

CFA California Faculty Association

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October 20, 2008

Dr. Charles Reed
Chancellor
California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Bargaining re: Student Fee Waiver for CSU Academic Student Employees

Dear Chancellor Reed,

The California Faculty Association urges the CSU administration to negotiate with UAW Local 4123 a student fee waiver for CSU academic student employees immediately and not postpone negotiations until bargaining agreements have been resolved with other CSU employee unions.

CSU's academic student employees (ASE) – consisting of teaching assistants, graduate assistants and instructional student assistants – are an integral and essential part of the academic excellence provided by a CSU education. Although ASEs are CSU employees they are required to enroll as students and pay the student enrollment fees.

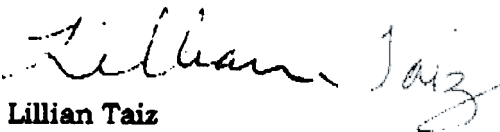
Because they are the only CSU unionized employees not receiving student fee waivers their earnings are reduced – according to UAW Local 4123 data – to an average of only \$1.80 per hour, forcing many ASEs to either drop classes or disenroll.

We are concerned that your administration has indicated an unwillingness to negotiate this benefit with UAW Local 4123 until such time that bargaining “re-openers” have concluded with other CSU employee bargaining units.

We believe such a pre-condition is not only a disservice to ASEs, but is a violation of collective bargaining practices and good faith efforts outlined in existing law. It is CFA's position that the CSU administration must bargain with all employee groups and not refuse to negotiate with one employee group contingent on the status of negotiations with other employee groups.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and would be pleased to discuss this further with you. Please don't hesitate to contact me if such discussions are needed. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Lillian Taiz
President

cc: Richard Barnes, CSU
James Banks, President - UAW Local 4123

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