell, BTSA, Local 1 Berkeley/UCOP President and TX bargaining representative opened with: "I'm proud of my union brothers and sisters who are here to advocate for themselves - and for the mission of the University. I'm also proud to work at UC Berkeley but ashamed and fed up with the way that the administration treats those of us that make it run - and at the way it has abandoned its commitment to public service. We know that when we see chancellors and deans sitting on boards of corporations that they do business with - and pulling in hundreds of thousands of dollars in addition to their salaries - where their interests lie. As the people that make the UC run, we are the best advocates for the services we provide and we have the power to hold UC accountable to the mission of public service. We won't accept being pitted against students, patients, or the public at large because we know that we all share the same interests. We also know that UC and the state of California have the resources to provide sufficient staffing, fair wages, and good benefits for staff as well as free tuition for students. We know from headlines over the past few years that the state withholds funding from UC explicitly because of their mismanagement and executive bloat. We're not going to accept falling living standards, increasing workloads, and the abandonment of the UC's mission, which will only further undermine the public's and the state's support. We're going to fight for our interests as well as those of students, and the public."

"Whose University? Our University!"

The Mission of UC Berkeley is centered around teaching, research and public service, but it is obvious that public service has been abandoned. UC would rather accept that the era of public funding is dead and lay off staff and raise tuition while bending our academic and research to the will of private interests like BP, Pfizer, Intel, Novartis, HCL, and Dell.

It is evident that union contracts strengthen all worker conditions while UC continues to undermine work conditions and longevity with proposals to weaken the pension and lessen benefits which are one of the primary draws to working for the university.



Workers make UC the best and should be paid the best

https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/rankings-agree-uc-best-universities?utm_source=fiat-lux&utm_medium=internal-email&utm_campaign=article-general&utm_content=text

Many job titles at UC Berkeley are 20-50% below market wages. New graduates cannot afford to take a job with UC. Employees are needing to work 2 jobs in order to meet cost of living demands of the bay area while they are being forced to move further and further inland worsening traffic and deteriorating infrastructure and work/life balance. Lay-offs and reorganizing departments are undermining campus services, job security, and increases workload forcing unpaid overtime. Workers have low morale, are living with higher stress and leaving for better work conditions at Stanford and other local employers.

Reminder - RX/TX contracts are in "Status Quo" BE INFORMED

We will need actual documentation of the status quo change, so please forward any documentation (emails, memos, meeting notes, etc.) you get to UPTE. Don't refuse to do the work or make the change, even if it may well be a status quo violation. Contact your UPTE representative with questions.

- Find your local bargaining reps here: <http://www.upte.org/rx-tx-hx/>
- See examples of Status Quo violations: <https://www.upte.org/rx-tx/newStatusquo.pdf>

UPTE is a Member Run Union

Show your support for a stronger contract, equity adjustments, shift differentials, stipends, market wages and maintenance of benefits at future RX/TX/HX Bargaining Dates:

- November 16-17, UC Irvine RX/TX
- December 4-5, UC Davis RX/TX
- December 11-12, UCSF HX

You can read past bargaining reports here: <http://www.upte.org/rx-tx-hx/>

Visit our UPTE website (<http://upte.org>) for updated information and our UPTE-CWA Facebook page for videos from our bargaining sessions. → www.facebook.com/UPTECWA

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